

rates of such vessels, and shall be governed by the rules and discipline, which are, or which shall be established for the navy of the United States.

APPROVED, February 25, 1799.

STATUTE III.

Feb. 25, 1799.

CHAP. XV.—*An Act authorizing the establishment of Docks.*

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That two docks, for the convenience of repairing the public ships and vessels, be erected in suitable places, under the direction of the President of the United States, and that the sum of fifty thousand dollars be appropriated towards effecting this object, to be paid out of any monies in the treasury of the United States, not otherwise appropriated.

APPROVED, February 25, 1799.

STATUTE III.

Feb. 25, 1799.

CHAP. XVI.—*An Act authorizing the purchase of Timber for naval 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 shall be, and he is hereby authorized to direct a sum not exceeding two hundred thousand dollars, to be paid out of any monies in the treasury, not otherwise appropriated, to be laid out in the purchase of growing or other timber, or of lands on which timber is growing, suitable for the navy, and to cause the proper measures to be taken to have the same preserved for the future uses of the navy.

APPROVED, February 25, 1799.

STATUTE III.

Feb. 28, 1799.

CHAP. XVII.—*An Act to alter the Stamp Duties imposed upon Foreign Bills of Exchange and Bills of Lading, by an act intituled "An act laying duties on stamped vellum, parchment and paper;" and further to amend the same.*

[Repealed.]

Former duty on foreign bills of exchange and bills of lading repealed.

Act of July 6, 1797, ch. 11.

New duties imposed on foreign bills of exchange, bills of lading, and policies of assurance.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That from and after the thirty-first day of March next, the duties imposed by an act, intituled "An act laying duties on stamped vellum, parchment and paper," upon foreign bills of exchange and bills of lading, shall cease and determine; and from and after the said thirty-first day of March next, there shall be levied and paid throughout the United States, the several stamp duties following, to wit:—On every skin or piece of vellum or parchment, or sheet or piece of paper, on which shall be written or printed any or either of the instruments following, to wit:—Any foreign bill of exchange, draft or order for the payment of money in any foreign country, twenty cents; any note or bill of lading, or writing or receipt in the nature thereof, for any goods or merchandise to be exported, if from one district to another district of the United States, not being in the same state, four cents; if to be exported to any foreign port or place, ten cents; any policy of assurance, or instrument in nature thereof, other than those specified in the above recited act, when the sum, for which insurance is made, shall not exceed five hundred dollars, twenty-five cents; and when the sum insured shall exceed five hundred dollars, one dollar. And the said duties shall be chargeable upon each and every bill of exchange and bill of lading, without respect to the number contained in a set.

Foreign bills of exchange not to be stamped

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That from and after the said thirty-first day of March, it shall not be lawful for any supervisor, or other person employed for the stamping of vellum, parchment or paper,

to stamp any foreign bill of exchange, draft or order, for the payment of money in any foreign country, after the same shall be written or drawn. And if any person or persons, from or after the said thirty-first day of March, shall presume to write or draw, or cause to be written or drawn any such foreign bill, draft or order, or any duplicate or triplicate thereof, before the vellum, parchment or paper on which the same shall be drawn, shall be duly stamped, or shall sell, loan, endorse or remit any such foreign bill, draft or order, unless every duplicate, triplicate, and other bill of the same tenor and date, which shall be drawn, or intended to be drawn, shall be first duly stamped; then, and in every such case, the person or persons so offending, shall, for each offence, forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding one hundred dollars, according to the nature and aggravation of the offence.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That if any person or persons, at any time after the said thirty-first day of March next, shall knowingly and fraudulently write or engross, or cause to be written or engrossed, the whole or any part of any bond, bill, instrument, or other writing whatsoever, in respect whereof any duty is payable by the acts of Congress, or any of them, on the whole or any part of any piece of vellum, parchment or paper whereon there shall have been before written any other bond, bill, instrument, or other writing, in respect whereof any duty was payable by the said acts, or either of them, before such vellum, parchment or paper shall have been again marked or stamped, according to the said acts; or shall fraudulently erase or scrape out, or cause to be erased or scraped out, the name or names of any person or persons, or any sum, date or other thing written in such bond, bill, instrument or writing, or fraudulently cut, tear or get off, any mark or stamp from any piece of vellum, parchment or paper, or part thereof, with intent to use such stamp or mark for any writing or thing, in respect whereof any duty shall be payable by virtue of the said acts, or either of them, that then, so often, and in every such case, every person, so offending, shall, for every such offence, forfeit the sum of two hundred dollars, and costs of suit.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That if any writings, matters and things, in respect whereof any of the said duties shall be payable, and which shall be engrossed or written, after the said thirty-first day of March next, shall be written at a distance from the stamps or marks which shall, in pursuance of the said acts, or any of them, be placed on the vellum, parchment or paper, whereupon the same shall be written or engrossed, with intent fraudulently to evade the duties imposed by the said acts, or any of them, the person who shall write or engross, or cause to be written or engrossed any such writing, matter or thing, contrary to the tenor and true meaning hereof, shall, for every such offence, forfeit the sum of one hundred dollars, and full costs of suit.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That the duties imposed by this act, shall be levied and collected in the same manner, and by the same persons, and under the same regulations, fines, penalties and forfeitures which are provided in and by the acts of Congress now in force, respecting the duties on stamped vellum, parchment and paper. And the said fines, penalties and forfeitures shall be sued for, and recovered in the same manner, and to the same uses, as are provided in the said acts.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted,* That no duties shall be levied or collected upon any bonds required in any case by the laws of the United States, or of any state, upon legal process, or in any judicial proceeding, or for the faithful performance of any trust or duty; any thing in the above recited act to the contrary notwithstanding.

