

And whereas the said award has been ratified and confirmed by the legislatures of the States of Virginia and Maryland respectively: Therefore,

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the consent of the Congress of the United States is hereby given to the said agreement or award, and to each and every part and article thereof: *Provided,* That nothing therein contained shall be construed to impair or in any manner affect any right of jurisdiction of the United States in and over the islands and waters which form the subject of the said agreement or award.

Consent of Congress.  
*Proriso.*

Approved, March 3, 1879.

**CHAP. 197.**—An act granting jurisdiction and authority to the Court of Claims in the case of the schooner Don Pedro.

March 3, 1879.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the claim or claims of the legal or equitable owners or claimants of the schooner Don Pedro, her cargo, freight, and personal effects contained in her, alleged to have been damaged, injured and sunk by collision with the United States revenue cutter U. S. Grant, on or about the eighteenth day of July, eighteen hundred and seventy seven, be referred to the Court of Claims, with jurisdiction and authority to hear and determine the same to judgment, with right of appeal, as in other cases: *Provided,* That no suit shall be brought under the provisions of this act after six months from the date of the passage thereof.

Schooner Don Pedro.  
Claim referred to Court of Claims.

*Proriso.*

Approved, March 3, 1879.

**CHAP. 198.**—An act for the relief of certain pensioners.

March 3, 1879.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That all pensioners now on the pension-rolls, or who may hereafter be placed thereon, for amputation of either leg at the hip joint, shall receive a pension at the rate of thirty-seven dollars and fifty cents per month from the date of the approval of this act.

Pensions.  
Rate for loss of leg at hip joint.

Approved, March 3, 1879.

**CHAP. 199.**—An act donating four condemned cannon and sixteen cannon-balls to "Monongahela Cemetery", to be placed in a lot held as a free burial-ground for ex-soldiers, sailors, and marines, and for other purposes.

March 3, 1879.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to deliver to the "Monongahela Cemetery", Monongahela City, Washington County, Pennsylvania, four condemned cannon, to be placed in a lot in said cemetery held by a post of the Grand Army of the Republic as a free burial-ground for ex-soldiers, sailors, and marines who have been honorably discharged from the United States service.

Condemned cannon, etc.  
To Monongahela Cemetery.

SEC. 2. That said "Monongahela Cemetery", a body corporate in law, shall receipt for said condemned cannon and cannon-balls.

SEC. 3. That the Secretary of War be authorized and directed to deliver to the city of Pontiac, Michigan, six condemned cannon for a monument to Major-General Israel P. Richardson and other Union soldiers buried in the cemetery in the city of Pontiac, Michigan.

To Pontiac, Mich.

SEC. 4. That the Secretary of War be authorized and directed to deliver to the city of Des Moines, Iowa, four condemned carriages and cannon, to be placed in the cemetery around the monument erected to

To Des Moines, Iowa.

To McLean General Nathaniel B. Baker; and a like number to the board of supervisors of McLean County, Illinois, for monumental purposes; and also a like number to the city of Lacon, Illinois, for the same purpose.

Approved, March 3, 1879.

March 3, 1879. **CHAP. 200.**—An act for the relief of soldiers and sailors becoming totally blind in the service of the country.

Pensions.  
1878, ch. 261,  
Ante, 144.

For total blindness.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the act of June seventeenth, eighteen hundred and seventy eight, entitled "An act to increase the pensions of certain soldiers and sailors who have lost both their hands or both their feet, or the sight of both eyes, in the service of the country", be so construed as to include all soldiers and sailors who have become totally blind from causes occurring in the service of the United States.

Approved, March 3, 1879.

March 3, 1879.

**CHAP. 201.**—An act for the relief of Joseph B. Collins.

J. B. Collins.  
Restored to Army  
and retired.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the President be and he is hereby authorized to reinstate Major Joseph B. Collins, late of the United States Army, and to retire him in that grade, as of the date he was previously mustered out; charging him with all extra pay and allowances, paid him at that time.

Approved, March 3, 1879.

March 3, 1879. **CHAP. 202.**—An act to prevent the introduction of infectious or contagious diseases into the United States, and to establish a National Board of Health.

National Board  
of Health.

Compensation of  
civilian members.

Meetings.

Duties.

Report.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That there shall be established a National Board of Health to consist of seven members, to be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, not more than one of whom shall be appointed from any one State, whose compensation, during the time when actually engaged in the performance of their duties under this act, shall be ten dollars per diem each and reasonable expenses, and of one medical officer of the Army, one medical officer of the Navy, one medical officer of the Marine Hospital Service, and one officer from the Department of Justice, to be detailed by the Secretaries of the several Departments and the Attorney General, respectively, and the officers so detailed shall receive no compensation. Said board shall meet in Washington within thirty days after the passage of this act and in Washington or elsewhere from time to time upon notice from the president of the board, who is to be chosen by the members thereof, or upon its own adjournments, and shall frame all rules and regulations authorized or required by this act, and shall make or cause to be made such special examinations and investigations at any place or places within the United States, or at foreign ports, as they may deem best, to aid in the execution of this act and the promotion of its objects.

**SEC. 2.** The duties of the National Board of Health shall be to obtain information upon all matters affecting the public health, to advise the several departments of the government, the executives of the several States, and the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, on all questions submitted by them, or whenever in the opinion of the board such advice may tend to the preservation and improvement of the public health.

**SEC. 3.** That the Board of Health with the assistance of the Academy of Science, which is hereby requested and directed to cooperate with