

Laws of the United States affecting Emigrants.

licence of the mayor of the city in which such office shall be located, for which shall be paid the sum of 25 dollars per annum. Every such office and place for weighing luggage shall be at all times, when business is being transacted therein, open to the Commissioners of Emigration or their agent, duly appointed, and no scales or weights shall be used for such purpose but such as have been inspected and sealed by the city inspector of weights; and every such establishment shall have posted in a conspicuous place and manner at its place of business, in the English, German, Dutch, French and Welch languages, a list of prices or rates of fare for the passage of emigrant passengers, and the price per 100 pounds for the transportation of their luggage to the principal places to which the proprietors thereof undertake to convey such passengers; and shall also deliver a copy of such list to the Commissioners of Emigration, or to their agent, in any city where such agency shall be established; and any person or company who shall charge or receive, or allow to be charged or received, by any person in his or their employment, a greater amount than is specified in said list of prices, or who shall defraud any emigrant in the weight of his or her luggage, or who shall receive money from an emigrant or emigrants for their passage or for the transportation of their luggage, and shall refuse or neglect to issue to the person or persons so paying their fare, or for the transportation of their luggage, a ticket which shall state the time and place of such issue, the number of persons so paying, the distance in miles to the place to which fare is received, the amount so received, the number of pounds of baggage, and the price per 100 pounds for its transportation; which said ticket shall be signed by the person or persons in whose names the establishment is conducted, and if more than one person is interested in the concern as a partner, then the full names of all the persons so interested in said concern shall be printed or written on the ticket; or who shall issue any such ticket directed to an agent without first having made arrangements with some responsible person or persons to act as his, her or their agent, or who shall issue a ticket so as aforesaid for the passage of any emigrant, or his or her luggage, which shall not be promptly redeemed by the agent or consignee according to the terms of the agreement, as set forth in the ticket, or who shall in any way fail or neglect to fulfil any contract for the passage of any emigrant, or for the transportation of any luggage, made with an emigrant, or who shall issue to any person blank receipts signed by him or them, or who shall permit his, her or their name or names to be used by any other person or persons in said business of booking emigrant passengers and their luggage, or taking money for their fare or transportation of their luggage, shall, together with all other persons concerned in the violation of these provisions, be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall upon conviction be punished by confinement in the city or county prison, not less than six nor more 12 months; and any person or company receiving money as aforesaid for the passage of emigrants, or for the transportation of their luggage, without such office and licence, or who shall refuse admission as aforesaid to such office or place of weighing luggage during the time of transacting business therein, or who shall neglect to post the said list of rates as aforesaid, or who shall neglect or refuse to furnish a copy thereof as aforesaid, or who shall make any arrangement or engagement with any emigrant for his passage or transportation, or any runner or agent connected with or employed by such forwarding establishment, make such engagement or arrangement without delivering to every such emigrant a printed card (in the language of the country to which said emigrant may belong), of prices or rates of fare, which will be charged every emigrant for his passage, or for transportation of his baggage or effects to the principal places on the route which he, the said emigrant, is about to travel, or every such keeper or owner or owners, or runner or runners, connected therewith, or any licensed emigrant runner or runners, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall upon conviction be punished by imprisonment in the county prison for a period not less than three nor more than six months. Licenses under this section may be revoked for cause, and no person shall be licensed under this section who is not of good moral character, and a citizen of the United States.

Sect. 2. The Commissioners of Emigration are hereby authorised to employ such agents, clerks and servants as they shall deem necessary for the purposes aforesaid, and they shall appoint at least one agent in each of the cities of Albany, Rochester and Buffalo, and pay a reasonable compensation to such agents, clerks and servants for their services, out of the monies aforesaid.

State of New York, Secretary's Office.

I have compared the preceding with the original law on file in this office, and do certify that the same is a correct transcript therefrom, and of the whole of the said original.

*Christopher Morgan,*  
Secretary of State.

Albany, 20 April 1849.

