

same to be levied by distress upon the goods and chattels belonging to such company.

4. *And be it enacted, that this act may be amended or repealed by any act to be passed in this session of Parliament.*

Act may be amended or repealed.

[Repealed by 37 & 38 Vict. c. 96, S.L.R.]

## 1 & 2 VICT. CAP. 98.

*An Act to provide for the Conveyance of the Mails by Railways.*<sup>[1]</sup> [14th August, 1838.]

[Amended by 51 & 52 Vict. c. 57, S.L.R.]

Preamble.

*Whereas it is expedient that provision should be made by law for the conveyance of the mails by railways at a reasonable rate of charge to the public :*

1. *Be it enacted, by the Queen's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, That in all cases of railways already made or in progress, or to be hereafter made within the United Kingdom, by which passengers or goods shall be conveyed in or upon carriages drawn or impelled by the power of steam, or by any locomotive or stationary engines, or animal or other power whatever, it shall be lawful for the Postmaster-General, by notice in writing under his hand delivered to the company of proprietors of any such railway, to require that the mails or post letter bags shall, from and after the day to be named in any such notice, (being not less than twenty-eight days from the delivery thereof,) be conveyed and forwarded by such company on their railway, either by the ordinary trains of carriages, or by special trains, as need may be, at such hours or times in the day or night as the Postmaster-General shall direct, together with the guards appointed and employed by the Postmaster-General in charge thereof, and any other officers of the post-office ; and thereupon the said company shall, from and after the day to be named in such notice, at their own costs, provide sufficient carriages and engines on such railways for the conveyance of such mails and post letter bags to the satisfaction of the Postmaster-General, and receive, take up, carry, and convey by such ordinary or special trains of carriages or otherwise, as need may be, all such mails or post letter bags as shall for that purpose be tendered to them, or any of their officers, servants, or agents, by any officer of the post-office, and also receive, take up, carry,*

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Postmaster-General may require railway companies to convey the mails.

See 7 & 8 Vict. c. 85, s. 11.  
See 31 & 32 Vict. c. 119, ss. 36, 37.

By the Post Office Act, 10 & 11 Vict. c. 85, s. 18, power is given to send mails without a guard.

[<sup>1</sup> Short title : "The Railways (Conveyance of Mails) Act, 1838." See 55 & 56 Vict. c. 10. The provisions of this Act requiring any notice, requisition, or document to be under the hand of the Postmaster-General are repealed, 31 & 32 Vict. c. 119, s. 37. This Act as amended by 10 & 11 Vict. c. 85, s. 18, is applied to tramways in Ireland subject to certain provisions, 23 & 24 Vict. c. 152, s. 46.]

Conveyance  
of Mails.

Amended  
by the 7 & 8  
Vict. c. 85,  
s. 11.

If required  
carriage to  
be applied  
exclusively  
to such  
conveyance.

Railway  
company,  
if required,  
to provide  
separate  
carriages  
for sorting  
letters, &c.

Postmaster  
General  
may direct  
mails to  
be carried  
on railway  
in mail

and convey, in and upon the carriages carrying such mails or post letter bags, the guards in charge thereof, and any other officers of the post-office, and shall receive, take up, deliver, and leave such mails or post letter bags, guards, and officers at such places in the line of such railway, on such days, at such hours or times in the day or night, and subject to all such reasonable regulations and restrictions as to speed of travelling, places, times, and duration of stoppages, and times of arrival, as the Postmaster-General shall in that behalf from time to time order or direct: *Provided always, that the rate of speed to be required shall in no case exceed the maximum rate of speed prescribed by the directors of such railway or railways for the conveyance of passengers by their first class trains; but that no alteration in the rate of speed of any train by which the mails shall be conveyed shall be made until six calendar months previous notice shall be given to the Postmaster-General of any such intended alteration.*

