

Collector's office at Brownsville.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the collector of said district shall henceforth keep his office at Brownsville aforesaid, and the same shall be removed, under such instructions as the Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe.

Deputy at Brazos de Santiago.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That a deputy collector of customs shall reside and keep his office at Brazos de Santiago aforesaid, who shall be, and he is hereby, authorized to enter and clear vessels.

Transshipment of imported goods at Brazos Harbor for Brownsville.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That all goods, wares, and merchandise of whatever description, transported in bond to the port of entry hereby created, from any other port or place in the United States, via Brazos Harbor, may, on their arrival in said harbor, be transhipped, under such regulations, not inconsistent with law, as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe, in other vessels for transportation via the Rio Grande to Brownsville aforesaid; and any goods, wares, or merchandise, of any description whatever, imported into said district via said harbor, from any foreign country, may in like manner be transhipped to said port of entry as herein provided, for goods, wares, and merchandise transhipped in bond.

Saving of existing obligation.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That no bond, obligation, power of attorney, or other instrument having legal force, and given or taken with reference to the custom-house of said district, before the passage of this act, shall by this reason be in any manner impaired, but the same shall nevertheless remain valid.

APPROVED, June 16, 1860.

June 16, 1860.

CHAP. CXXXV.—*An Act to amend an Act regulating the Diplomatic and Consular System of the United States.*

Sardinia to be in schedule A.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That from and after the thirtieth of June next the kingdom of Sardinia be ranked in schedule A of the consular and diplomatic bill, approved August eighteenth, eighteen hundred and fifty-six, with Russia, Spain, Austria, Brazil, Mexico, and China.

1856, ch. 127. Vol. xi. p. 52.

Appointment and pay of envoy, and secretary.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the President may, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint a representative to the kingdom of Sardinia, of the grade of envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary, who shall receive for his services an annual compensation of twelve thousand dollars; and a secretary of legation, who shall receive for his services an annual compensation of one thousand eight hundred dollars.

Repeal of inconsistent legislation.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That all acts and parts of acts fixing the rank and the compensation of the representative of the United States and the secretary of legation at Sardinia be, and the same are hereby, repealed, so far as the same are inconsistent with this act.

APPROVED, June 16, 1860.

June 16, 1860.

CHAP. CXXXVI.—*An Act to amend an Act entitled "An Act in addition to the Acts Prohibiting the Slave Trade."*

1819, ch. 101. Vol. iii. 532. 1862, ch. 197. Post, p. 592.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That it shall and may be lawful for the President of the United States to enter into contract with any person or persons, society or societies, or body corporate, for a term not exceeding five years, to receive from the United States through their duly constituted agent or agents, upon the coast of Africa, all negroes, mulattoes, or persons of color, delivered from on board vessels seized in the prosecution of the slave trade, by commanders of the United States armed vessels, and to provide the said negroes, mulattoes, and persons of color with comfortable clothing, shelter, and provisions for a period not

President may contract for the reception in Africa of negroes delivered from vessels seized in the slave trade, &c.

exceeding one year from the date of their being landed on the coast of Africa, at a price in no case to exceed one hundred dollars for each person so clothed, sheltered, and provided with food: *Provided*, That any contract so made as aforesaid may be renewed by the President from time to time as found necessary for periods not to exceed five years on each renewal.

Contract may be renewed from time to time.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized to issue instructions to the commanders of the armed vessels of the United States, directing them whenever it shall be practicable, and under such rules and regulations as he may prescribe, to proceed directly to the coast of Africa, and there deliver to the agent or agents of the United States all negroes, mulattoes, and persons of color delivered from on board vessels seized in the prosecution of the slave trade, afterwards bringing the captured vessels and persons engaged in prosecuting the slave trade to the United States for trial and adjudication.

United States vessels to proceed at once to coast of Africa, and there deliver such negroes, &c.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized to take immediate measures in his discretion in accordance with existing laws, and with the provisions of the first section of this act, for removing to the coast of Africa, and there providing with food, shelter, and clothing for a term not exceeding one year from the date of landing in Africa the captured Africans recently landed in the southern district of Florida, and that the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars be appropriated for that purpose out of any moneys in the treasury not otherwise appropriated by law.

This act to be applied to Africans recently landed in Florida, and appropriation therefor.

APPROVED, June 16, 1860.

CHAP. CXXXVII.—*An Act to facilitate Communication between the Atlantic and Pacific States by Electric Telegraph.*

June 16, 1860.

*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, under the direction of the President of the United States, is hereby authorized and directed to advertise for sealed proposals, to be received for sixty days after the passage of this act, (and the fulfilment of which shall be guaranteed by responsible parties, as in the case of bids for mail contracts,) for the use by the government of a line or lines of magnetic telegraph, to be constructed within two years from the thirty-first day of July, eighteen hundred and sixty, from some point or points on the west line of the State of Missouri, by any route or routes which the said contractors may select, (connecting at such point or points by telegraph with the cities of Washington, New Orleans, New York, Charleston, Philadelphia, Boston, and other cities in the Atlantic, Southern, and Western States,) to the city of San Francisco, in the State of California, for a period of ten years, and shall award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder or bidders, provided such proffer does not require a larger amount per year from the United States than forty thousand dollars; and permission is hereby granted to the said parties to whom said contract may be awarded, or a majority of them, and their assigns, to use until the end of the said term, such unoccupied public lands of the United States as may be necessary for the right of way and for the purpose of establishing stations for repairs along said line, not exceeding at any station one quarter-section of land, such stations not to exceed one in fifteen miles on an average of the whole distance, unless said lands shall be required by the government of the United States for railroad or other purposes, and provided that no right to preëm[p]t any of said lands under the laws of the United States shall inure to said company, their agents or servants, or to any other person or persons whatsoever: *Provided*, That no such contract shall be made until the said line shall be in actual operation, and

Post, pp. 533, 534.

Proposals to be advertised for.

Contract to be given to lowest responsible bidder, &c.

Right of way, &c.