

rule, as to the trade marks and numbers and the prices of the articles, must in all cases be given, not on loose pieces of paper, but on small labels attached to the articles or the bags containing them. Should this rule be infringed, the packet will be charged double letter postage.

- (6.) A pattern, sample, or parcel packet must be sent in stout and durable covers, open at the ends, so as to be easy of examination. Seeds, drugs, &c., may be enclosed in tin boxes, or in bags of linen, or other material, fastened in such a manner that they may be readily opened, or in the case of seeds in bags entirely closed, provided that they are transparent, so that the officers of the department may be able to satisfy themselves as to the nature of the contents. If this rule be infringed, the packet will be charged double letter postage.
- (7.) In order to prevent any interruption to the regular transmission of letters, any packet may, when necessary, be kept back by any Postmaster until the following despatch.
- (8.) The rule which forbids the transmission through the post of any article which might injure the contents of the mail bags or the officers of the Post Office is so far relaxed as to permit the transmission of scissors, knives, razors, forks, steel pens, nails, keys, watch machinery, metal tubing, pieces of metal or ore, and such like, as samples, provided that they be packed and guarded in so secure a manner as to afford complete protection to the contents of the mail bags and officers of the Post Office, while at the same time the samples may be easily examined. If any packet containing such articles as these be posted which is found not to be sufficiently guarded, it will be detained, and a notice of its detention will be sent to the person to whom it is addressed or to the sender, who may then obtain it upon personal application; but the packet will be charged with a fine equal in amount to the postage to which the packet was liable as a packet of patterns.

#### NEWSPAPERS AND TRADE CIRCULARS.

Newspapers published in the Colony, and registered at the General Post Office for transmission by post, may either be forwarded like other printed matter under the regulations of the book post, or may be transmitted within the Colony on prepayment of a postage rate of one halfpenny each in postage stamps, and to places beyond the Colony at the rates set forth in the Table of Postage Rates, and under the following regulations:—

The title and date of the newspaper must be printed at the top of every page. It must have either no cover, or a cover open at the ends, and must not contain any enclosures or any writing or other mark thereon beyond the name and address of the person to whom it is sent, nor anything on the cover but such name and address, the printed title of the newspaper, and the printed name and address of the publisher or vendor who sends it.

Newspapers published without the Colony are chargeable with the same rate of postage as those published within the Colony, and registered for transmission through the post.

#### BOOK POST.

The following are the regulations of the Inland Book Post:—

- (1.) The postage is one penny not exceeding two ounces; twopence not exceeding four ounces; and one penny for every additional two ounces or fraction of two ounces. Book packets which may be insufficiently prepaid will be treated as described in section 8.

- (2.) Every packet must be sent either without a cover, or in a cover open at the ends or sides, so as to admit of the enclosures being examined. For the greater security of its contents, the packet may be tied at the ends with string.
- (3.) A book packet may contain any number of separate books or other publications (including printed or lithographed letters), photographs (when not on glass or in cases containing glass or such like substance), drawings, prints, or maps, and any quantity of paper, parchment, or vellum; and the books or other publications, prints, maps, &c., may be either printed, written, engraved, lithographed, or plain, or any mixture of these; but no printed matter or prints will be allowed, except such as may be printed on paper, parchment, or vellum. Further, all legitimate binding, mounting, or covering of a book, &c., or of a portion thereof, will be allowed, whether such binding, &c., be loose or attached; as also rollers in the case of prints or maps, markers (whether of paper or otherwise) in the case of books, and, in short, whatever is necessary for the safe transmission of such articles, or usually appertains thereto; but the binding, rollers, &c., must not be sent as a separate packet.
- (4.) No book packet may contain anything which is sealed or otherwise closed against inspection; nor must there be any letter, nor any communication of the nature of a letter, whether separate or otherwise, unless the whole of such letter or communication be printed. Entries, however, merely stating who sends the book, &c., or to whom it is given, are not regarded as a letter. Indeed, as respects the name and address of the sender, not only is the writing permitted, but it is even recommended; so that if the cover come off, or for any other reason the packet cannot be forwarded, it may be returned.
- (5.) No book packet must exceed two feet in length, or one foot in width or depth—nor must it exceed five pounds in weight; and if any such packet be presented at a Post Office, it will not be received.
- (6.) Any packet which shall not be open at the ends or sides, or shall have any letter or any communication of the nature of a letter written in it, or upon its cover, will be charged letter postage, with an additional rate.
- (7.) If a packet be found to contain any letter not wholly printed, whether closed or open, or any enclosure sealed or otherwise closed against inspection, or any other unauthorised enclosure, the packet will be charged with the full letter postage, together with an additional rate, and forwarded to its address.
- (8.) If a book packet or pattern parcel be not sufficiently prepaid with stamps, but nevertheless bear stamps of the value of one rate, it is forwarded, charged with the deficient postage, together with an additional rate, which, in the case of a parcel intended for delivery within the Colony, will be twopence; for delivery beyond the Colony, in all cases, except for parcels marked for transmission *via* Brindisi, fourpence; and when marked *via* Brindisi, sixpence.
- (9.) All *bona fide* printing matter enclosed in envelopes slit or partially open at the ends, and having the fly turned inside, instead of being gummed over in the usual manner, is to be permitted to pass through the post at book-post rates.

#### FOREIGN PATTERN AND SAMPLE POST.

The following are the rules of the foreign pattern and parcel post:—

- (1.) A pattern parcel is a *bona fide* pattern or sample of merchandise. Goods sent for sale or in execution of an order (however small the