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BY GEORGE HOWARD,

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Letters addressed to the Editor must be post paid or they may not be attended to.



(BY AUTHORITY.)

LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES

PASSED AT THE SECOND SESSION OF THE TWENTY-SIXTH CONGRESS.

[PUBLIC—No. 6.]

AN ACT to make further provision for the expenses of an exploration and survey of that part of the northeastern boundary line of the United States which separates the States of Maine and New Hampshire from the British Provinces.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the sum of seventy-five thousand dollars, in addition to the sum heretofore provided, be, and the same is hereby, appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to enable the President of the United States to cause to be made and completed an exploration and survey of that part of the northeastern boundary line of the United States and the adjacent country, which separates the States of Maine and New Hampshire from the British provinces.

R. M. T. HUNTER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

RH. M. JOHNSON,
Vice President of the United States,
and President of the Senate.

APPROVED, February 27th, 1841.

M. VAN BUREN.

[PUBLIC—No. 8.]

AN ACT to confirm to the State of Indiana the land selected by her for that portion of the Wabash and Erie canal which lies between the mouth of the Tippecanoe river and Terre Haute, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there be, and there hereby is, confirmed to the State of Indiana, the land selected by her, under the provisions of the act of second of March, eighteen hundred and twenty-seven, entitled "An act to grant a certain quantity of land to the State of Indiana, for the purpose of aiding the State in opening a canal to connect the waters of the Wabash with those of Lake Erie," for that portion of the canal between the mouth of the Tippecanoe river and Terre Haute, as returned by said State to the Secretary of the Treasury.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That should any of said lands, at the time of their selection and location by the State, have been subject to any right of pre-emption, or other legal incumbrance, the State of Indiana shall be, and she hereby is, authorized to select, of any lands subject to private entry in said State, other lands in lieu of so much thereof as may be so incumbered, and, upon return of a description of the same to the Secretary of the Treasury, the same shall be, and hereby is, confirmed to the State: Provided, That no more land shall be selected, or hereby confirmed, than a quantity equal to one half of five sections in width on each side of said canal, from the mouth of the Tippecanoe river to Terre Haute.

APPROVED, February 27th, 1841.

[PUBLIC—No. 9.]

AN ACT further to continue in force the act for the payment of horses and other property lost in the military service of the United States.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the act entitled "An act to provide for the payment of horses and other property lost or destroyed in the military service of the United States," approved on the eighteenth day of January, eighteen hundred and thirty-seven, and which was continued in force for two years from the end of the second session of the twenty-

fifth Congress, by an act entitled "An act to continue in force the act for the payment of horses and other property lost in the military service," approved on the seventh of July, eighteen hundred and thirty-eight, be, and the same is hereby, further continued in force for two years from the end of the present session of Congress.

APPROVED, February 27th, 1841.

[PRIVATE—No. 4.]

AN ACT for the relief of Mary Tucker.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the west half of section fifteen, in township six south, of range six, south, of range two east, in the Territory of Arkansas, be, and the same is hereby, reserved from sale, and appropriated for the use of schools in said township, in lieu of the southwest fractional quarter and the southeast fractional quarter of section sixteen, in that township; and the east half of section number fifteen, in township number six south, of range two east, shall be taken and held, in all respects, and for the same purposes, as the aforesaid fractional quarters of section number sixteen would have been held and taken if this act had not been passed, the majority of the citizens of said township having agreed to the same.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That Mary Tucker, the occupant upon said fractional quarter sections, be, and is hereby, authorized to enter the same within six months, from the passage of this act, at one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, in proper land office.

APPROVED, February 27th, 1841.

[PRIVATE—No. 5.]

AN ACT for the relief of lieutenant John E. Bispham.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there be paid to Lieutenant John E. Bispham, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of twenty-nine dollars and sixteen cents, the amount awarded to him by Congress, as one of the captors of a piratical felucca, taken in the West Indies, in eighteen hundred and twenty-three, and transferred to the Treasury by reason of his non-claim within the time limited by law.

APPROVED, March 2d, 1841.

[PRIVATE—No. 6.]

AN ACT for the relief of Jean Baptiste Comeau.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Jean Baptiste Comeau, of the parish of Lafayette, in the State of Louisiana, be, and he is hereby, authorized to enter, without payment therefor, two hundred and ten acres of land, upon any of the public lands which have been surveyed, and are subject to sale by private entry in the said State, in lieu of a like quantity of land confirmed to him upon the report of the commissioners of land claims for the western district of Louisiana, of the first of May, one thousand eight hundred and fifteen, and which was subsequently sold by the United States to a certain Jean E. Lefebvre, under the provisions of the act of the twelfth of April, one thousand eight hundred and fourteen, entitled "An act for the final adjustment of land titles in the State of Louisiana and Territory of Missouri;" Provided, The location of the land, the entry of which is here authorized, shall, as near as can be, conform to the legal divisions and subdivisions of the surveys of the public lands; and if the quantity located shall exceed two hundred and ten acres, the residue shall be paid for at the minimum price of public lands; and upon a return of the usual certificate to the General Land Office of the United States, a patent shall issue, as in other cases of land sold by the United States.

