

CHAP. 1062.—An act to transfer to the State of Louisiana for quarantine purposes the possession of certain lands on the Mississippi River belonging to the United States, and for other purposes.

October 1, 1888.

Whereas, it has become necessary, in the opinion of the board of health of the State of Louisiana, to remove the Mississippi River quarantine station from its present location to a point more remote from the surrounding settlements in order to isolate it more effectually from contact with the people living in the neighborhood, and to prevent intercourse between vessels in quarantine and the adjacent shores, and thus prevent the danger of spreading contagious diseases; and

Preamble.

Whereas there are no other lands suitable or available for the relocation of said station at a point lower on the Mississippi River than its present site other than certain lands, a portion of which belonging to the United States, and especially withdrawn from public sale or entry by proclamation of the President of June first, eighteen hundred and seventy five: Therefore,

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That for the purposes of maintaining a quarantine station on the Mississippi River the United States hereby transfers to the State of Louisiana the possession of all that portion of land known as sections thirteen and fourteen, in township twenty-one south, range nineteen east, southeastern district of Louisiana, east of the Mississippi River, said lands measuring twelve hundred and seventy-two feet front on the Mississippi River, being swamp lands, and extending a half mile to the sea in the rear, and bounded above by section twelve, patented to Jonathan Jones and Peter Runder in eighteen hundred and forty-three, and bounded below by section fifteen, patented to Janet Bister and Angelo Laussade in eighteen hundred and thirty-nine, which sections thirteen and fourteen were withdrawn from public sale or entry by proclamation of the President in eighteen hundred and seventy-five: *Provided,* That should the State of Louisiana at any time cease to use said lands for quarantine purposes, or should the same be needed for the purposes for which they were originally reserved, then the Government of the United States shall resume the possession of said lands on the order of the President, whose decision in the premises shall be final.

Quarantine Station,
La.
Lands ceded for.

Proviso.
Reversion.

Approved, October 1, 1888.

CHAP. 1063.—An act to create boards of arbitration or commission for settling controversies and differences between railroad corporations and other common carriers engaged in interstate and Territorial transportation of property or passengers and their employees.

October 1, 1888.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That whenever differences or controversies arise between railroad or other transportation companies engaged in the transportation of property or passengers between two or more States of the United States, between a Territory and State, within the Territories of the United States, or within the District of Columbia, and the employees of said railroad companies, which differences or controversies may hinder, impede, obstruct, interrupt, or affect such transportation of property or passengers, if, upon the written proposition of either party to the controversy to submit their differences to arbitration, the other party shall accept the proposition, then and in such event the railroad company is hereby authorized to select and appoint one person, and such employee or employees, as the case may be, to select and appoint another person, and the two persons thus selected and appointed to select a third person, all three of whom shall be citizens of the United

Boards of arbitration authorized to adjust differences between railroads, etc., and their employees.
Appointment.

States and wholly impartial and disinterested in respect to such differences or controversies; and the three persons thus selected and appointed shall be, and they are hereby, created and constituted a board of arbitration, with the duties, powers, and privileges hereinafter set forth.

To administer oaths,
subpoena witnesses,
etc.

SEC. 2. That the board of arbitration provided for in the first section of this act shall possess all the powers and authority in respect to administering oaths, subpoenaing witnesses and compelling their attendance, preserving order during the sittings of the board, and requiring the production of papers and writings relating alone to the subject under investigation now possessed and belonging to United States commissioners appointed by the circuit court of the United States; but in no case shall any witness be compelled to disclose the secrets or produce the records or proceedings of any labor organization of which he may be an officer or member; and said board of arbitration may appoint a clerk and employ a stenographer, and prescribe all reasonable rules and regulations, not inconsistent with the provisions of this act, looking to the speedy advancement of the differences and controversies submitted to them to a conclusion and determination. Each of said arbitrators shall take an oath to honestly, fairly, and faithfully perform his duties, and that he is not personally interested in the subject-matter in controversy, which oath may be administered by any State or Territorial officer authorized to administer oaths. The third person so selected and appointed as aforesaid shall be the president of said board; and any order, finding, conclusion, or award made by a majority of such arbitrators shall be of the same force and effect as if all three of such arbitrators concurred therein or united in making the same.

