

# ACTS OF THE SIXTH CONGRESS

OF THE

## UNITED STATES,

*Passed at the second session, which was begun and held at the City of Washington, in the District of Columbia, on Monday, the seventeenth day of November, 1800, and ended on the third day of March, 1801.*

JOHN ADAMS, President; THOMAS JEFFERSON, Vice President of the United States, and President of the Senate; JAMES HILLHOUSE, President of the Senate pro tempore, from the 2d of March, 1801; THEODORE SEDGWICK, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

### STATUTE II.

Dec. 15, 1800.

[Obsolete.]

Privilege of franking letters to the delegate from the territory northwest of the river Ohio.

Vol. i. 733.

Delegate to receive letters free of postage.

Compensation to delegate from the territory.

1796, ch. 3.

STATUTE II.

Jan. 30, 1801.

Lighthouse to be erected on Cape Poge.

CHAP. I.—*An Act extending the privilege of franking letters to the Delegate from the Territory of the United States, northwest of the river Ohio; and making provision for his compensation.*

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the present delegate to Congress from the territory of the United States, northwest of the river Ohio, and every future delegate from the said territory, shall be entitled to the privilege of sending and receiving letters, free of postage, on the same terms, and under the same restrictions, as are provided for the members of the Senate and of the House of Representatives of the United States, by the act intitled “An act to establish the post-office of the United States.”

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the present delegate from the aforesaid territory be authorized to receive, free of postage, under the said restrictions, any letters directed to him, and which shall have arrived at the seat of government, prior to the passage of this act.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That the said delegate, and every future delegate from the territory of the United States, northwest of the river Ohio, shall receive for his travelling expenses and attendance in Congress, the same compensation as is, or may be allowed, by law, to the members of the House of Representatives of the United States; to be certified and paid in the same manner.

APPROVED, December 15, 1800.

CHAP. III.—*An Act to provide for the erection and support of a Lighthouse on Cape Poge, at the northeasterly part of Martha's Vineyard.*

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Secretary of the Treasury shall be, and he is hereby authorized and directed to cause a sufficient lighthouse to be erected on Cape Poge (so called) on Martha's Vineyard, in the state of Massachusetts, and to appoint a keeper, and otherwise to provide for the support of such lighthouse at the expense of the United States: *Provided,* that sufficient land for the accommodation of such lighthouse, together with the jurisdiction thereof, shall be duly and legally granted to, and vested in the United States.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That there shall be, and hereby is appropriated for the erection of said lighthouse on Cape Poge, a sum not exceeding two thousand dollars, to be paid out of any monies which may be in the treasury of the United States, not otherwise appropriated.

APPROVED, January 30, 1801.

Appropriation.

STATUTE II.

CHAP. IV.—*An Act to provide for the more convenient organization of the Courts of the United States.*

Feb. 13, 1801.

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 next session of the Supreme Court of the United States, the said court shall be holden by the justices thereof, or any four of them, at the city of Washington, and shall have two sessions in each and every year thereafter, to commence on the first Monday of June and December respectively; and that if four of the said justices shall not attend within ten days after the times hereby appointed for the commencement of the said sessions respectively, the said court shall be continued over till the next stated session thereof: *Provided always*, that any one or more of the said justices, attending as aforesaid, shall have power to make all necessary orders touching any suit, action, appeal, writ of error, process, pleadings, or proceeding, returned to the said court or depending therein, preparatory to the hearing, trial or decision of such action, suit, appeal, writ of error, process, pleadings or proceedings.

Repealed by Act of April 29, 1802, ch. 31.

Terms of the Supreme Court.

The court to be holden at the city of Washington, by four justices.

To adjourn if four justices do not attend.

One or more of the justices attending may make rules and orders respecting courts, &c.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the said court shall have power, and is hereby authorized, to issue writs of prohibition, mandamus, scire facias, habeas corpus, certiorari, procedendo, and all other writs not specially provided for by statute, which may be necessary for the exercise of its jurisdiction, and agreeable to the principles and usages of law.

Court to have power to issue certain writs.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That from and after the next vacancy that shall happen in the said court, it shall consist of five justices only; that is to say, of one chief justice, and four associate justices.

The court to consist of five justices after the next vacancy.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That for the better establishment of the circuit courts of the United States, the said states shall be, and hereby are divided into districts, in manner following; that is to say, one to consist of that part of the state of Massachusetts, which is called the district of Maine, and to be called the district of Maine; one to consist of the state of New Hampshire, and to be called the district of New Hampshire; one to consist of the remaining part of the state of Massachusetts, and to be called the district of Massachusetts; one to consist of the state of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, and to be called the district of Rhode Island; one to consist of the state of Connecticut, and to be called the district of Connecticut; one to consist of the state of Vermont, and to be called the district of Vermont; one to consist of that part of the state of New York which lies north of the counties of Dutchess and Ulster, and to be called the district of Albany; one to consist of the remaining part of the state of New York, and to be called the district of New York; one to consist of the state of New Jersey, and to be called the district of Jersey; one to consist of that part of the state of Pennsylvania which lies east of the river Susquehanna, and the northeast branch thereof, to the line betwixt Northumberland and Luzerne counties; thence westwardly along said line, betwixt Northumberland and Luzerne, and betwixt Luzerne and Lycoming counties, until the same strikes the line of the state of New York, and to be called the Eastern district of Pennsylvania; one to consist of the remaining part of the state of Pennsylvania, and to be called the

Division of the states into districts in relation to the Circuit Courts.

Maine.

New Hampshire.

Rhode Island.

Connecticut.

Vermont.

New York.

New Jersey.

Pennsylvania.