

The President authorized to take possession of East and West Florida, &c.

He may employ the army, navy, and militia.

The President to appoint officers, and prescribe the manner of government of the territories.

Revenue laws, and laws concerning the slave trade, extended to the territories.

President to establish districts and appoint officers of the customs. Appropriation.

When this act shall take effect.

United States be, and he is hereby, authorized to take possession of, and occupy, the territories of East and West Florida, and the appendages and appurtenances thereof; and to remove and transport the officers and soldiers of the king of Spain, being there, to the Havana, agreeably to the stipulations of a treaty between the United States and Spain, executed at Washington, on the twenty-second day of February, in the year one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, providing for the cession of said territories to the United States; and he may, for these purposes, and in order to maintain in said territories the authority of the United States, employ any part of the army and navy of the United States, and the militia of any state or territory which he may deem necessary.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That, until the end of the first session of the next Congress, unless provision for the temporary government of said territories be sooner made by Congress, all the military, civil, and judicial, powers, exercised by the officers of the existing government of the same territories, shall be vested in such person and persons, and shall be exercised in such manner, as the President of the United States shall direct, for the maintaining the inhabitants of said territories in the free enjoyment of their liberty, property, and religion; and the laws of the United States, relative to the collection of revenue, and the importation of persons of colour, shall be extended to the said territories; and the President of the United States shall be, and he is hereby, authorized, within the term aforesaid, to establish such districts, for the collection of the revenue, and, during the recess of Congress, to appoint such officers, whose commissions shall expire at the end of the next session of Congress, to enforce the said laws, as to him shall seem expedient.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That the sum of twenty thousand dollars is hereby appropriated for the purpose of carrying this act into effect, to be paid out of any moneys in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, and to be applied under the direction of the President of the United States.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That this act shall take effect, and be in force, whenever the aforesaid treaty, providing for the cession of said territories to the United States, shall have been ratified by the king of Spain, and the ratifications exchanged, and the king of Spain shall be ready to surrender said territory to the United States, according to the provisions of said treaty.

APPROVED, March 3, 1819.

STATUTE II.

March 3, 1819.

CHAP. XCIV.—*An Act concerning the allowance of pensions upon a relinquishment of bounty lands.*

The 2d section of the act of 16th April, 1816, ch. 55, &c. continued in force.

Act of March 3, 1817, ch. 107.

Proviso.

Proviso.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the second section of the act making further provision for military services during the late war, and for other purposes, approved April sixteenth, one thousand eight hundred and sixteen, and so much of the act to amend the same, approved March third, one thousand eight hundred and seventeen, as relates to the subject of that section, shall be continued in force for the term of three years from and after the passing of this act: *Provided, nevertheless*, That no pension shall be granted under the said acts, after the sixteenth day of April next, unless, at the time of relinquishing the bounty land, in the manner therein described, the children, for whose benefit the same may be granted, or one of them, shall be under sixteen years of age: *And provided also*, That the pensions shall commence at the date of the relinquishments respectively.

APPROVED, March 3, 1819.