

April 3, 1889.

Parcels post convention between the United States of America and the Leeward Islands.

Preamble.

For the purpose of making better postal arrangements between the United States of America and the Leeward Islands, the undersigned, John Wanamaker, Postmaster-General of the United States of America, and the Honorable Henry George Edwardes, Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, Secretary of Legation at Washington, by virtue of authority vested in them by law, have agreed upon the following articles for the establishment of a parcels post system of exchange between the two countries.

ARTICLE I.

Extent of convention.

The provisions of this Convention relate only to parcels of mail matter to be exchanged by the system herein provided for, and do not affect the arrangements now existing under the Universal Postal Union Convention, which will continue as heretofore; and all the agreements hereinafter contained apply exclusively to mails exchanged under these articles, *directly* between the office of New York, and such other offices within the United States as may be hereafter designated by the Postmaster-General of the United States, and the office of Antigua, and such other offices within the Leeward Islands, as may be hereafter designated by the Governor of the Leeward Islands; such matter to be admitted to the mails under these articles as shall be sent through such exchange offices from any place in either country to any place in the other.

ARTICLE II.

Articles admitted to the mails.

There shall be admitted to the mails exchanged under this Convention, articles of merchandise and mail matter except letters, post cards, and written matter of all kinds, that are admitted under any conditions to the domestic mails of the country of origin, except that no packet must exceed 11 pounds (or 5 kilograms) in weight, nor the following dimensions: Greatest length in any direction three feet six inches; greatest length and girth combined, six feet; and must be so wrapped or inclosed as to permit their contents to be easily examined by postmasters and customs officers; and except that the following articles are prohibited:

Articles prohibited.

Publications which violate the copyright laws of the country of destination; poisons, and explosive or inflammable substances; fatty substances, liquids, and those which easily liquefy, confections and pastes; live or dead animals, except dead insects and reptiles when thoroughly dried; fruits and vegetables, and substances which exhale a bad odor; lottery tickets, lottery advertisements, or lottery circulars; all obscene or immoral articles; articles which may in any way damage or destroy the mails, or injure the persons handling them.

ARTICLE III.

Letters accompanying parcels.

A letter or communication of the nature of personal correspondence must not accompany, be written on, or inclosed with any parcel.

If such be found, the letter will be placed in the mails if separable,

and if the communication be inseparably attached, the whole package will be rejected. If, however, any such should inadvertently be forwarded, the country of destination will collect double rates of postage according to the Universal Postal Union Convention.

No parcel may contain parcels intended for delivery at an address other than that borne by the parcel itself. If such inclosed parcels be detected, they must be sent forward singly, charged with new and distinct parcel-post rates.

Address.

ARTICLE IV.

The packages in question shall be subject in the country of destination to all customs duties and all customs regulations in force in that country for the protection of its customs revenues, and to the following rates of postage, which shall in all cases be required to be FULLY PREPAID with postage stamps of the country of origin, viz:

Rates of postage.

In the United States, for a parcel not exceeding one pound in weight, 12 cents; and for each additional pound, or fraction of a pound, 12 cents.

In the Leeward Islands, for a parcel not exceeding one pound in weight, six pence; and for each additional pound, or fraction of a pound, six pence.

ARTICLE V.

The sender of each package must make a *Customs Declaration*, pasted upon or attached to the package, upon a special form provided for the purpose (see Form 1, "A," annexed hereto), giving a general description of the parcel, an accurate statement of the contents and value, date of mailing, and the sender's signature and place of residence, and place of address.

Customs declaration.

The sender will, at the time of mailing the package, receive a certificate of mailing from the post-office where the package is mailed, on a form like Form 2, annexed hereto.

Receipt.

The sender of a package may have the same registered by paying the registration fee required for registered articles in the country of origin, and will receive the return receipt without special charge therefor.

Registry.

ARTICLE VI.

The addressees of registered articles shall be advised of the arrival of a package addressed to them, by a notice from the post-office of destination.

Notice to addressee.

The packages shall be delivered to addressees in the country of destination free of charge *for postage*; but the customs duties properly chargeable thereon shall be collected on delivery in accordance with the customs regulations of the country of destination; and the country of destination may, at its option, levy and collect from the addressee for interior service and delivery a charge not exceeding five cents in the United States and two and a half pence in the Leeward Islands on each single parcel of whatever weight; and if the weight exceeds one pound, a charge equal to one cent or one half-penny for each four ounces of weight or fraction thereof.

Delivery.

Charge.

ARTICLE VII.

The packages shall be considered as a component part of the mails exchanged direct between the United States and the Leeward Islands, to be dispatched by the country of origin to the other at its cost and by such means as it provides, but must be forwarded, at the option of the dispatching office, either in boxes prepared expressly for the purpose or in ordinary mail sacks, to be marked "Parcel Post," and not to

Transportation.

contain any other articles of mail matter, and to be securely sealed with wax, or otherwise, as may be mutually provided by regulations hereunder.

Return of sacks, etc. Each country shall promptly return *empty* to the dispatching office by next mail, all such bags and boxes, but subject to other regulations between the two administrations.

Packing. Although articles admitted under this Convention will be transmitted as aforesaid between the exchange offices, they should be so carefully packed as to be safely transmitted in the open mails of either country, both in going to the exchange office in the country of origin and to the office of address in the country of destination.

Descriptive list. Each dispatch of a parcel post mail must be accompanied by a descriptive list, in duplicate, of all the packages sent, showing distinctly the list number of each parcel, the name of the sender, the name of the addressee with address of destination, and the declared contents and value; and must be inclosed in one of the boxes or sacks of such dispatch. (See Form 3 annexed hereto.)

