

FOREIGN HOSPITALS AT PANAMA.

Foreign hospitals, Panama.

Annual contributions towards the support of foreign hospitals at Panama, to be paid by the Secretary of State upon the assurance that suffering seamen and citizens of the United States will be admitted to the privileges of said hospitals, five hundred dollars.

PUBLICATION OF CONSULAR AND COMMERCIAL REPORTS.

Publication, etc., consular reports.

Preparation, printing, publication, and distribution, by the Department of State, of the consular and other commercial reports, including circular letters to chambers of commerce, twenty thousand dollars.

CONTINGENT EXPENSES UNITED STATES CONSULATES.

Contingent expenses, consulates.

Expenses of providing all such stationery, blanks, record and other books, seals, presses, flags, signs, rent, postage, furniture, statistics, newspapers, freight (foreign and domestic), telegrams, advertising, messenger service, traveling expenses of consular clerks, Chinese writers, and such other miscellaneous expenses as the President may think necessary for the several consulates and commercial agencies in the transaction of their business, one hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

Approved, March 3, 1887.

CHAP. 343.—An act for the erection of a public building in the city of Binghamton, New York.

Mar. 3, 1887.

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 hereby is, authorized and directed to purchase or otherwise provide a suitable site, and cause to be erected thereon, in the city of Binghamton, in the State of New York, a substantial and commodious public building, with fire-proof vaults, for the use and accommodation of the post-office, internal-revenue offices, and United States courts, and for other Government uses. The site, and the building thereon, when completed according to plans and specifications to be previously made and approved by the Secretary of the Treasury, shall not exceed the cost of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars; and the site purchased shall leave the building unexposed to danger from fire in adjacent buildings by an open space of at least fifty feet, including streets and alleys; and for the purposes herein mentioned the sum of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars is hereby appropriated, out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury: *Provided,* That no part of said sum shall be expended until a valid title to said site shall be vested in the United States, and the State of New York shall cede to the United States exclusive jurisdiction over the same, during the time the United States shall be or remain the owner thereof, for all purposes except the administration of the criminal laws of said State and the service of any civil process thereon.

Binghamton, N. Y. Public building. Site.

Plans, etc.

Cost.

Open space.

Appropriation.

Proviso.
Title.

Approved, March 3, 1887.

CHAP. 344.—An act to authorize the printing of the eulogies delivered in Congress upon the late John A. Logan.

Mar. 3, 1887.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the eulogies delivered in Congress upon the late John A. Logan, a Senator from Illinois, and also the funeral services held in the Senate chamber upon the occasion of his burial, be printed, under the direction of the Joint Committee on

Eulogies on John A. Logan to be printed.

Portrait.

Appropriation.

Printing; and that there be printed thirty thousand five hundred additional copies, of which ten thousand copies shall be for the use of the Senate, twenty thousand copies for the use of the House of Representatives, and five hundred copies for the use of Mrs John A. Logan; and the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, directed to have printed a portrait of the said John A. Logan, to accompany said eulogies; and for engraving and printing said portrait the sum of five hundred dollars, or so much as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Approved, March 3, 1887.

Mar. 3, 1887.

CHAP. 345.—An act authorizing an investigation of the books, accounts, and methods of railroads which have received aid from the United States, and for other purposes.

Commission to investigate books, etc., of certain railroads.

Compensation, etc.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States, be, and he is hereby, authorized to appoint three commissioners, whose compensation shall be seven hundred and fifty dollars per month to each, and the necessary traveling expenses and board bills, for which proper vouchers shall be returned, to be approved by the Secretary of the Interior; and said commission may appoint a stenographer, if necessary, and fix his compensation; and the persons appointed on the said commission shall have power to examine all books, papers, and methods of the companies hereinafter named, employ experts if necessary; and they shall at all times be under the immediate direction and control of the President of the United States, and may at any time be removed by him in his discretion. The term of office of said commissioners shall not extend beyond the beginning of the next session of the Senate.

Term of office.

If the Senate shall be convened after the fourth day of March, eighteen hundred and eighty-seven and before the first of December in said year and the duties of the said commissioners shall not then be completed, the President shall by and with the advice and consent of the Senate appoint three commissioners who shall perform and complete the duties prescribed in this act within the time therein specified.

Scope of investigation.

SEC. 2. That the duty of said commission shall be to examine into the working and financial management of all of the railroads that have received aid from the Government in bonds; to ascertain whether they have observed all the obligations imposed upon them by the laws of the United States under which they received such aid, or which have been since passed in reference thereto, and complied with all other obligations to the United States; and whether their books and accounts are or have been so kept as to show the net earnings of the aided roads, and what said books and accounts actually show in regard thereto, and what have been in fact said net earnings; or whether there has been a diversion of earnings of aided roads to less productive branches, through constructive mileage allowances, or average mileage allowances between aided and non-aided roads or parts of roads, or otherwise, and also whether such system of constructive mileage allowances is fair and usual, and in practical operation has resulted adversely or otherwise to the aided roads and the interest of the United States; or whether there has been a diversion of earnings of aided roads to wrongful or improper purposes, and, if so, to what extent; whether there is a discrimination of rates in favor of unaided against aided roads; whether any, and, if so, how much, money is due and owing to the United States on account of mistaken or erroneous accounts, reports, or settlements made by said roads; whether any traffic or business which could or should be done on the aided lines of said companies has been diverted to the lines of any other company or to non-aided lines, and what amounts have been deducted from the gross earnings of any of said aided railroad companies, by their general freight and passenger agents or auditors, by way of rebate, percent.