2. *And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Postmaster-General (if he shall see fit) to require that the whole of the inside of any carriage used on any railway for the conveyance of mails or post letter bags shall be exclusively appropriated for the purpose of carrying the mails.*

3. *And be it enacted, That the company of proprietors of any such railway shall, on being required so to do by the Postmaster-General, provide and furnish (in addition to the carriages aforesaid) a separate carriage or separate carriages, fitted up as the Postmaster-General, or such person as he shall nominate in that behalf, shall direct, for the purpose of sorting letters therein, and shall forward the same carriage or carriages by their railway, at such hours or times, and subject to all such reasonable regulations as aforesaid, as the Postmaster-General shall in that behalf order or direct; and such company of proprietors shall receive, take up, carry, and convey in any such last-mentioned carriage or carriages all such post letter bags and officers of the post-office as the Postmaster-General shall reasonably require, and shall deliver and leave any post letter bags and officers of the post-office at such places on the line of the railway as the Postmaster-General shall in that behalf from time to time reasonably order and direct.*

4. *And be it enacted, That in case the Postmaster-General shall at any time be desirous of sending by any such railway any of her Majesty's mail coaches or mail carts, with the mails or post letter bags and guards thereof, and carriages for sorting letters, with any officers of the post-office therein, instead of sending the said mails or*

post letter bags, guards, and officers of the post-office by carriages to be provided by such railway company as aforesaid, then and in any such case such railway company shall, at the request of the Postmaster-General, signified by such notice as aforesaid, cause such mail coaches or mail carts, with the mails or post letter bags and guards thereof, and carriages for sorting letters, with any officers of the post-office therein, to be conveyed by the usual or proper trucks or frames on their said railway, subject to such regulations and restrictions of the Postmaster-General as hereinbefore mentioned.

5. *And be it enacted*, That for the greater security of the mails or post letter bags so to be carried or conveyed by railways, the company of proprietors of such respective railways along which such mails or post letter bags, mail coaches, or carts and carriages for sorting letters, shall be so required by the Postmaster-General to be conveyed, and their respective officers, servants, and agents, shall obey, observe, and perform all such reasonable regulations respecting the conveyance, delivering, and leaving of such mails and post letter bags, guards and officers of the post-office, mail coaches, or carts and carriages, on any such railways, or on the line thereof, as the Postmaster-General or such officer of the post-office as he shall nominate in that behalf, shall in his discretion from time to time give or make: Provided always, that it shall not be lawful for any officer or servant of the post-office to interfere with or give orders to the engineer or other person having the charge of any engine upon any railway along which mails or post letter bags shall be conveyed; but if any cause of complaint shall arise, the same shall be stated to the conductor or other officer of the railway company having the charge of the train, or to the chief officer at any station upon the railway; and in case of any default or neglect on the part of any officers or servants of the railway company to comply with any of the regulations of the Postmaster-General or other officer of the post-office so to be nominated as aforesaid, the railway company shall be wholly responsible for the same.

6. *And be it enacted*, That every company of proprietors of any railway along which such mails or post letter bags, mail coaches, carts, or carriages shall be so required by the Postmaster-General to be conveyed, shall be entitled to such reasonable remuneration to be paid by the Postmaster-General to any such company of proprietors for the conveyance of such mails, post letter bags, mail guards, and other officers of the post-office, mail coaches, carts, and carriages, in manner required by such Postmaster-General, or by such officer of the post-office as he shall in

*Conveyance of Mails.*

coaches in lieu of company's carriages.

Railway companies to be subject to directions of Post Office respecting conveyance of mails.

Officer of post-office not to interfere with person having charge of engine.

Remuneration to railway companies for conveyance of mails.

