

FOREIGN PACKETS.

British and North American Royal Mail Steam Ships will sail every Saturday during eight months, and every two weeks during the other four months, going alternately between Liverpool, Halifax, and Boston, and between Liverpool and New York. S. S. Lewis, 1 Commercial wharf, Boston, D. Brigham, Jr., 6 Wall st., N. York, agts.

Great Western Steam Ship Co. between Liverpool and New York. The steamers Great Western and Great Britain will leave Liverpool and New York, alternately, once a month. Agent in New York, Richard Irwin, 38 Front street. Agent in Baltimore, Samuel K. George, 4 German street.

Each of the above lines carries a mail, but Cunard's is free to Liverpool, except that the inland postage from the place of deposit to Boston must be paid. The rates of postage from New York are as follow: Government postmasters of the place where letters are deposited are authorized to receive, for single letters, 25 cents; double letters, 50 cents; triple letters, 75 cents; quadruple letters, \$1; packages of letters, per oz. \$1; newspapers, 2 cents each; magazines, pamphlets, &c., 2 cents per sheet.

For postage on letters out of the United Kingdom and France, where a foreign inland postage has to be paid by the company, \$1 per sheet must be paid; and in proportion for all others as above.

Baltimore and Southern Packet Co. for Kingston and Falmouth, Jamaica. Wm. Mason, agent, 88 Spear's wharf.

Boston and Liverpool Line of Packets leave Boston on the 5th and Liverpool on the 20th of each month. Enoch Train & Co. 37 & 38 Lewis wharf, Boston.

Packets of the first class leave New York for Liverpool the 1st, 6th, 11th, 16th, 21st, and 26th of every month. For London the 1st, 10th, and 20th of every month. For Havre the 1st, 8th, 15th, and 24th of every month.

Mail arrangements.—Letters to be sent by packets for England, as above, require, besides the American postage, that a freight postage of 1½ cents for each single letter, 25 cents for each double one, and so on, should be paid in advance.

Packets leave New York for London the 1st, 8th, 16th, and 24th of every month. Grinnell, Minturn & Co., 87 South street, New York.

For Glasgow the 1st of each month. Woodhull & Minturn, 87 South st. N. York. From Philadelphia for Liverpool on the 25th of each month. H. & A. Cope & Co. Philadelphia.

DUTIES IMPOSED BY THE STAMP ACT

On Promissory Notes, Bills of Exchange, Specialities, and other Instruments of Writing.

On notes or instruments of one hundred dollars, and under, no stamp is required.

Over \$100 to 200, 10 cts.	Over 1,500 to 2,000 \$1 00	Over 5,000 to 7,000 \$3 50
200 200, 15	2,000 3,000 1 50	7,000 8,000 4 00
300 500, 25	3,000 4,000 2 00	8,000 10,000 5 50
500 1,000, 50	4,000 5,000 2 50	10,000 6 00
1,000 1,500, 75		

ABSTRACT OF THE PRINCIPAL PROVISIONS OF THE ACT.

Those who desire it can have printed blanks, paper, or other material stamped, provided it is presented before the document has been executed.

Bills, Notes, &c., unstamped, are not evidences of debt.

Any instrument of writing not stamped, or with a stamp less than is required by law, may be presented to any county clerk, and by making oath of no design to defraud, and paying the stamp duty and ten dollars, will receive his endorsement, which will render it valid.

Persons evading the law in any way are liable to a fine of \$100, one half to the informer, who is a competent witness.

Any person counterfeiting a stamp, or a county clerk's endorsement, or offering any instrument, &c. thus counterfeited, for evidence or sale, is liable to a fine not exceeding \$1,000, and imprisonment for not more than seven years.

By a supplement to the above act, every mortgage, with or without a covenant for the payment of the sum intended to be secured, if that sum be above one hundred dollars, requires a stamp according to the above scale; unless the obligation intended to be secured has the required stamp, and the statement thereof recorded in the mortgage.

On every deed, release of mortgage, and lease, a stamp of \$1; also on bills of sale, where the amount conveyed exceeds two hundred dollars, a stamp of \$1.

Where any doubt is entertained, it will be better to consult the law at length.

J. SWAN, Stamp Commissioner, Merchants' Bank.