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted,* That the supervisors shall severally be allowed upon all stamp duties, and upon all fines accruing thereupon, which shall be collected and accounted for by them respectively, the

after they are drawn.

Penalty on writing such bills before they are stamped, or selling, loaning, &c.

Penalty on fraudulently writing on old stamped instruments;

or altering the stamps.

or transferring them.

Penalty on fraudulently writing at a distance from the stamp.

How the duties imposed by this act shall be collected.

Fines, &c.

Exemption of bonds required by the laws of the U. States or of the individual states in certain cases.

Allowances to supervisors and inspectors.

commissions following, to wit: Upon all duties collected from persons other than officers of the revenue, and upon all fines, a commission of four per centum; upon all duties received from officers of the revenue, or which are collected and duly accounted for by said officers, a commission of one per centum; and that the inspectors of surveys, not being also supervisors, shall, severally, be allowed upon all stamp duties, and upon all fines accruing thereupon, which shall be collected and accounted for by them, respectively, a commission of one and a half per centum. And the allowances aforesaid shall extend to the duties and fines which have been heretofore, or may be hereafter collected and accounted for, in manner aforesaid, in pursuance of the act, intituled "An act laying duties upon stamped vellum, parchment and paper," as well as to all duties and fines authorized by this act.

APPROVED, February 28, 1799.

Repealed by  
act of April 6,  
1802.

STATUTE III.

Feb. 28, 1799.

CHAP. XVIII.—*An Act concerning French Citizens that have been, or may be captured and brought into the United States.*

President authorized to send to the dominions of France captured French citizens.

*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 he hereby is authorized to exchange or send away from the United States to the dominions of France, as he may deem proper and expedient, all French citizens that have been or may be captured and brought into the United States, in pursuance of the act, intituled "An act in addition to the act more effectually to protect the commerce and coasts of the United States."

Ante, p. 574.

APPROVED, February 28, 1799.

STATUTE III.

Feb. 28, 1799.

CHAP. XIX.—*An Act providing compensation for the Marshals, Clerks, Attornies, Jurors and Witnesses in the Courts of the United States, and to repeal certain parts of the acts therein mentioned; and for other purposes.*(a)

1813, ch. 14.  
To the marshals.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That from and after the passing of this act, the compensation to the several officers herein after mentioned, shall be as follows, to wit: to the marshals of the several districts of the United States, for the service of any writ, warrant, attachment or process issuing out of any courts of the United States, two dollars—and in case there be more than one person named in the said writ, warrant, attachment or process, then two dollars for each person so named; for his travel out in serving each writ, warrant, attachment or process aforesaid, five cents per mile, to be computed from the place of service to the court where the writ or process shall be returned; and if more persons than one are named therein, the travel shall be computed from the court to the place of service which shall be the most remote, adding thereto, the extra travel which shall be necessary to serve it on the other; for each bail bond, fifty cents; for actually summoning witnesses or appraisers, each fifty cents; for every commitment or discharge of a prisoner, fifty cents; for every proclamation in the admiralty, thirty cents; for sales of vessels, or other property, and for receiving and paying the money, for any sum under five hundred dollars, two and one half per cent; for any larger sum, one and one quarter per cent, upon the excess; for summoning each grand and other jury, four dollars: *Provided,* that in no case shall the fees for summoning jurors to any one court, exceed fifty dollars; and in those states where jurors, by the laws of the state, are drawn by constables, or other officers of

(a) An act concerning suits and costs in the courts of the United States, July 22, 1813, chap. 14.