ARTICLE VIII.

Receipt of mail. As soon as the mail shall have reached the office of destination, that office shall check the contents of the mail.

Parcel bill. In the event of the parcel bill not having been received a substitute should be at once prepared.

Errors. Any errors in the entries on the parcel bill which may be discovered, should, after verification by a second officer, be corrected and noted for report to the dispatching office on a form, "Verification Certificate," which should be sent in the special envelope.

Non-receipt of parcels. If a parcel advised on the bill be not received, after the non-receipt has been verified by a second officer, the entry on the bill should be canceled and the fact reported at once.

Insufficient postage. If a parcel be observed to be insufficiently prepaid, it must not be taxed with deficient postage, but the circumstance must be reported on the verification certificate form.

Damaged parcels. Should a parcel be received in a damaged or imperfect condition, full particulars should be reported on the same form.

Correct mails. If no verification certificate or note of error be received, a parcel mail shall be considered as duly delivered, having been found on examination correct in all respects.

ARTICLE IX.

Failure to deliver. If a package cannot be delivered as addressed, or is refused, the sender will be communicated with through the central administration of the office of destination, as to the manner in which he desires the package to be disposed of, and if no reply is received from him within a period of three months from the date of the notice, the package may be sold for the benefit of whom it may concern.

Redirection, etc. An order for redirection or reforwarding must be accompanied by the amount due for postage necessary for the return of the article to the office of origin, at the ordinary parcel rates.

Disposition of perishable contents. When the contents of a parcel which cannot be delivered are liable to deterioration or corruption, they may be destroyed at once, if necessary, or if expedient, sold, without previous notice or judicial formality, for the benefit of the right person, the particulars of each sale being noticed by one post-office to the other.

ARTICLE X.

No responsibility for loss or damage. The Post-Office Department of either of the contracting countries will not be responsible for the loss or damage of any package, and no indemnity can consequently be claimed by the sender or addressee in either country.

ARTICLE XI.

Each country shall retain to its own use the whole of the postages, registration and delivery fees, it collects on said packages; consequently, this Convention will give rise to no separate accounts between the two countries.

Fees to be retained.

ARTICLE XII.

The Postmaster General of the United States of America, and the Governor of the Leeward Islands, shall have authority to jointly make such further regulations of order and detail as may be found necessary to carry out the present Convention from time to time; and may, by agreement, prescribe conditions for the admission in packages exchanged under this Convention of any of the articles prohibited by Article II.

Further regulations.

ARTICLE XIII.

This Convention shall take effect and operations thereunder shall begin on the first day of June, 1889, and shall continue in force until terminated by mutual agreement, but may be annulled at the desire of either Department, upon six months' previous notice given to the other.

Commencement.

Done in duplicate, and signed at Washington, the third day of April, 1889.

{ Seal of Post-Office }
{ Dep't of U. S. }

JNO. WANAMAKER,
Postmaster-General of the United States.
H. G. EDWARDES,
Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires,
Secretary of Legation.

Signatures.

The foregoing Parcels Post Convention between the United States of America and the Leeward Islands, has been negotiated and concluded with my advice and consent, and is hereby approved and ratified.

Approval.

In testimony whereof I have caused the Great Seal of the United States to be hereunto affixed.

[SEAL.]

By the President:

BENJ. HARRISON

JAMES G. BLAINE,
Secretary of State.

WASHINGTON, April 5th, 1889.

Form No. 1.
Customs declaration.

FORM 1.

A.

Parcel-Post between the United States and the Leeward Islands.

Date Stamp.	FORM OF CUSTOMS DECLARATION.				Place to which the parcel is addressed.
Description of parcel: [State whether box, basket, bag, etc.]	Contents.	Value.	Per cent.	Total customs charges.	
		\$		\$	
Total.		\$		\$	

Date of posting:....., 18..; signature and address of sender {
☒ For use of Post-Office only, and to be filled up at the office of exchange:
Parcel Bill No.....; No. of rates prepaid.....; Entry No.....

B.

Parcel Post from the Leeward Islands.
The import duty assessed by an officer of customs on contents of this parcel
amounts to \$....., which must be paid before the parcel is delivered.

Date
Stamp.

.....
Customs Officer.

C.

Parcel Post from the Leeward Islands.
This parcel has been passed by an officer of customs, and must be delivered
FREE OF CHARGE.

Date
Stamp.

.....
Postmaster-General.

FORM 2.

Form No. 2.

Parcel-Post.

Receipt.

A parcel addressed as under has been posted here this day.

Office stamp.	
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This certificate is given to inform the sender of the posting of a parcel, and does not indicate that any liability in respect of such parcel attaches to the Postmaster-General.

FORM 3.

Form No. 3.

Parcel bill.

Date stamp of the United States Post- Office.	<i>Parcels from the United States for the Leeward Islands.</i>	Date stamp of the Leeward Islands Post-Office.
	Parcel Bill No., dated18..; per S. S. "....."	
*Sheet No.		

Entry No.	Origin of parcel.	Name of addressee.	Address of parcel.	Declared contents.	Declared value.	Number of rates prepaid to the Leeward Islands.	Remarks.
					\$		
					Totals .. \$		

When more than one sheet is required for the entry of the parcels sent by the mail, it will be sufficient if the undermentioned particulars are entered on the last sheet of the Parcel Bill.

lbs.

* Total number of parcels sent by the mail to the Leeward Islands	* Total weight of mail.....
* Number of boxes or other receptacles forming the mail.....	* Deduct weight of receptacles.....
* Signature of dispatching officer at New York Post-Office.....	* Net weight of parcels.....

Signature of receiving officer, Post-Office, Leeward Islands: