

quantity may be), or any article sent by one private individual to another, which are not actually patterns or samples, are not admissible.

- (2.) The rates of postage are the same as for book packets. (See Foreign Book Post Regulations.
- (3.) No packet of patterns or samples must exceed twenty-four ounces in weight; and to countries comprised within the General Postal Union the limit of weight for patterns and samples is eight ounces. Packets exceeding these weights will be sent to the Dead Letter Office.
- (4.) There must be no writing or printing on the packet or its cover in addition to the address of the person for whom the packet is intended, except the address of the sender, a trade mark and numbers, and the prices of the articles, otherwise the packet will be treated as a letter.
- (5.) There must be no enclosure other than the samples themselves. The particulars, which are allowed to be furnished under the preceding rule, must in all cases be given, not on loose pieces of paper, but on small labels attached to the samples or the bags containing them.
- (6.) The patterns or samples must be sent in covers open at the ends, so as to be easy of examination. Samples, however, of seeds, drugs, &c., may be enclosed in 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 samples 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 treated as a letter.
- (7.) Insufficiently paid packets of patterns or samples will be charged double rates of postage.
- (8.) A packet of patterns or samples sent *via* the United Kingdom to Portugal, Madeira, the Azores, Cape de Verdes, France, or to Turkey, Syria, or Egypt, by French packet, must not exceed eighteen inches in length, width, or depth; a packet to any other place abroad must not exceed twenty-four inches in length or twelve inches in breadth or depth.
- (9.) Bags entirely closed, even though they be transparent, must not be used for the transmission of seeds to any foreign country except the United States of America, Holland and its possessions, Belgium, Denmark, Greece, Portugal and its possessions, and Switzerland; and samples of intrinsic value must not be sent to foreign countries.

Postage Stamps, Post Cards, and Newspaper Wrappers.

Every Postmaster is required to keep for sale to the public a sufficient stock of the various postage labels and post cards in use in the Colony, and to sell them at the following prices:—

	s. d.		£ s. d.
Halfpenny labels (news- papers only) ...	0 0½ each	Two-shilling labels ...	0 2 0 each
Penny labels ...	0 1 "	Five shilling labels ...	0 5 0 "
Twopenny labels ...	0 2 "	Post Cards ...	0 0 1 "
Threepenny labels ...	0 3 "	Newspaper Wrappers—	
Fourpenny labels ...	0 4 "	Parcels of 18 ...	0 0 10 "
Sixpenny labels ...	0 6 "	Parcels of 270 ...	0 12 6 "
One-shilling labels ...	1 0 "	Parcels of 540 ...	1 5 0 "
		Parcels of 1,080 ...	2 10 0 "

The halfpenny postage stamp must not be affixed to letters.

English postage stamps may be obtained by persons desirous of sending a stamp or stamped envelope to their relatives or friends in the United Kingdom, in order to relieve them of the cost of the postage when sending replies. *These stamps cannot be purchased in quantities, nor are they permitted to be used for the purpose of making remittances.*

Registration.

By the prepayment of a fee of sixpence in addition to the full postage, any letter, newspaper, book, or other packet, may be registered to any place in the Colony. For registration to the United Kingdom, British Colonies, and certain Foreign Countries, see Table of Postage Rates.

The registration of a packet makes its transmission much more secure; and the loss of a registered packet is a very rare occurrence. Nevertheless, the Post Office is not responsible for the safe delivery of registered packets, though any officer who may neglect his duty on this point will be called to strict account. Valuable articles sent in *unregistered* letters are exposed to risk; and the Department cannot in any way undertake the safe conveyance of such packets. All Inland, British, or Colonial letters, therefore, which unquestionably contain coin, even though they be posted without registration, are treated as registered, and charged on delivery with a double registration fee of one shilling, in addition to the ordinary postage; and any such letters which cannot be registered in time to be forwarded by the mail for which they are posted are detained for the next despatch.

Every letter to be registered should be presented at the window, and a receipt obtained for it, and should on no account be dropped into the letter-box. If, contrary to this rule, a letter marked "Registered" be dropped into the letter-box, it will, if directed to any place in the Colony, the United Kingdom, or the British Colonies, be liable to a double registration fee.

Letters may be registered during the ordinary office hours, and for despatch by any mail, one hour before the closing of such mail. No letter-carrier, messenger, or other servant of the Post Office is allowed to carry a letter for any person to be registered.

Delivery.

No person living within the town free delivery can claim to have his letters delivered at the office window if a delivery by letter-carrier is about to take place; but letters which arrive by a mail, after which there is no immediate delivery by letter-carrier, may be obtained by any person on application at the office window, so long as the office is open for delivery.

Letters addressed to the Post Office, or to be kept till called for, may be obtained at the office window, except where it is ascertained that it is the practice of persons living within the town delivery to have their letters so addressed, in which cases they will be sent out by letter-carrier. Letters for persons residing beyond any official delivery, will be delivered on application at the window.