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TERMS.

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BY AUTHORITY.

AN ACT to incorporate the Mechanics' Relief Society of Alexandria.

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Society known by the name of the Mechanics' Relief Society of Alexandria, and the same is hereby created a body politic, and corporate, under the name and style of the Mechanics' Relief Society of Alexandria, and by that name shall have perpetual succession and a common seal with a capacity to purchase, receive and possess goods, lands, tenements, in fee or otherwise, and the same to grant, sell or assign: *Provided however,* They shall not purchase, receive or possess more lands and tenements than shall be sufficient to enable them to erect a seminary of learning, for the instruction of youth, and the necessary accommodation and convenience of the said society; and by the name aforesaid may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, in all causes of law or equity.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That so much of the affairs of said society as relates to the erection & superintendence of the said seminary of learning, shall be and remain under the direction of the following named trustees, & their successors, to wit: John Longden, Dederick Sack, Wm. F. Thornton, Lewis Hipkins, James Galt, Charles Pascoe, James S. Scott, John Cohagan, Bernard Cook, Alexander Baggett, James Carson, Adam Lynn, Greenberry Griffin, Horace Field and Amos Alexander; the said trustees shall have power to fill any vacancies which may occur in their own body; *Provided,* That the trustees named and created by this act, shall continue and serve until the first day of May, one thousand eight hundred and eighteen, or until others shall be appointed; and on that day, or as soon thereafter as convenient, not exceeding thirty days, and annually, the like number of trustees, they being members thereof, shall be elected by said society.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That this act shall commence and be in force from and after the passing thereof, and for the term of twenty years thereafter.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That the amount of real and personal property which may, at any time, be held by this society, shall not exceed the sum of forty thousand dollars; nor shall the said society be engaged in any banking or commercial operation; and Congress shall at all times have power, during the period for which this charter is granted, at their pleasure to repeal or alter the same.

H. CLAY,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

JOHN GAILLARD,
President of the Senate pro tempore.

April 13, 1818.—Approved,
JAMES MONROE.

AN ACT for the relief of Cornelia Mason.

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby authorized to place on the half pay pension list, for five years, at the rate of four dollars per month, Cornelia Mason, the

widow of Alexander Mason, who volunteered his services as a militia man, with a detachment of militia commanded by Brigadier-General Perkins, on the northern frontier, in the year one thousand eight hundred and twelve, and who was killed in a battle with a party of Indians, in the month of Sept'r of the said year, to be to the use of her and her six children, the legitimate offspring of her said Cornelia Mason, and her said deceased husband, Alexander Mason, under the rules and regulations prescribed in, and provided for, by an act, entitled "An act making further provision for military services during the late war, and for other purposes," approved April sixteenth, one thousand eight hundred and sixteen.

H. CLAY, *Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

JOHN GAILLARD,
President of the Senate pro tempore.

April 20, 1818.—Approved,
JAMES MONROE.

AN ACT for the relief of General Moses Porter.

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby authorized to grant to Moses Porter, a warrant for the quantity of two hundred acres of land, for his services as a lieutenant in Crane's, or the Massachusetts' regiment, in the revolutionary war, which warrant is in lieu of one heretofore granted for said services, and which has been lost or destroyed; which warrant may be located on any lands appropriated for satisfying the warrants granted for military services performed in the revolutionary war.

H. CLAY,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

JOHN GAILLARD,
President of the Senate pro tempore.

April 13, 1818.—Approved,
JAMES MONROE.

AN ACT, in addition to "an act to prohibit the introduction of slaves into any port or place within the jurisdiction of the United States, from and after the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eight," and to repeal certain parts of the same.

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, it shall not be lawful to import or bring, in any manner whatsoever, into the U. States or territories thereof, from any foreign kingdom, place, or country, any negro, mulatto, or person of color, with intent to hold, sell, or dispose of any such negro, mulatto, or person of color, as a slave, or to be held to service or labor; and any ship, vessel, or other water craft, employed in any importation as aforesaid, shall be liable to seizure, prosecution, and forfeiture, in any district in which it may be found; one half thereof to the United States, and the other half to the use of him or them who shall prosecute the same to effect.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That no citizen or citizens of the U. States, or any person or persons, shall, after the passing of this act, as aforesaid, for himself, themselves, or any other person or persons whatsoever, either as master, factor, or owner, build, fit, equip, load, or otherwise prepare, any ship or vessel, in any port or place within the jurisdiction of the United States, nor cause any such ship or vessel to sail from any port or place whatsoever, within the jurisdiction of the same, for the purpose of procuring any negro, mulatto, or person of color, from any foreign kingdom, place or country, to be transported to any port or place whatsoever, to be held, sold, or otherwise disposed of, as slaves, or to be held to service or labor; and if any ship or vessel shall be so built, fitted out, equip, laden, or otherwise prepared, for the purpose aforesaid, every such ship or vessel, her tackle, apparel, furniture, and lading, shall be forfeited, one