*Conveyance  
of Mails.*

that behalf nominate as aforesaid, as shall (either prior to or after the commencement of such service) be fixed and agreed on between the Postmaster-General and such company of proprietors, or in case of difference of opinion between them, then as shall be determined by arbitration as hereinafter provided, but so that the services which may be required by the Postmaster-General, or by such officer of the post-office as he in that behalf shall nominate as aforesaid, to be performed by any such company of proprietors, be not suspended, postponed, or deferred by reason of such remuneration not having been then fixed or agreed on between the said Postmaster-General and such company of proprietors, or by reason of the award on any reference to arbitration to determine the remuneration not having been then made.

Agreements  
between  
Postmaster  
General and  
railway  
companies  
as to  
amount of  
remunera-  
tion, &c.  
shall be  
altered on  
any in-  
crease,  
or diminu-  
tion of,  
the services  
to be ren-  
dered.

7. *And be it enacted*, That notwithstanding any agreement entered into between the Postmaster-General and any such company, or any award to be made on any such reference as aforesaid, fixing the amount of remuneration to be paid to such company for any services to be rendered by them as aforesaid, it shall be lawful and competent to and for the Postmaster-General, by notice in writing, to require, from and after the day to be named in any such notice, not being less than twenty-eight days from the delivery thereof, any addition to be made to the services in respect of which such agreement shall be entered into or award made; and in any such case, and also in case of a discontinuance of any part of such services as hereinafter provided, a fresh agreement shall be entered into between the Postmaster-General and such company, regulating the future amount of remuneration to be paid by the Postmaster-General to such company for such increased or diminished services, as the case may be; or if the parties cannot agree on such amount, the same shall be referred to arbitration in like manner as hereinbefore is mentioned and hereinafter provided as to any original agreement; and such arbitrators shall have power to award any compensation they may consider reasonable to be paid to any railway company for any loss that may have been occasioned to them by the discontinuance or alteration of the services previously agreed to be performed by them by any train or carriage specially required by the Postmaster-General to be forwarded for the conveyance of the mails, but so that nevertheless such increased or diminished services shall not be suspended, postponed, or deferred by reason of the amount of such increased or diminished remuneration not having been then fixed or agreed on between the Postmaster-General and such company of proprietors, or by reason of the award on any reference to

arbitration to determine the amount of such increased or diminished remuneration not having been then made.

8. *And be it enacted, That* it shall be lawful for the Postmaster-General and he is hereby authorized, at any time during the continuance of the services of any company of proprietors as aforesaid, to give to such company, by writing under his hand, six calendar months' previous notice that such services or any part thereof shall cease and determine; and thereupon, at the expiration of such six calendar months' notice, the said services, or such part thereof as aforesaid, and the remuneration for the same, shall cease and determine.

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Postmaster General may terminate services of railway companies on notice,

9. *And be it enacted, That* it shall be lawful for the Postmaster-General at any time during the continuance of the services of any company of proprietors as aforesaid, by notice in writing under his hand, absolutely to determine and put an end to the same or any part thereof, without giving any previous notice, or on giving any notice less than six calendar months in respect thereof, and thereupon the said services shall cease and determine accordingly: Provided nevertheless, that in case the Postmaster-General shall, without giving six calendar months' notice as aforesaid, at any time determine the services to be required by the Postmaster-General of any company of proprietors, or any part of such services, without any cause whatever, or for any cause other than the default by such company of proprietors in the performance of any of the services to be required of them by the Postmaster-General, or the breach by such company of proprietors of any of their engagements with the Postmaster-General, then and in any such case the Postmaster-General shall make to such company a full and fair compensation for all loss thereby occasioned, the amount whereof in case the parties differ about the same shall be ascertained by arbitration as hereinafter mentioned.

or may terminate services of railway companies without notice, subject to certain conditions.

10. *And be it enacted, That* on all carriages to be provided for the service of the post-office on any such railway, there shall on the outside be painted the royal arms, in lieu of the name of the owner and of the number of the carriage, and of all other requisites, if any, prescribed by law in respect of carriages passing on any such railway; but the want of such royal arms on any carriage belonging to or used by the post-office shall not form an objection to such carriage running on any railway, anything to the contrary notwithstanding.

