

He may appoint clerks.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That a principal clerk and such other clerks as he shall think necessary, shall be appointed by the Secretary of the Navy, who shall be employed in such manner as he shall deem most expedient. In case of vacancy in the office of the secretary, by removal or otherwise, it shall be the duty of the principal clerk to take the charge and custody of all the books, records and documents of the said office.

He may take possession of the books, &c. in War Office, which relate to his department.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That the Secretary of the Navy be and he is hereby authorized and empowered, immediately after he shall be appointed and shall enter upon the duties of his office, to take possession of all the records, books and documents and all other matters and things appertaining to this department, which are now deposited in the office of the Secretary at War.

Salary of the Secretary and of his clerks.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That there shall be allowed to the Secretary of the Navy an annual salary of three thousand dollars, payable quarter yearly at the treasury of the United States, and the respective clerks in the office of the said department shall receive the same compensations and be subject to the same regulations, as are provided by an act, supplemental to the act, establishing the treasury department, and for a further compensation to certain officers, in the offices of the other executive departments.

Part of the act establishing the War Department repealed.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That so much of an act, entitled "An act to establish an executive department, to be denominated the department of war," as vests any of the powers contemplated by the provisions of this act, in the Secretary for the department of War, shall be repealed, from and after the period when the Secretary of the Navy shall enter on the duties of his office.

1789, ch. 7.

APPROVED, April 30, 1798.

STATUTE II.

May 3, 1798.

CHAP. XXXVI.—*An Act to authorize certain Officers and other persons to administer oaths.*(a)

President of the Senate, Speaker, &c. authorized to administer oaths, &c. to witnesses.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, a chairman of a committee of the whole, or a chairman of a select committee of either house, shall be empowered to administer oaths or affirmations to witnesses, in any case under their examination.

Penalty on swearing falsely.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That if any person shall wilfully, absolutely and falsely swear or affirm, touching any matter or thing material to the point in question, whereto he or she shall be thus examined, every person so offending, and being thereof duly convicted, shall be subjected, to the pains, penalties and disabilities, which by law are prescribed for the punishment of the crime of wilful and corrupt perjury.

APPROVED, May 3, 1798.

STATUTE II.

May 3, 1798.

CHAP. XXXVII.—*An Act supplementary to the act providing for the further defence of the ports and harbors of the United States.*(b)

Additional sum appropriated for fortifications.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That a sum not exceeding two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, in addition to the sums heretofore appropriated, remaining unexpended, shall be, and is hereby appropriated, and shall and may be paid out of any monies not

(a) An act to extend the provision of the act to authorize certain officers and other persons, to administer oaths, May 3, 1798; also act of February 8, 1817, chap. 10.

(b) An act to provide for the further defence of the ports and harbors of the United States, June 23, 1797, chap. 3.

before appropriated, to make and complete, at the discretion of the President of the United States, the fortifications heretofore directed for certain ports and harbors, and to erect fortifications in any other place or places as the public safety shall require, in the opinion of the President of the United States; and which other fortifications he is hereby authorized to cause to be erected, under his direction from time to time as he shall judge necessary.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That where any state, which was found indebted to the United States, by the report of the commissioners for settling the accounts between the United States, and the individual states, shall, with the approbation of the President of the United States, proceed to finish or complete any fortification heretofore commenced by such state, for the defence of any port or harbor within the same, or shall, under the direction of the President of the United States, make and erect any additional fortifications, pursuant to the act, intituled "An act to provide for the further defence of the ports and harbors within the United States," as well the previous expenditures made since the twentieth day of March, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-four, which shall be approved by the President of the United States, as the expenditures which have been, or which shall be directed by him, shall be allowed and credited to such state, on account of the balance found and reported, as aforesaid: *Provided*, that no expenditure exceeding the balance found and reported against the respective state, shall be allowed as aforesaid; and provided, that the fortifications for which the whole, or any part of the expenditure, shall be so allowed and credited as aforesaid, with their privileges and appurtenances, shall be, and shall be declared and established as the property of the United States, while maintained by them.

States erecting or completing fortifications to be credited on account of balances reported against them.

1797, ch. 3.

Proviso.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That these words of the said act, intituled "An act for the further defence of the ports and harbors of the United States," that is to say, "Provided, the said states shall, and do cede to the United States, the lands or places on which such fortifications shall be so erected, in cases where the lands are the property of such states," shall be, and the same are hereby repealed.

Part of former act repealed.  
1797, ch. 3.

APPROVED, May 3, 1798.

STATUTE II.

May 4, 1798.

[Obsolete.]

Appropriation to purchase cannon, small arms, &c.

CHAP. XXXVIII.—*An Act to enable the President of the United States to procure Cannon, Arms and Ammunition, and for other purposes.*

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*. That a sum not exceeding eight hundred thousand dollars, shall be, and hereby is appropriated, and shall and may be paid out of any monies not before appropriated, under the direction of the President of the United States, to purchase, as soon as may be, a sufficient number of cannon, also a supply of small arms, and of ammunition and military stores, to be deposited, and used, as will be most conducive to the public safety and defence, at the discretion of the President of the United States.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby authorized, in case he shall find it impracticable, to procure by purchase, with certainty and dispatch proportionate to the necessities of the public service, the cannon and arms hereby required, and any considerable part thereof shall be likely to be deficient, to take, by lease, for a term of years, or by sale in fee, to the United States, one or more suitable place or places where cannon or small arms may be advantageously cast and manufactured, and shall and may there establish founderies and armouries for the manufacture of the same, respectively, and shall cause suitable artisans and laborers to be there

President may establish founderies and armouries.