

seamen, soldiers, and others, as may, by competent authority, to be hereafter prescribed, be deemed proper to be received therein, which building, with one half of the ground occupied by the old and new jails, is hereby assigned for those purposes.

Board of inspectors to be appointed; their duties.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That on the completion of the said building, the President be authorized to appoint three respectable persons, residents of the city of Washington, to be a board of inspectors of the said institution, who shall hold their offices two years from the date of their appointment; and whose duty it shall be to have a general supervision of the concerns of the said hospital; to appoint the necessary subordinate officers thereof; to prescribe rules for the admission and due regulation of patients therein, and to make an annual report to Congress of their proceedings, and of the condition of the said institution.

Appropriation.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That there be, and there is hereby, appropriated, the sum of ten thousand dollars for the alteration of the said building, and improvement of the grounds, to be paid out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

APPROVED, August 29, 1842.

STATUTE II.

Aug. 29, 1842.

[Obsolete.]

CHAP. CCLV.—*An Act to provide for the publication of a new edition of the laws and regulations of the Post Office Department, and a perfect list of the post-offices in the United States.*

A complete edition to be printed.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the Postmaster General be, and he is hereby, authorized and required to cause to be collated and printed in pamphlet form, suitably for distribution, a complete edition, of not less than eighteen thousand copies, of the laws relating to the Post Office Department; together with the regulations established by said Department for the better conduct of its business; and also a new and complete list of all the post-offices in the United States; showing their respective distances from Washington, and from the capitols of the States in which the several offices are situated.

Appropriation.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of this act, the sum of nine thousand one hundred dollars is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

APPROVED, August 29, 1842.

STATUTE II.

Aug. 29, 1842.

CHAP. CCLVI.—*An Act for creating a new land district in the State of Missouri, and for changing the boundaries of the southwestern and western land districts in said State.*

Part of the Western Land District, and the Platte river country, to constitute the Platte Land District.  
1823, ch. 66.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That all that portion of the "western land district," created by an act of Congress, entitled "An act to establish an additional land office in the State of Missouri," approved third of March eighteen hundred and twenty-three, which is situated north of the Missouri river, together with the late northwest addition to the State of Missouri, commonly known as the "Platte river country," shall constitute a separate land district, to be called the Platte district.

Register and receiver to be appointed; their residence, &c.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That there shall be a register and a receiver appointed for said land district, who shall reside and superintend the sales of the public lands at such place as the President shall designate. They shall give security in the same manner and in the same sums, and their compensation, emoluments, duty, and authority, shall, in every respect, be the same in relation to the lands which may be disposed of at said office, as are or may be provided by law relative

to the registers and receivers of public money in the several offices established for the sale of the public lands.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That all that part of the southwestern district of Missouri which is situated north of the line between townships thirty-four and thirty-five, and that portion of the Fayette land district lying west of the line dividing ranges twenty and twenty-one west, south of the Missouri river, is hereby annexed to, and shall make a part of the western or Lexington district of Missouri, the office for which district shall be located at such place as the President shall designate.

Part of certain districts annexed to the Lexington district.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury, as soon as the same can be done, to cause the plats of the surveys of the new district hereby created, and of the portion annexed to the western district, to be deposited in the proper offices, and he is hereby authorized to allow and pay, out of the proceeds of the sales of the public lands, the reasonable expenses which may be incurred in carrying this act into effect.

Plats of surveys to be deposited in the proper offices.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That this act shall take effect and be in force from and after the expiration of six calendar months from the date of the passage thereof.

Reasonable expenses to be paid.  
Act when to take effect

APPROVED, August 29, 1842.

STATUTE II.

CHAP. CCLVII. — *An Act to provide further remedial justice in the courts of the United States.*

Aug. 29, 1842.

Act of Aug. 23, 1842, ch. 188.  
Justices of the Supreme Court, &c. empowered to grant writs of habeas corpus when subjects of foreign States are in custody of the United States, &c.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That either of the justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, or judge of any district court of the United States, in which a prisoner is confined, in addition to the authority already conferred by law, shall have power to grant writs of habeas corpus in all cases of any prisoner or prisoners in jail or confinement, where he, she, or they, being subjects or citizens of a foreign State, and domiciled therein, shall be committed or confined, or in custody, under or by any authority or law, or process founded thereon, of the United States, or of any one of them, for or on account of any act done or omitted under any alleged right, title, authority, privilege, protection, or exemption, set up or claimed under the commission, or order, or sanction, of any foreign State or Sovereignty, the validity and effect whereof depend upon the law of nations, or under color thereof. And upon the return of the said writ, and due proof of the service of notice of the said proceeding to the Attorney General or other officer prosecuting the pleas of the State, under whose authority the petitioner has been arrested, committed, or is held in custody, to be prescribed by the said justice or judge at the time of granting said writ, the said justice or judge shall proceed to hear the said cause; and if, upon hearing the same, it shall appear that the prisoner or prisoners is or are entitled to be discharged from such confinement, commitment, custody or arrest, for or by reason of such alleged right, title, authority, privileges, protection or exemption, so set up and claimed, and the laws of nations applicable thereto, and that the same exists in fact, and has been duly proved to the said justice or judge, then it shall be the duty of the said justice or judge forthwith to discharge such prisoner or prisoners accordingly. And if it shall appear to the said justice or judge that such judgment or discharge ought not to be rendered, then the said prisoner or prisoners shall be forthwith remanded: *Provided always*, That from any decision of such justice or judge an appeal may be taken to the circuit court of the United States for the district in which the said cause is heard; and from the judgment of the said circuit court to the Supreme Court of the United States, on such

If the prisoner is entitled to be discharged for the right, &c. claimed, the justice or judge shall forthwith discharge him.

Proviso.