Privileges of witnesses.

Oath of arbitrators.

Organization.

SEC. 3. That it shall be the duty of said board of arbitration, immediately upon their selection, to organize at the nearest practicable point to the place of the origin of the difficulty or controversy, and to hear and determine the matters of difference which may be submitted to them in writing by all the parties, giving them full opportunity to be heard on oath, in person and by witnesses, and also granting them the right to be represented by counsel; and after concluding its investigation said board shall publicly announce its decision, which, with the findings of fact upon which it is based, shall be reduced to writing and signed by the arbitrators concurring therein, and, together with the testimony taken in the case, shall be filed with the Commissioner of Labor of the United States, who shall make such decision public as soon as the same shall have been received by him.

Decisions.

To be filed with Commissioner of Labor.

Selection of arbitrator by employees.

SEC. 4. That it shall be the right of any employees engaged in the controversy to appoint, by designation in writing, one or more persons to act for them in the selection of an arbitrator to represent them upon the board of arbitration.

Compensation of board.

Clerks.

Stenographers.

Marshals.

Witnesses.

SEC. 5. That each member of said tribunal of arbitration shall receive a compensation of ten dollars a day for the time actually employed. That the clerk appointed by said tribunal of arbitration shall receive the same fees and compensation as clerks of United States circuit courts and district courts receive for like services. That the stenographer shall receive as full compensation for his services ten cents for each folio of an hundred words of testimony taken and reduced to writing before said arbitrators. That United States marshals or other persons serving the process of said tribunal of arbitration shall receive the same fees and compensation for such services as they would receive for like services upon process issued by United States commissioners. That witnesses attending before said tribunal of arbitration shall receive the same fees as witnesses attending before United States commissioners. That all of said fees and compensation shall be payable by the United States in like manner as fees and compensation are payable in criminal causes under existing laws:

Provided, That the said tribunal of arbitration shall have power to limit the number of witnesses in each case where fees shall be paid by the United States. *And provided further*, That the fees and compensation of the arbitrators, clerks, stenographers, marshals, and others for service of process, and witnesses under this act shall be examined and certified by the United States district judge of the district in which the arbitration is held before they are presented to the accounting officers of the Treasury Department for settlement, and shall then be subject to the provisions of section eight hundred and forty-six of the Revised Statutes of the United States; and a sufficient sum of money to pay all expenses under this act and to carry the same into effect is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated. *And provided likewise* not more than five thousand dollars shall be expended in defraying the costs of any single investigation by the commission hereinafter provided for.

Provisos.
Limit.

Fee accounts.

R. S., sec. 846, p. 159.

Appropriation.
Maximum.

SEC. 6. That the President may select two commissioners, one of whom at least shall be a resident of the State or Territory in which the controversy arises, who, together with the Commissioner of Labor, shall constitute a temporary commission for the purpose of examining the causes of the controversy, the conditions accompanying, and the best means for adjusting it; the result of which examination shall be immediately reported to the President and Congress, and on the rendering of such report the services of the two commissioners shall cease. The services of the commission, to be ordered at the time by the President and constituted as herein provided, may be tendered by the President for the purpose of settling a controversy such as contemplated, either upon his own motion, or upon the application of one of the parties to the controversy, or upon the application of the executive of a State.

Appointment of
commissioners by the
President.

Report to Congress.

SEC. 7. That the commissioners provided in the preceding section shall be entitled to receive ten dollars each per day for each day's service rendered, and the expenses absolutely incurred in the performance of their duties; and the expenses of the Commissioner of Labor, acting as one of the commission, shall also be reimbursed to him. Such compensation and expenses shall be paid by the Treasurer of the United States, on proper vouchers, certified to by the Commissioner of Labor and approved by the Secretary of the Interior.

Compensation.

Expenses.

