

Mexico, under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior, and such instructions as he may from time to time deem it advisable to give him.

APPROVED, February 28, 1861.

CHAP. LX. — *An Act to amend an Act supplementary to an Act approved March third, eighteen hundred and fifty-five, to organize an Institution for the Insane of the Army and Navy and of the District of Columbia in the said District, approved February the seventh, eighteen hundred and fifty-seven.*

February 28, 1861

1855, ch. 199.
Vol. x. p. 632.
1857, ch. 36.
Vol. xi. p. 157.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, as a substitute for the second section of the supplementary act aforesaid, which is hereby repealed, the Secretary of the Interior shall have power to grant his order for the admission into the Government Hospital for the Insane of any insane person not charged with a breach of the peace, upon (1) the certificate of any Judge of the Circuit or Criminal Court for the District of Columbia, or of any justice of the peace of the District, stating that two respectable physicians, resident of the District, appeared before said judge or justice and certified under oath, and under their hands, that they knew the person alleged to be insane, and that, from personal examination, they believed him or her to be insane and a fit subject for treatment in said hospital, and that he or she was a resident of the District at the time he or she was seized with the mental disorder under which he or she then labored; also stating that two respectable householders, residents of the District, appeared before him, the said judge or justice, and certified under oath and under their hands that they knew the person alleged to be insane, and that, from a personal examination into his or her affairs, they believe him or her to be unable to support himself or herself and family, (or himself or herself, if he or she have no family,) under the visitation of insanity, and to pay his or her board and other expenses in said hospital, and the certificate under oath of such physicians and of such householders shall accompany the certificate of such judge or justice; and (2) upon an application requesting that such order may be issued, made in writing, within five days after the date of the affidavits aforesaid, by a member of the Board of Visitors of said hospital, upon an inspection of said affidavits and certificate thereto, and it will be the duty of said visitor to withhold his application if he has reason to doubt the indigence of the party in whose behalf the application is desired, till such doubt is removed by testimony satisfactory to said visitor.

Act of 1857, ch. 36, § 2, repealed.

Rules for admission to Insane Asylum of the District of Columbia.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That, if it shall appear in the case of any insane person whose insanity commenced while he or she was a resident of the District of Columbia that he or she is able to defray a portion but not the whole of the expenses of his or her support and treatment in the Government Hospital for the Insane, then the Board of Visitors of the said hospital is authorized to inquire into the facts of the case; and if it shall appear to said board, upon such inquiry, that such insane person has property and no family, or more property than is required for the support of his or her family, then, as a condition upon which such insane person, admitted or to be admitted upon the order of the Secretary of the Interior, shall receive or continue to receive the benefits of said hospital, there shall be paid to the Superintendent from the income, property, or estate of such insane person such portion of his expenses in said hospital as a majority of the said board shall determine to be just and reasonable, under all the circumstances.

Proceedings when insane persons have property.

APPROVED, February 28, 1861.

CHAP. LXI. — *An Act in Relation to the Postal Service.*

February 28, 1861.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That whenever, in the opinion

Postmaster-General may discontinue certain post-routes, when, &c.

of the Postmaster General, the postal service cannot be safely continued, or the post office revenues collected, or the postal laws maintained, on any post route, by reason of any cause whatsoever, the Postmaster General is hereby authorized to discontinue the postal service on such route, or any part thereof, and any post offices thereon, till the same can be safely restored, and shall report his action to Congress.

APPROVED, February 28, 1861.

March 2, 1861.

Pub. Res. No. 15. Post, 252.

President may borrow, within twelve months, not over \$10,000,000.

How to be applied.

When to be redeemed.

Stock, issue, certificates, rate of interest, transfer.

Certificate to be for not less than \$1000.

Coupons may be attached.

Proposals for loan to be advertised for.

Notice.

When to be opened.

Which to be accepted. Report to be made to Congress.

CHAP. LXVIII.—*An Act to provide for the Payment of outstanding Treasury Notes, to authorize a Loan, to regulate and fix the Duties on Imports, and for other Purposes.*

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 hereby is, authorized, at any time within twelve months from the passage of this act, to borrow, on the credit of the United States, a sum not exceeding ten millions of dollars, or so much thereof as, in his opinion, the exigencies of the public service may require, to be applied to the payment of appropriations made by law, and the balance of treasury notes now outstanding, and no other purposes, in addition to the money received or which may be received, into the treasury from other sources: *Provided,* That no stipulation or contract shall be made to prevent the United States from reimbursing any sum borrowed under the authority of this act at any time after the expiration of ten years from the first day of July next, by the United States giving three months' notice, to be published in some newspaper published at the seat of government, of their readiness to do so; and no contract shall be made to prevent the redemption of the same at any time after the expiration of twenty years from the said first day of July next, without notice.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That stock shall be issued for the amount so borrowed, bearing interest not exceeding six per centum per annum; and the Secretary of the Treasury be, and is hereby, authorized, with the consent of the President, to cause certificates of stock to be prepared, which shall be signed by the Register and sealed with the seal of the Treasury Department, for the amount so borrowed, in favor of the parties lending the same, or their assigns, which certificates may be transferred on the books of the treasury, under such regulations as may be established by the Secretary of the Treasury: *Provided,* That no certificate shall be issued for a less sum than one thousand dollars: *And provided, also,* That, whenever required, the Secretary of the Treasury may cause coupons of semi-annual interest payable thereon to be attached to certificates issued under this act; and any certificate with such coupons of interest attached may be assigned and transferred by delivery of the same, instead of being transferred on the books of the treasury.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That, before awarding any of said loan, the Secretary of the Treasury shall, as the exigencies of the public service require, cause to be inserted in two of the public newspapers of the city of Washington, and in one or more public newspapers in other cities of the United States, public notice that sealed proposals for so much of said loan as is required, will be received until a certain day, to be specified in such notice, not less than thirty days from its first insertion in a Washington newspaper; and such notice shall state the amount of the loan, at what periods the money shall be paid, if by instalments, and at what places. Such sealed proposals shall be opened, on the day appointed in the notice, in the presence of such persons as may choose to attend, and the proposals decided on by the Secretary of the Treasury, who shall accept the most favorable offered by responsible bidders for said stock. And the said Secretary shall report to Congress, at the commencement of the next session, the amount of money borrowed under this act, and of whom and on what terms it shall have been obtained, with an abstract or