

## STATUTE II.

March 1, 1817.

[Obsolete.]

CHAP. XXI.—*An Act authorizing vessels departing from the town of Bayou St. John and Basin of the Canal de Carondelet, for foreign ports, to clear out at the Custom-house in the city of New Orleans.*

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled,* That all ships or vessels, about to depart for foreign ports or places, from the town of Bayou St. John, or Basin of the Canal de Carondelet, shall be permitted to clear out, with their cargoes, at the Custom-house, in the city of New Orleans, and depart, under the same rules, regulations, and restrictions, and in every respect in the same manner, as vessels clearing out and departing, for foreign ports, from the said city of New Orleans, by the way of the Mississippi river.

APPROVED, March 1, 1817.

Vessels departing for foreign ports from Bayou St. John permitted to clear out at New Orleans, &c.

## STATUTE. II.

March 1, 1817.

CHAP. XXII.—*An Act making reservation of certain public lands to supply timber for naval purposes.*

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled,* That the Secretary of the Navy be authorized, and it shall be his duty, under the direction of the President of the United States, to cause such vacant and unappropriated lands of the United States as produce the live oak and red cedar timbers to be explored, and selection to be made of such tracts or portions thereof, where the principal growth is of either of the said timbers, as in his judgment may be necessary to furnish for the navy a sufficient supply of the said timbers. The said Secretary shall have power to employ such agent or agents and surveyor as he may deem necessary for the aforesaid purpose, who shall report to him the tracts by them selected, with the boundaries ascertained and accurately designated by actual survey or water courses, which report shall be laid before the President, which he may approve or reject in whole or in part; and the tracts of land thus selected with the approbation of the President, shall be reserved unless otherwise directed by law, from any future sale of the public lands, and be appropriated to the sole purpose of supplying timber for the navy of the United States: *Provided,* That nothing in this section contained shall be construed to prejudice the rights of any person or persons claiming lands which may be reserved as aforesaid.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That if any person or persons shall cut any timber on the lands reserved as aforesaid, or shall remove or be employed in removing timber from the same, unless duly authorized so to do, by order of a competent officer, and for the use of the navy of the United States; or if any person or persons shall cut any live oak or red cedar timber on, or remove or be employed in removing from any other public lands of the United States, with intent to dispose of the same for transportation to any port or place within the United States, or for exportation to any foreign country, such person or persons so offending and being thereof duly convicted before any court having competent jurisdiction, shall pay a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars and be imprisoned not exceeding six months.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That if the master, owner, or consignee of any ship or vessel, shall knowingly take on board any timber cut on lands reserved as aforesaid, without proper authority and for the use of the navy, or shall take on board any live oak or red cedar timber, cut on any other lands of the United States, with intent to transport the same to any port or place within the United States, or to export the same to any foreign country, the ship or vessel on board of which the same shall be seized, shall, with her tackle, apparel, and furniture be wholly forfeited.

The Secretary of the Navy enjoined to cause lands producing live oak and red cedar timbers to be explored and selections to be made of tracts, &c.

The tracts selected to be reserved, unless, &c.

Proviso: rights of persons claiming not to be prejudiced, &c.

Persons cutting timber on the lands reserved, or any live oak or red cedar on other public lands, &c. subject to fine and imprisonment.

Vessels taking on board timber from lands reserved, &c. forfeited.

Exportation of timber contrary to this act, subjects the vessel to forfeiture and the master to a fine.

Recovery of penalties, &c. and mitigation thereof, according to the acts mentioned.

1799, ch. 22.  
1797, ch. 13.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That if any timber as aforesaid shall, contrary to the prohibitions of this act, be exported to any foreign country, the ship or vessel in which the same shall have been exported shall be liable to forfeiture, and the captain or master of such ship or vessel shall forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding one thousand dollars.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That all penalties and forfeitures incurred for taking on board, transporting or exporting timber by force of this act, shall be sued for, recovered, and distributed, and accounted for in the manner prescribed by the act, entitled "An act to regulate the collection of duties on imports and tonnage," and shall be mitigated or remitted in the manner prescribed by the act, entitled "An act to provide for mitigating or remitting the forfeitures, penalties, and disabilities accruing in certain cases therein mentioned."

APPROVED, March 1, 1817.

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March 1, 1817.

CHAP. XXIII.—*An Act to enable the people of the western part of the Mississippi territory to form a constitution and state government, and for the admission of such state into the union, on an equal footing with the original states.*

Act of April 3, 1818, ch. 29.

Act of May 3, 1822, ch. 46.

Inhabitants of the western part of the Mississippi to form a state government, be admitted into the union, &c.

Boundaries of the state.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled*, That the inhabitants of the western part of the Mississippi territory be, and they hereby are, authorized to form for themselves a constitution and state government, and to assume such name as they shall deem proper; and the said state, when formed, shall be admitted into the union upon the same footing with the original states, in all respects whatever.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the said state shall consist of all the territory included within the following boundaries, to wit: Beginning on the river Mississippi at the point where the southern boundary line of the state of Tennessee strikes the same, thence east along the said boundary line to the Tennessee river, thence up the same to the mouth of Bear Creek, thence by a direct line to the north-west corner of the county of Washington, thence due south to the Gulf of Mexico, thence westwardly, including all the islands within six leagues of the shore, to the most eastern junction of Pearl river with Lake Borgne, thence up said river to the thirty-first degree of north latitude, thence west along the said degree of latitude to the Mississippi river, thence up the same to the beginning.

Qualifications of persons authorized to choose representatives, to form a convention.

Apportionment of representatives to form a convention.

Time and manner of holding the election.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That all free white male citizens of the United States, who shall have arrived at the age of twenty-one years, and resided within the said territory at least one year previous to the time of holding the election, and shall have paid a county or territorial tax, and all persons having in other respects the legal qualifications to vote for Representatives in the general assembly of the said territory, be, and they are hereby authorized to choose Representatives to form a convention, who shall be apportioned among the several counties within the said territory, as follows, to wit: from the county of Warren, two Representatives; from the county of Claiborne, four Representatives; from the county of Jefferson, four Representatives; from the county of Adams, eight Representatives; from the county of Franklin, two Representatives; from the county of Wilkinson, six Representatives; from the county of Amite, six Representatives; from the county of Pike, four Representatives; from the county of Lawrence, two Representatives; from the county of Marion, two Representatives; from the county of Hancock, two Representatives; from the county of Wayne, two Representatives; from the county of Greene, two Representatives; from the county of Jackson, two Representatives; and the election of the Representatives aforesaid shall be holden on the first Monday and