

No. II.

POSTAGE.

AN ORDINANCE for regulating the Conveyance and Postage of Letters. [18th November, 1848.]

BE IT ENACTED by the Governor-in-Chief of New Zealand, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:—

Powers to Governor-in-Chief to establish post.

1. It shall be lawful for His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief to establish posts or postal communications in the Colony of New Zealand, and to alter and amend any of the posts or postal communication already established or hereafter to be established in the said Colony, and to appoint such officers servants and agents for the conveyance and delivery of mails and the collection and management of the Post Office revenue as His Excellency shall deem expedient.

And to fix rates of Colonial postage.

2. It shall be lawful for the Governor-in-Chief from time to time, by Proclamation to be published in the Government *Gazette*, to abolish alter and fix the Colonial postage payable for the transmission by post of letters and other papers, and from time to time, by such Proclamation as aforesaid, to alter repeal or abolish any Colonial postage so altered or fixed as aforesaid, and to make and establish any new or other postage in lieu thereof. The Colonial postage from time to time to become payable by virtue of any such Proclamation as aforesaid shall be charged and paid accordingly: Provided that no rate of postage shall be imposed under the authority hereof exceeding the rate of postage now levied and taken; and that from and after the passing of this Ordinance no postage shall be charged or payable for the conveyance or delivery of newspapers.

And to make regulations.

3. It shall also be lawful for the Governor-in-Chief, by such Proclamation as aforesaid, from time to time to make and establish all such rules and regulations as to him may seem expedient for promoting the safe and expeditious conveyance and delivery of all such mails letters newspapers and other papers as aforesaid, for the good management of the said Post Office revenue, and generally for carrying into full effect the purposes and objects of this Ordinance.

And to impose penalties.

4. For the purpose of giving effect to the rules and regulations so to be made, it shall be lawful for the Governor-in-Chief, by any such Proclamation as aforesaid, to impose any penalties not exceeding five pounds for any offence against such rules and regulations, to be recovered in a summary way.

No. III.