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# VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

A.D. 1886.

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No. 370.

An Act authorising the issue of Postal Notes.

*[Assented to, September 15th, 1886.]*

**W**HEREAS it is desirable to make further provision for the transmission of small sums of money through the post—Be it therefore Enacted by the Governor of the Province of South Australia, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and House of Assembly of the said province, in this present Parliament assembled, as follows:

Preamble.

1. In the construction, for the purposes of this Act, the word "Minister" shall mean the Minister for the time being controlling the Postal Department.

Interpretation.

2. This Act may be called "The Postal Notes Act, 1886," and the Governor may exercise, with reference to the matters and things hereby provided, all such powers of making regulations as are given under any Acts now, or from time to time to be, in force with regard to the post office, and with regard to the issue of money orders.

Short title and embodiment of powers of Governor in Post Office Acts.

3. The Minister may from time to time, subject to regulations and conditions aforesaid, issue postal notes for the remittance of sums of money through the post, provided that no such note shall exceed the value of twenty (20) shillings, and that every such note shall be for one of the amounts set forth in the Schedule hereto annexed, and shall bear a stamp denoting the fee payable thereon.

Minister may issue postal notes

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Requisites of postal notes.

**4.** Every such postal note shall—

- i. Be numbered with a distinctive number :
- ii. Bear impressed on its face its appropriate fee-stamp, and also its cash value printed in words and figures :
- iii. Be signed by the postmaster or other authorised person issuing the note :
- iv. Be issued from the General Post Office, Adelaide, for sale at such post offices as shall from time to time be appointed for the purpose, at the price of its cash value and the fee-stamp thereon :
- v. Be payable to the bearer on demand or order at the General Post Office, Adelaide, and at such other post offices as shall from time to time be appointed for that purpose.

Currency of notes.

**5.** After the expiration of six months from the last day of the month of issue, any note issued under the provisions of this Act shall be payable only on payment of a commission equal to the amount of the original fee-stamp, with the addition (if more than six months have elapsed since the said expiration) of the amount of the original fee-stamp for every further period of six months which has so elapsed, and for every portion of any such period of six months over and above every complete period.

Fee-stamp on note to be obliterated before delivery.

**6.** Every postmaster or other officer who sells a postal note shall, in every case before delivery thereof to any person, obliterate the fee-stamp impressed on such postal note, by impressing thereon the office date-stamp of the day of the delivery.

Note to be cancelled on payment.

**7.** Every postmaster or other officer who cashes a postal note shall in every case thereupon cancel the same by impressing on the face thereof a stamp, to be provided for the purpose, bearing the word "Paid," and the office date-stamp of the day of payment.

Arrangement with other colonies and with Great Britain for reciprocal payment of notes.

**8.** Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Minister may, from time to time, make arrangements with the Postmaster-General of the United Kingdom, and with the proper authorities of any British possession, or of any foreign State, for the reciprocal payment of postal notes by means of the post office, and for the accounting for and transmission of moneys connected therewith, and such arrangements shall be as binding on all holders of postal notes as if contained in this Act.

Postal notes brought within certain criminal provisions.

**9.** A postal note shall be deemed a valuable security for money within the meaning of any Act, for the time being in force, relating to larceny, and shall be deemed a security for money, and an order for the payment of money within the meaning of any Act, for the time being, relating to forgery ; and shall be deemed public moneys within the meaning of any Act, for the time being in force, relating to the audit of public moneys.

**10.** The

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**10.** The Minister may cause to be made such paper, plates, types, moulds, stamps, dies, and other instruments as may be necessary or desirable for the making, printing, numbering, and stamping, for fees and otherwise, the postal notes by this Act authorised.

Power to postmaster to make special paper, plates, &c.

**11.** And with reference to the aforesaid postal notes and the paper, and the plates, types, moulds, stamps, dies, and the impressions thereof respectively, or any part thereof, or of the impressions thereof, any person shall be guilty of felony, punishable, on conviction, with imprisonment with hard labor for any time not exceeding seven years, who shall do, or cause to be done, any of the following acts or things, namely—

Penalties for forging and fraudulently using paper, plates, &c.

I. Forging or counterfeiting:

II. Knowingly, and without lawful cause, making or fabricating:

And every person shall be guilty of felony, punishable by imprisonment with hard labor for not more than four years, who shall do, or cause to be done, any of the following acts or things, namely—

I. Knowingly, and without lawful cause or excuse, uttering, passing, selling, or exposing for sale:

II. With intent to defraud Her Majesty, Her heirs or successors, privately or fraudulently using:

III. Knowingly, and without lawful cause or excuse, having in possession:

And the proof of the cause or excuse shall lie on the person accused.

**12.** And with respect to any such fee-stamp, or the print, or the impression of any of such plates, types, stamps, fee-stamps, or other instruments, any person who shall be guilty of any of the following acts or things shall, on conviction, be punishable by imprisonment with hard labor for any term not exceeding three years, namely—

Penalties for fraud in connection with stamps, &c.

I. With intent to defraud, removing from any letter, paper, or other substance any such stamp, fee-stamp, print or impression, with intent to use, join, fix, or place the same with or upon any other letter, paper, or substance:

II. With intent to defraud, using, joining, fixing, or placing any such stamp, fee-stamp, print, or impression so removed with or upon any other letter, paper, or substance:

III. With intent to defraud, erasing, cutting, scraping, discharging, extracting or obliterating any such stamp, duty stamp, print, or impression from any letter, paper, or substance.

**13.** Any officer of the post office who re-issues postal notes previously paid shall be deemed to have issued the same with a fraudulent

Officer of post office fraudulently re-issuing.

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fraudulent intent within the meaning of the Statutes relating to the punishment for the uttering of a forged order, authority, or request for the payment of money.

Protection of Minister  
and officers from  
actions.

**14.** No action or other legal proceeding shall be instituted against the Minister, or any officer of the post office, or other person, by reason of any regulations made in pursuance of this Act, or any compliance therewith, or otherwise in relation thereto, nor by reason of the payment or the refunding of the amount of any postal note, or any part of such amount, or of any poundage or fee-stamp thereupon being refused or delayed on account of any accidental neglect, omission, or mistake, without fraud or wilful misbehaviour on the part of the person chargeable therewith.

In the name and on behalf of Her Majesty, I hereby assent to  
this Bill.

WILLIAM C. F. ROBINSON, Governor.

## SCHEDULE.

Postal notes shall be issued for the following amounts, and shall bear a stamp denoting the fee to be paid for them:—

Postal Note.		Fee.	Postal Note.		Fee.
s.	d.	d.	s.	d.	d.
1	0	0½	4	6	1
1	6	0½	5	0	2
2	0	1	7	6	2
2	6	1	10	0	3
3	0	1	10	6	3
3	6	1	15	0	3
4	0	1	20	0	3