Royal arms to be painted on carriages provided for the service of the post-office.

11. *And be it enacted, That* it shall not be competent or lawful to or for the company of proprietors of any railway to make any bye-laws, orders, rules, or regulations which shall militate against or be contrary or re-

Bye-laws of railway companies not to be re-

*Conveyance  
of Mails.*

repugnant to  
provisions  
of this Act.

repugnant to any of the enactments herein contained; and that if any company of proprietors shall make or shall have made any such bye-laws, orders, rules, or regulations, either prior or subsequently to the Postmaster-General signifying to the said company his intention that the mails or post letter bags, mail coaches, carts, or carriages shall be conveyed by such railway, all such bye laws, orders, rules, and regulations, so far as they shall militate against or be contrary or repugnant to any of the enactments herein contained, shall be and be deemed absolutely void and of no effect, in like manner as if such bye-laws, orders, rules, or regulations, had never been made or passed, anything to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding.

Penalty for  
refusing or  
neglecting  
to convey  
mails,

12. *And be it enacted*, That if the company of proprietors of any railway, or any of their respective officers, servants, or agents, shall refuse or neglect to carry or convey any mails or post letter bags, when tendered to them for such purpose by the Postmaster-General or any officer of the post-office, or shall refuse to carry on their railway any mail coaches, carts, or carriages as hereinbefore provided, when so required by the Postmaster-General, or shall refuse or neglect to receive, take up, deliver, and leave any such mails or post letter bags, mail guards, or other officers of the post-office, mail coaches, carts, or carriages, at such places, at such times, on such days, and subject to such regulations and restrictions as to speed of travelling, places, times, and duration of stoppages, as the Postmaster-General shall from time to time reasonably direct or appoint, as hereinbefore provided, or shall not obey, observe, and perform all such regulations respecting the conveyance of the mails and post letter bags, mail coaches, carts, and carriages on any such railways as the Postmaster-General or such officer of the post-office as he shall nominate in that behalf, shall make for the purposes aforesaid, then and in any such case the company of proprietors who, or whose officer, servant, or agent, shall so offend in the premises, shall for every such offence forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding twenty pounds; provided nevertheless, that the payment of or liability to such penalty shall not in any manner lessen or affect the liability of any such company under any bond which may have been given by them under the provisions hereinafter contained.

or to ob-  
serve regu-  
lations of  
Postmaster  
General.

Postmaster  
General  
may require  
railway  
companies  
to give

13. *And be it enacted*, That it shall be lawful for the Postmaster-General, if he shall so think fit, to require the company of proprietors of any railway already made or in progress, or to be hereafter made within the United Kingdom, to give security by bond to her Majesty, her heirs

and successors, conditioned to be void if such company shall from time to time carry or convey, or cause to be carried or conveyed, all such mails or post letter bags, mail guards, and other officers of the post-office, mail coaches, carts, and carriages in manner hereinbefore mentioned, when thereunto required by the Postmaster-General, or any officer of the post-office duly authorized for that purpose, and shall receive, take up, deliver, and leave all such mails or post letter bags, guards and officers, mail coaches, carts, and carriages, at such places, at such times, on such days, and subject to such regulations and restrictions as to speed of travelling, places, times, and duration of stoppages, as hereinbefore mentioned, and shall obey, observe, and perform all such regulations respecting the same as the Postmaster-General shall reasonably make, and shall well and truly do and perform, and cause to be done and performed, all such other acts, matters, and things, as by this Act are required or directed to be done or performed by or on the part or behalf of such company, their officers, servants, and agents; and every such bond shall be taken in such sum and in such form as the Postmaster-General shall think proper; and every such security shall be renewed from time to time whenever and so often as such bond shall be forfeited, and also whenever and so often as the Postmaster-General shall in his discretion require the same to be renewed; and if any company of proprietors of any such railway as aforesaid shall, when so required as aforesaid, refuse or neglect, for the space of one calendar month next after the delivery of any notice for such purpose to them given by or from the Postmaster-General, to execute to her Majesty, *her heirs and successors*, such bond to the effect and in manner aforesaid, or shall at any time refuse or neglect to renew such bond whenever and so often as the same shall, by or in pursuance of this Act, be required to be renewed, such company of proprietors shall forfeit one hundred pounds for every day during the period for which there shall be any refusal, neglect, or default to give or renew such security as aforesaid, after the expiration of the said one calendar month.