moiety to the use of the United States, and the other to the use of the person or persons who shall sue for said forfeiture, and prosecute the same to effect; and such ship or vessel shall be liable to be seized, prosecuted, and condemned, in any court of the United States having competent jurisdiction.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That every person or persons so building, fitting out, equipping, loading, or otherwise preparing, or sending away, or causing any of the acts aforesaid to be done, with intent to employ such ship or vessel in such trade or business, after the passing of this act, contrary to the true intent and meaning thereof, or who shall, in any wise, be aiding or abetting therein, shall, severally, on conviction thereof, by due course of law, forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding five thousand dollars, nor less than one thousand dollars, one moiety to the use of the United States, and the other to the use of the person or persons who shall sue for such forfeiture and prosecute the same to effect, and shall moreover be imprisoned for a term not exceeding seven years, nor less than three years.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That if any citizen or citizens of the United States, or other persons resident within the jurisdiction of the same, shall, from and after the passing of this act, take on board, receive, or transport, from any of the coasts or kingdom, place, or country, or from sea, any negro, mulatto, or person of colour, not being an inhabitant, nor held to service by the laws of either of the states or territories of the United States, in any ship, vessel, boat, or other water craft, for the purpose of holding, selling, or otherwise disposing of, such person as a slave, or to be held to service or labor, or being aiding or abetting therein, every such persons so offending, shall, on conviction, by due course of law, severally forfeit & pay a sum not exceeding five thousand dollars, one moiety to the use of the U. States, and the other to the use of the person or persons who shall sue for such forfeiture and prosecute the same to effect, and moreover shall suffer imprisonment for a term not exceeding seven years, nor less than three years; and every ship or vessel, or other water-craft, on which such negro, mulatto, or person of color, shall have been taken on board, received, or transported, as aforesaid, her tackle, apparel, & furniture, and the goods and effects which shall be found on board the same, or shall have been imported therein in the same voyage, shall be forfeited, one moiety to the use of the United States, and the other to the use of the person or persons who shall sue for, and prosecute the same to effect; and every such ship or vessel shall be liable to be seized, prosecuted, and condemned, in any court of the United States having competent jurisdiction.

Sec. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That neither the importer or importers, nor any person or persons claiming from or under him or them, shall hold any right, interest or title whatsoever, in or to any negro, mulatto or person of color, nor to the service or labor thereof, who may be imported or brought into the United States or the territories thereof, in violation of the provisions of this act, but the same shall remain subject to any regulations, not contravening said provisions, which the legislatures of the several states or territories may at any time heretofore have made, or hereafter may make, to disposing of any such negro, mulatto or person of color.

Sec. 6. *And be it further enacted,* That if any person or persons whatsoever shall, from and after the passing of this act, bring within the jurisdiction of the United States, in any manner whatsoever, any negro, mulatto, or person of color, from any foreign kingdom, place or country or from sea, or shall hold, sell, or otherwise dispose of any such negro, mulatto, or person of color, so

brought in as a slave, or to be held to service or labor, or be in any wise aiding or abetting therein, every person so offending shall, on conviction thereof by due course of law, forfeit & pay for every such offence, a sum not exceeding ten, nor less than one thousand dollars, one moiety to the use of the United States, and the other to the use of the person or persons who shall sue for such forfeiture, and prosecute the same to effect; and moreover shall suffer imprisonment for a term not exceeding seven years nor less than three years.

Sec. 7. *And be it further enacted,* That if any person or persons whatsoever, shall hold, purchase, sell, or otherwise dispose of any negro, mulatto or person of color for a slave, or to be held to service or labor, who shall have been imported or brought in any way from any foreign kingdom, place or country, or from the dominions of any foreign state immediately adjoining to the United States, into any port or place within the jurisdiction of the United States from and after the passing of this act, every person so offending, and every person aiding or abetting therein, shall severally forfeit and pay for every negro, mulatto, or person of color so held, purchased, sold or disposed of, one thousand dollars, one moiety to the use of the United States, and the other to the use of the person or persons who may sue for such forfeiture, and prosecute the same to effect, and to stand committed until the said forfeiture be paid: *Provided,* That the aforesaid forfeiture shall not extend to the seller or purchaser of any negro, mulatto, or person of color, who may be sold or disposed of in virtue of any regulations which have heretofore or shall hereafter be lawfully made by any legislature of any state or territory in pursuance of this act, and the constitution of the United States.

