

Laws of Her Majesty's Province of United Canada, passed in the year 1854. Quebec: Stewart Derbyshire and George Desbarts, 1854.

18 Victoria – Chapter 79

An Act to abolish Postage on Newspapers published within the Province of Canada, and for other purposes connected with the Post Office Department of this Province. Assented to 19th May, 1855.

Whereas papers devoted to the advancement of Education, Temperance, Science, Agriculture and other special objects, are now exempt from postage; And whereas it would further materially aid the diffusion of useful knowledge to remove all postal restrictions on the transmission of Newspapers in general, published within this Province, and of all documents printed by order of either House of Parliament: Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada, constituted and assembled by virtue of and under the authority of an Act passed in the Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and intituled, *An Act to re-unite the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, and for the Government in Canada*, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, as follows:

- I. All Newspapers published within the Province of Canada, shall be transmitted by mail free of Postage.
- II. So much of the fourth section of the Post Office Act, as limits the salary and emoluments of any Officer of the Post Office Department (except the Postmaster General) to four hundred pounds per annum, is repealed; and the total salary and emoluments of any Officer of the said Department (except the Postmaster General) shall not exceed the sum of five hundred pounds per annum: Provided always, that so long as William Henry Griffin, Esquire, shall hold his present office of Chief Secretary of the Post Office Department, he shall be paid at the rate of six hundred pounds per annum.
- III. So much of the sixteenth section of the Act passed in the Session held in the fourteenth and fifteenth years of Her Majesty's Reign, intituled, *An Act to amend the Post Office Act*, as limits the number of Inspectors of Post Offices, is repealed.
- IV. All Letters and other mailable matter addressed to or sent by the Governor of this Province, or sent to or by any Public Department at the seal of Government, shall be free of Provincial Postage under such regulations as may be directed by the Governor in Council.
- V. All Letters and other mailable matter addressed to or sent by the Speaker or Chief Clerk of the Legislative Council or of the Legislative Assembly, or by or to any Member of either of said branches of the Legislature during any Session of the Legislature, shall be free of Provincial Postage.

VI. All public documents and printed papers may be sent by the Speaker or Chief Clerk of the Legislative Council or of the Legislative Assembly, to any Member of either of the said branches of the Legislature of Canada, during the recess of Parliament, free of Postage.

VII. Members of either branch of the Legislature of Canada may send during the recess of Parliament by mail, free of Postage, all papers printed by order of either branch of the Legislature of Canada.

VIII. So much of either of the Acts above cited as maybe inconsistent with the foregoing provisions is repealed.

IX. This Act shall come into effect on and after the first day of July, eighteen hundred and fifty-five.