SEC. 8. That upon the direction of the President, as hereinbefore provided, the commission shall visit the locality of the pending dispute, and shall have all the powers and authority given in Section 2, to a board of arbitration, and shall make careful inquiry into the cause thereof, hear all persons interested therein who may come before it, advise the respective parties what, if anything, ought to be done or submitted to by either or both to adjust such dispute, and make a written decision thereof. This decision shall at once be made public, shall be recorded upon proper books of record to be kept in the office of the Commissioner of Labor, who shall cause a copy thereof to be filed with the secretary of the State or Territory, or States or Territories, in which the controversy exists.

Investigation of
causes of disputes.

Record of decision.

SEC. 9. That in each case the commissioners who may be selected as provided shall, before entering upon their duties, be sworn to the faithful discharge thereof. The Commissioner of Labor shall be chairman ex officio of the commission, and may appoint one or more clerks or stenographers to act in each controversy only, which clerks or stenographers shall be compensated at a rate not exceeding six dollars per day each, and actual expenses incurred shall be reimbursed.

Oath of commission-
ers.

Clerks, etc.

SEC. 10. The Commissioner of Labor shall, as soon as possible after the passage of this act, establish such rules of procedure as shall be approved by the President; but the commission shall permit each party to a controversy to appear in person or by counsel, and to

Rules of procedure.

examine and cross-examine witnesses. All its proceedings shall be transacted in public, except when in consultation for the purpose of deciding upon the evidence and arguments laid before it. The chairman of the commission is hereby authorized to administer oaths to witnesses in all investigations conducted by the commission, and such witnesses shall be subpoenaed in the same manner as witnesses are subpoenaed to appear before United States courts and commissioners, and they shall each receive the same fees as witnesses attending before United States commissioners: *Provided*, That said temporary board of commissioners shall have power to limit the number of witnesses in each case where fees shall be paid by the United States.

Proviso.
Number of witnesses.

Expenses.

SEC. 11. All fees, expenses, and compensation of this commission shall be paid as hereinbefore provided in section five of this act.

Approved, October 1, 1888.

October 1, 1888.

CHAP. 1064.—An act a supplement to an act entitled "An act to execute certain treaty stipulations relating to Chinese," approved the sixth day of May eighteen hundred and eighty-two.

Exclusion of Chinese laborers.
Vol. 22, p. 59.
Ante, p. 476.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That from and after the passage of this act, it shall be unlawful for any chinese laborer who shall at any time heretofore have been, or who may now or hereafter be, a resident within the United States, and who shall have departed, or shall depart, therefrom, and shall not have returned before the passage of this act, to return to, or remain in, the United States.

No certificates for return to be issued.

SEC. 2. That no certificates of identity provided for in the fourth and fifth sections of the act to which this is a supplement shall hereafter be issued; and every certificate heretofore issued in pursuance thereof, is hereby declared void and of no effect, and the chinese laborer claiming admission by virtue thereof shall not be permitted to enter the United States.

Penalties.

SEC. 3. That all the duties prescribed, liabilities penalties and forfeitures imposed, and the powers conferred by the second, tenth, eleventh, and twelfth, sections of the act to which this is a supplement are hereby extended and made applicable to the provisions of this act.

Repeal provisions.

SEC. 4. That all such part or parts of the act to which this is a supplement as are inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved, October 1, 1888.

October 1, 1888.

CHAP. 1065.—An act to authorize the Postmaster-General to advertise for and purchase improved registered mail locks and keys therefor

Mail locks and keys.
Postmaster-General to advertise for new registered mail locks and keys.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Postmaster-General be and he is hereby authorized to advertise for and receive proposals for such registering mail locks and keys for such locks, for the use of the Post-Office Department as he may deem suitable for the safety and security of registered mail matter; and he is further authorized to make contracts for such locks and keys for the supply of the Post-Office Department, if he deem the same suitable, and for such a number of years, not to exceed four years, as he may deem best for the interest of the mail service; with power, however, to the Postmaster-General to renew such contract or contracts, should he make any contracts under the provisions of this act for said articles of mail equipment, for another and an additional period of four years should he deem it proper and advisable so to do; and the sum of forty-five thousand dollars or so much thereof as may be necessary

Contracts.

Appropriation.