Sec. 8. *And be it further enacted,* That in all prosecutions under this act, the defendant or defendants shall be holden to prove that the negro, mulatto, or person of color, which he or they shall be charged with having brought into the United States, or with purchasing, holding, selling, or otherwise disposing of, & which, according to the evidence in such case, the said defendant or defendants shall have brought in aforesaid, or otherwise disposed of, was brought into the United States at least five years previous to the commencement of such prosecution, or was not brought in, holden, purchased, or otherwise disposed of, contrary to the provisions of this act; and in failure thereof, the said defendant or defendants shall be adjudged guilty of the offence of which he or they may stand accused.

Sec. 9. *And be it further enacted,* That any prosecution, information or action, may be sustained for any offence under this act, at any time within five years after such offence shall have been committed, any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Sec. 10. *And be it further enacted,* That the first six sections of the act to which this is in addition, shall be and the same are hereby repealed; *Provided,* That all offences committed under the said sections of the act aforesaid, before the passing of this act, shall be prosecuted and punished, and any forfeitures which have been incurred under the same shall be recovered and distributed as if this act had not been passed.

H. CLAY,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

JOHN GAILLARD,
President of the Senate pro tempore.

April 20, 1818.—Approved,
JAMES MONROE.

AN ACT for the relief of Sarah Dewees, relict and widow of William Dewees, dec'd, and the heirs and legal representatives of the said William Dewees.

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That there be paid to Sa-

rah Dewees, relict of Colonel William Dewees, and the heirs and legal representatives of the said Col. William Dewees, dec'd, the sum of eight thousand dollars, in full of all claims the estate of the said dec'd may have against the United States, for the loss of property, owing to its being taken for public use; and that the said sum be paid out of any monies in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

H. CLAY,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

JOHN GAILLARD,
President of the Senate pro tempore.

April 16, 1818.—Approved,
JAMES MONROE.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
26th May, 1818.

House of Representatives adopted a Resolution, of which the following is a copy:

In the House of Representatives of the United States, March 30, 1818.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury be requested to prepare and report to this House, at their next session, a plan for the application of such means as are within the power of Congress, to the purpose of opening and improving roads, and making canals; together with a statement of the undertakings of that nature, which, as objects of public improvement, may require and deserve the aid of government; and also a statement of works, of the nature above-mentioned, which have been commenced, the progress which has been made in them, the means and prospect of their being completed, the public improvements carried on by states, or by companies, or incorporations which have been associated for such purposes, to which it may be deemed expedient to subscribe, or afford assistance, the terms and conditions of such associations, and the state of their funds; and such information as, in the opinion of the Secretary, shall be material, in relation to the objects of this resolution.—Attest,

THOMAS DOUGHERTY,
Clerk House of Representatives.

To enable the Secretary of the Treasury to comply with the important requisitions of the foregoing resolution, all companies or incorporations, associated for opening roads and making canals, which they may respectively conceive, require and deserve the aid of government, are invited to furnish this Department with such information concerning their respective undertakings, as is required by the resolution, and which may be necessary to bring their claims to the patronage of the government, before the Congress of the United States, at the commencement of their next session.

Where a canal or road has been commenced, the communication ought to state distinctly the dimensions of the work; the nature of the soil and face of the country through which it is to pass; its greatest elevation and depression, and mean level; the progress which has been made; the expense incurred, and the whole probable expense, estimated upon the experience acquired in the execution of the undertaking.

In all canals, the number and dimensions of the locks; the mean quantity of earth to be removed per mile; the nature and extent of the navigation to which they are to be connected, should be distinctly made known.

In every case, the facility of obtaining materials for the construction of roads, bridges and locks, should be stated. The act of incorporation, or articles of association; the by-laws which have been enacted; the amount of the fund authorized or agreed to be subscribed; the sum actually subscribed; the amount paid in; the sum expended; the amount remaining on hand; and the means and probability of enforcing the payment of the balance; should invariably be stated in every communication. And generally every kind of information which can shed light upon the undertaking.

WM. H. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of the Treasury.

War Department, Pension Office,
May 27, 1818.

June 6.—12—1m

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Christ's Church—Price \$15.
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Newbern, May 28, 1818.—f.