14. Provided always, *and be it enacted*, That in all cases in which any railway or part of a railway may, previous to the passing of this Act, have been demised or let by the company of proprietors thereof, the body corporate or company, or other persons to whom the same shall have been so demised or let, their successors, executors, administrators, or assigns, shall during the continuance of such lease be liable to all the provisions of this Act for or in respect of such railway or part of a railway, in lieu of

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security  
by bond.

Such security  
to be  
renewed  
from time  
to time.

Lessees of  
railway  
shall be  
liable to  
provisions  
of this Act,  
but if not a  
body corporate  
or company  
shall not be

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of Mails.*

required to  
give secu-  
rity by bond  
above  
1000*l.*, &c.

such company of proprietors, but so that such lessees, (not being a body corporate or company,) their executors, administrators, or assigns, shall not be required in respect of any such railway or part of a railway to give security under the foregoing enactment to any amount in any one bond exceeding the sum of one thousand pounds, and shall not in any one year be liable in damages to be recovered upon any bonds which they may have given to any amount exceeding the sum of one thousand pounds and costs of suit.

*Services of  
notices.*

15. *And be it enacted, That* all notices under the provisions of this Act by or on behalf of the Postmaster-General to any company of proprietors of any railway as aforesaid, shall be considered as duly served on any company of proprietors in case the same shall be given or delivered to any one or more of the directors of such company, or to the secretary or clerk of such company, or be left at any station belonging to such company.

*Settlement  
by arbitra-  
tion of  
differences  
between  
Postmaster  
General and  
railway  
companies  
in certain  
cases.*

16. *And be it enacted, That* in all cases in which the Postmaster-General and any company of proprietors of any railway shall not be able to agree on the amount of remuneration or compensation to be paid by the Postmaster-General to such company of proprietors for any services performed or to be performed by them as hereinbefore mentioned, the same shall be referred to the award of two persons, one to be named by the Postmaster-General, and the other by such company; and if such two persons cannot agree on the amount of such remuneration or compensation, then to the umpirage of some third person, to be appointed by such two first-named persons previously to their entering upon the inquiry; and the said award or umpirage, as the case may be, shall be binding and conclusive on the said parties, and their respective successors and assigns.

*Railway  
companies,  
after con-  
tracts have  
existed for  
a certain  
period, may  
refer them  
to arbitra-  
tors to  
decide as to  
their con-  
tinuance.*

17. *And be it enacted, That* after any contract entered into or award made under the authority of this Act shall have continued in operation for a period of three years, it shall be competent for any railway company who may consider themselves aggrieved by the terms of remuneration fixed by such contract or award, by notice under their common seal, to require that it shall be referred to arbitrators to determine whether any and what alteration ought to be made therein; and thereupon such arbitrators or umpire to be appointed as hereinbefore mentioned shall proceed to inquire into the circumstances, and make their award therein, as in the case of an original agreement: Provided always, that the services performed by such railway company for the post-office shall in nowise be interrupted or impeded thereby



18. *And be it enacted, That* in all references to be made under the authority of this act, the Postmaster-General, or the railway company, as the case may be, shall nominate his or their arbitrator within fourteen days after notice from the other party, or in default it shall be lawful for the arbitrator appointed by the party giving notice to name the other arbitrator; and such arbitrators shall proceed forthwith in the reference, and make their award therein within twenty-eight days after their appointment, or otherwise the matter shall be left to be determined by the umpire; and if such umpire shall refuse or neglect to proceed and make his award for the space of twenty-eight days after the matter shall have been referred to him, then a new umpire shall be appointed by the two first-named arbitrators, who shall in like manner proceed and make his award within twenty-eight days, or in default be superseded, and so "toties quoties."

