

PUBLIC ACTS OF THE THIRTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS

OF THE

UNITED STATES,

Passed at the third session which was begun and held at the City of Washington, in the District of Columbia, on Monday, the first day of December, A. D. 1862, and ended on Wednesday, the fourth day of March, A. D. 1863.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN, President. HANNIBAL HAMLIN, Vice-President, and President of the Senate. SOLOMON FOOTE was elected President of the Senate, pro tempore, on the eighteenth day of February, and so acted until the end of the session. GALUSHA A. GROW, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

CHAP. I. — An Act authorizing the Holding of a special Session of the United States District Court for the District of Indiana. Dec. 15, 1862.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That a special session of the United States District Court for the district of Indiana shall be holden, at the usual place of holding said court, on the first Monday in February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and to continue in session so long as the business thereof may require. Special session of the United States District Court to be held in Indiana.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That all suits and proceedings of a civil or criminal nature now pending in or returnable to said court shall be proceeded in, heard, tried, and determined by said court at said special session in the same manner as at a regular term of said court. Process pending and returnable.

APPROVED, December 15, 1862.

CHAP. III. — An Act to adjust Appropriations heretofore made for the Civil Service of the Navy Department to the present Organization of that Department. Dec. 19, 1862.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby authorized and directed to transfer the amounts heretofore appropriated for the pay of chiefs of bureaus, clerks, messengers, and laborers connected with the Navy Department, so that they will correspond with the present organization and pay as authorized by the act of Congress of July fifth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, viz: Transfer of appropriations for Navy Department.

For the Bureau of Equipment and Recruiting, three thousand eight hundred and seventy-four dollars. 1862, ch. 134. Ante, p. 510. Bureau of Equipment and Recruiting,

For the Bureau of Yards and Docks, ten thousand six hundred and forty-three dollars. of Yards and Docks,

For the Bureau of Navigation, three thousand and fifty-seven dollars. of Navigation,

For the Bureau of Ordnance, six thousand nine hundred and fifty-four dollars. of Ordnance,

For the Bureau of Construction and Repairs, nine thousand five hundred and thirty-four dollars. of Construction and repairs,

For the Bureau of Steam Engineering, four thousand two hundred and twenty-four dollars. of Steam Engineering,

For the Bureau of Provisions and Clothing, five thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight dollars. of Provisions and Clothing,

Bureau of
Medicine and
Surgery.

Remaining
balances may be
expended for
clerical services.

Further
transfer.

For the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, five thousand eight hundred dollars.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That all remaining balances shall attach to the office of the Secretary of the Navy, and may be expended by him for such clerical services as he shall judge the interests of the department require.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That the sum of one thousand dollars, heretofore appropriated for the contingent expenses of the Bureau of Construction, Equipment, and Repair, be transferred to the Bureau of Steam Engineering, and the sum of one thousand dollars to the Bureau of Equipment and Recruiting. And also that the sum of one thousand dollars, heretofore appropriated for the contingent expenses of the Bureau of Ordnance, be transferred to the Bureau of Navigation.

APPROVED, December 19, 1862.

Dec. 25, 1862.

1862, ch. 119.

Ante, p. 432.

Assessors, col-
lectors, &c. may
administer oaths.

No fees there-
for.

Commissioner
to furnish adhe-
sive stamps, &c.
to collector at
San Francisco
and Portland.

No greater
commission to
be allowed.

No instrument
to be void for
want of particu-
lar stamp, if a
legal stamp of
equal value be
used thereon.

Proprietary
articles excepted

Official docu-
ments, &c. of
United States
exempt from
duty.

Instruments
required to be
stamped, issued
prior to March
1, 1863, without
a stamp, not for
that reason to
be void.

CHAP. IV. — *An Act to amend an Act entitled "An Act to provide Internal Revenue to support the Government and to pay Interest on the Public Debt," approved July first, eighteen hundred and sixty-two.*

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the assessors, assistant assessors, collectors, and deputy collectors, appointed, or who may be appointed, under the provisions of an act entitled "An act to provide internal revenue to support the Government and to pay interest on the public debt," approved July first, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and all subsequent acts in relation thereto which have been or may be enacted, are hereby authorized and empowered to administer oaths or affirmations in all cases where the same are or may be required by the acts as aforesaid: *Provided*, That no fees shall be charged or allowed therefor.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the Commissioner of Internal Revenue shall be authorized and empowered, and hereby is authorized and empowered, to furnish and supply the assistant treasurers or collectors of the United States at San Francisco, State of California, and Portland, State of Oregon, with adhesive stamps, or stamped paper, vellum, or parchment, according to the provisions of the internal revenue laws referred to in the preceding section, under such regulations and conditions as he may from time to time prescribe, and without requiring payment in advance therefor, anything in existing laws to the contrary notwithstanding: *Provided*, That no greater commission shall be allowed than is now provided for by law.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That no instrument, document, writing, or paper of any description, required by law to be stamped, shall be deemed or held invalid and of no effect for the want of the particular kind or description of stamp designated for and denoting the duty charged on any such instrument, document, writing, or paper, provided a legal stamp, or stamps, denoting a duty of equal amount, shall have been duly affixed and used thereon: *Provided*, That the provisions of this section shall not apply to any stamp appropriated to denote the duty charged on proprietary articles.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That all official instruments, documents, and papers, issued or used by the officers of the United States Government shall be, and hereby are, exempt from duty.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That the ninety-fifth section of an act entitled "An act to provide internal revenue to support the Government and to pay interest on the public debt," approved July first, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, be so amended that no instrument, document, or paper made, signed, or issued prior to the first day of March, Anno Domini, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, without being duly stamped, or having thereon an adhesive stamp to denote the duty imposed thereon