APPROVED, March 2d, 1841.

[PRIVATE—No. 7.]

AN ACT for the relief of John Carter.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That John Carter, of Georgetown, in the District of Columbia, be, and he is hereby authorized to bring into the District of Columbia, from the State of Alabama, his slave man William, and the said slave to hold in the said District, in the same manner as if the said man William had been always resident in the said District; any law or usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

APPROVED, March 2d, 1841.

[PRIVATE—No. 8.]

AN ACT granting a pension to Hannah Leighton.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War place the name

of Hannah Leighton on the roll of Revolutionary pensioners, and pay her a pension at the rate of eighty dollars a year, from the fourth day of March one thousand eight hundred and thirty-one, during her life.

APPROVED, March 2d, 1841.

[PRIVATE—No. 9.]

AN ACT for the relief of William Jones.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the register and receiver of the land office at Huntsville, in the State of Alabama, be, and they are hereby required to issue a certificate to William Jones, of Lawrence county, in said State, for the amount received in said land office for the southwest quarter of section twenty-two, in township five, of range three west, and the additional amount of the interest which has accrued thereon, at the rate of six per centum per annum: Provided, said Jones shall file in said land office a relinquishment of all right, title, and interest in said quarter section, to the Government of the United States; and the said certificate shall be received in payment of any of the public lands which may be thereafter sold in the State of Alabama: And provided, also, That it shall be satisfactorily shown to said register and receiver, that said quarter section was selected by the State of Alabama, under the act of Congress granting four hundred thousand acres of relinquished land to said State, for the improvement of the navigation of the Tennessee and other rivers, before the sale thereof at said United States land office.

APPROVED, March 2d, 1841.

[PRIVATE—No. 10.]

AN ACT for the relief of Charles M. Keller and Henry Stone.

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 pay to Charles M. Keller and Henry Stone, out of any money not otherwise appropriated, the sum of two hundred and twenty-seven dollars and fifty cents, for property destroyed by fire while in the public service.

APPROVED, March 2d, 1841.

[PRIVATE—No. 11.]

AN ACT for the relief of William P. Rathbone.

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 be, and he hereby is, authorized to settle the accounts of William P. Rathbone, late a district paymaster in the army of the United States; and also his accounts as army contractor, under his contracts of the first of November, eighteen hundred and sixteen, and of the fifth of November, eighteen hundred and seventeen, (giving proper consideration to the report of referees made in a cause commenced in the district court of the United States for the southern district of New York, by the United States of America, against the said William P. Rathbone and his sureties, and bearing date the seventeenth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-three, without considering it as conclusive,) and that the balance, if any, which may be found due to the said William P. Rathbone, be paid out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

APPROVED, March 2d, 1841.

[PRIVATE—No. 12.]

AN ACT for the relief of Joab Seely.

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 be, and he is hereby, directed to refund and pay to Joab Seely the sum of twenty dollars, being the amount of an overpayment made by him into the Treasury of the United States for a patent for a new invention.

APPROVED, March 2d, 1841.

[PRIVATE—No. 13.]

AN ACT granting a pension to Lemuel White.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War place the name of Lemuel White on the roll of Revolutionary pensioners, and pay him a pension at the rate of twenty dollars a year, from the fourth day of March, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-one, during his life.

APPROVED, March 2d, 1841.

[PRIVATE—No. 14.]

AN ACT for the relief of Avery, Salt-

marsh, and Company.

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 be,

and he is hereby, authorized and required to pay, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to Avery, Saltmarsh, and Company, the contractors for carrying the mail on the route from Columbus, Georgia, to Montgomery, Alabama, the sum of nine thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine dollars, it being for property employed by them in transportation of the mail captured and destroyed by the Creek Indians in May, eighteen hundred and thirty-six.

APPROVED, March 3d, 1841.

[PRIVATE—No. 15.]

AN ACT for the relief of the heirs of Miguel Eslava.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the decision of the register and receiver of the land office for the district of St. Stephen's in the State of Alabama, as contained in their report bearing date the third day of May, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two, confirming a claim of the heirs of Miguel Eslava, deceased, (being claim number three in report number two,) and made in pursuance of the act of Congress, approved the second day of March, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-nine, entitled "An act confirming the reports of the register and receiver for the district of St. Stephen's in the State of Alabama, and for other purposes," be, and the same is hereby, confirmed: Provided, That the confirmation provided to be made by this act shall amount only to a relinquishment, for ever, on the part of the United States, of all right and title whatever to the land so confirmed or granted: Provided, also, That the survey and location hereafter to be made of said claims, which are hereby confirmed, shall be made in conformity with the original Spanish title papers, unless the surveys of said claims be found variant from the grants, according to the usages of the Spanish Government, in which case, the grants are to govern.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That after the proper location of the claims hereby confirmed, it shall be the duty of the Commissioner of the General Land Office to issue patents for the same, containing a reservation of the rights of all third persons: Provided, That the said patents shall be construed to convey to the claimants all such legal and equitable rights only, as may exist under the laws of nations, or under the Constitution and laws of the United States, or treaties applicable to the said grants, under and by virtue of the said Spanish grants. And it shall be also the duty of the Commissioner of the General Land Office forthwith to issue patents to Jonathan Hunt and Audley H. Gazzam, for all such portion of said lands for which they now hold receipts issued by the receiver of the land office at St. Stephen's, in the State of Alabama; which patents shall contain an exception and reservation of all the rights of the said Spanish grantees, their heirs or assigns, under the titles claimed by them under the Spanish Government: Provided, That the patents issued to the said Hunt and Gazzam shall be construed to convey to them all such rights only, as are not inconsistent with the legal or equitable rights of the said Spanish grantees, their heirs or assigns, under the laws of nations, or under the Constitution and laws of the United States, or treaties applicable to said grants, under and by virtue of the Spanish grants hereby confirmed.