*Conveyance of Mails.*

Limitations of time for nomination of arbitrators, and making of awards, &c.

19. *And be it enacted, That* whenever the term "company of proprietors," or "railway company," or "company" is used in this act, the same shall extend to and be construed to include the proprietors for the time being of any railway, whether a body corporate or individuals, and also (during the continuance of any demise or lease as aforesaid) any person, whether a body corporate or company or individuals, to whom any railway or part of a railway may previous to the passing of this act have been demised or let, and their successors, executors, administrators, and assigns, unless the subject or context be otherwise repugnant to such construction; and *that* the provisions of this act shall be construed according to the respective interpretations of the terms and expressions contained in an act passed in the first year of the reign of her present Majesty, intituled "An Act for consolidating the laws relative to Offences against the Post-office of the United Kingdom, and for regulating the judicial administration of the Post-office Laws, and for explaining certain terms and expressions employed in those laws," so far as those interpretations are not repugnant to the subject or inconsistent with the context of such provisions; and *that* this present act shall be deemed and construed to be a post-office act within the intent and meaning of the said last-mentioned act; and the pecuniary penalties hereby imposed shall be recovered and recoverable in the manner and form therein particularly mentioned and expressed with reference to the pecuniary penalties imposed by the post-office acts: Provided nevertheless, that any justice of the peace having jurisdiction for any county through which any railway shall pass, in respect of which any penalty or forfeiture under this act shall have been in-

Interpretation of terms.

"Company of Proprietors,"  
"Railway Company,"  
"Company."

and according to the  
1 Vict. c. 36.

Power of justices to determine offences against this act.

*Conveyance  
of Mails.*

curred, shall and may hear and determine any offence against this act which may subject any company to a pecuniary penalty not exceeding twenty pounds; and a summons issued under the post-office acts by any such justice against any railway company for the recovery of any such penalty shall be deemed to be sufficiently served in case either the summons or a copy thereof be delivered to any officer, servant, or agent of such company, or be left at any station belonging to such company.

Act may be  
amended or  
repealed.

20. *And be it enacted, That this act may be amended or repealed by any act to be passed in the present session of Parliament.*

[Repealed  
by 37 & 38  
Vict. c. 96,  
S.L.R.]

## 2 & 3 Vict. cap. 45.

[Amended  
by 37 & 38  
Vict. c. 96,  
S.L.R.]

*An Act to amend an Act of the Fifth and Sixth Years of the Reign of His late Majesty King William the Fourth relating to Highways.*

[17th August, 1839.]

5 & 6 W. 4.  
c. 50.

Whereas by an act passed in the session of parliament holden in the fifth and sixth years of the reign of his late majesty king William the fourth, intituled "An Act to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Highways in that part of Great Britain called England," it is amongst other things by the said act enacted, that whenever a railroad shall cross any highway for carts or carriages the proprietors of the said railroad shall make and maintain good and sufficient gates at each of the said crossings, and shall employ good and proper persons to attend to the opening and shutting of such gates, so that the persons, carts, or carriages passing along such road shall not be exposed to any danger or damage by the passing of any carriages or engines along the said railroad, and any complaint for any neglect in respect of the said gates shall be made within one month after the said neglect to one justice, who may summon the party so complained against to appear before the justices at their next special sessions for the highways, who shall hear and decide upon the said complaint, and the proprietor so offending shall forfeit any sum not exceeding five pounds and whereas it is also by the said act further enacted, that nothing in this act contained shall apply to any