APPROVED, March 3d, 1841.

[PRIVATE—No. 16.]

AN ACT for the relief of Joseph Bogy.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Joseph Bogy, to whom was confirmed a concession of three hundred and twenty arpens of land in Arkansas, by mistake for eight hundred arpens, be, and he is hereby, empowered to locate four hundred and eighty arpens of land on any land subject to sale at private entry, in the State of Arkansas.

APPROVED, March 3d, 1841.

[PRIVATE—No. 17.]

AN ACT to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to refund the duties collected on the French ship Alexandre.

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 is hereby authorized to refund, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, such amount of duty as may have been collected at the port of Newport, upon the French ship Alexandre, and her cargo, brought into the United States by mutineers. The vessel being bound, at the time the mutiny occurred, to the port of Bordeaux, in France, and no part of the cargo having been consumed in the United States.

APPROVED, March 3d, 1841.

[PRIVATE—No. 18.]

AN ACT respecting the heirs of Agnes Dundas.

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, whatever interest in law or equity the United States may have to the houses, and lot on which said houses stand, being on the north side of King street, between Pitt and Royal streets, in the town of Alexandria, in the District of Columbia, with all the back buildings and warehouses, to Hood's alley, and in and to the mesne profits arising from the same, shall be, and the same is hereby, released to Nancy M. Keene, Sophia Peyton, Eliza Dundas, John Dundas, Thomas Dundas, William H. Dundas, and Henry T. Dundas, claiming to be the lawful heirs of Agnes Dundas, deceased, late of the District of Columbia.

APPROVED, March 3d, 1841.

[PRIVATE—No. 19.]

AN ACT to incorporate the Washington City Benevolent Society.

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, all those persons who are, or shall hereafter become, members of "the Washington City Benevolent Society," of the city of Washington, District of Columbia, be, and they are hereby, made a body corporate and politic, by the name and style of "the Washington City Benevolent Society," and shall so continue until the third day of March, one thousand eight hundred and sixty, and by that name shall have perpetual succession, and by that name may sue and be sued, plead and be pleaded, answer and be answered, defend and be defended, in courts of record and in any other place whatsoever; and by that name may make, have, and use, a common seal, and the same may break, alter, and renew at pleasure; and shall have power to ordain, establish, and put in execution such by-laws, ordinances, and regulations, as shall seem necessary and convenient for the government of said corporation, not being contrary to the laws and Constitution of the United States; and generally to do and execute all acts necessary or proper for the objects of said corporation, subject to the limitations and provisions of this act.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That the monthly contributions, and all other moneys received on account of the society, may from time to time, be invested in the public stocks of the United States, in loans to individuals, or in stocks of any incorporated banking institution or corporation; and the moneys so invested, or that may be deposited, shall be drawn out of the bank or place of deposit only on the order of the Treasurer, countersigned by the Secretary, and approved by the President, Provided, nevertheless, That the said society or body politic shall not, at any one time, hold or possess property, real, personal, or mixed, exceeding in total value the sum of twenty thousand dollars.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That it shall not be lawful for the said corporation to deal or trade in the manner of a bank, nor issue any note in the nature of a bank note, nor transact any other kind of business, or deal in any other manner or thing than is expressly authorized by the second section of this act; and any officer or officers who shall have assented to any such dealing or trade, shall, on conviction thereof, in the proper court, forfeit and pay the sum of five hundred dollars, one-half to the use of the poor of the city of Washington, District of Columbia, and the other half to the use of the person who may prosecute for the same: Provided, always, That Congress may, at any time, amend, alter, or annul this act.

APPROVED, March 3d, 1841.

[PRIVATE—No. 20.]

AN ACT to authorize the enrolment or register of the schooner Amistad.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Spanish schooner Amistad, lately sold at New London, by the marshal, in pursuance of an order of the district court of the United States for the district of Connecticut, may be registered, or enrolled, the same as if said schooner had been built within the United States.

APPROVED, March 3d, 1841.

Foreign.

Texas.—An Act has just passed the Texian Congress, exempting Slaves "in the possession or ownership of the bona fide master, heirs, legatee or legatees, of any intestate or deceased person, from forced sale, by virtue of any writ of venditioni exponas, fieri facias, or execution of any kind." The effect of this law, it seems to us, will be to hold out a bounty to swindlers to run off negroes from the United States.