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## TERMS.

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[BY AUTHORITY.]

ACTS PASSED AT THE SECOND SESSION OF THE FIFTEENTH CONGRESS.

AN ACT supplementary to the acts concerning the Coasting Trade.

Be it enacted by the Senate & House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled,

That, for the more convenient regulation of the coasting trade, the sea coast and navigable rivers of the United States be, & hereby are, divided into two great districts, the first, to include all the districts on the sea coast and navigable rivers, between the eastern limits of the United States and the southern limits of Georgia: and the second, to include all the districts on the sea coast and navigable rivers, between the river Perdido and the western limits of the United States.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That every ship or vessel, of the burthen of twenty tons or upwards, licensed to trade between the different districts of the United States, shall be, and is hereby, authorized to carry on such trade between the districts included within the aforesaid great districts, respectively, and between a state in one, and an adjoining state in another, great district, in manner and subject only to the regulations that are, now by law required to be observed by such ships or vessels, in trading from one district to another in the same state, or from a district in one state to a district in the next adjoining state, any thing in any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That every ship or vessel, of the burthen of twenty tons or upwards, licensed to trade as aforesaid, shall be, and is hereby, required, in trading from one to another great district, other than between a state in one, and an adjoining state in another, great district, to conform to and observe the regulations, that, at the time of passing this act, are required to be observed by such vessels, in trading from a district in one state to a district in any other than an adjoining state.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That, the trade between the districts not included in either of the two great districts aforesaid, shall continue to be carried on in the manner, and subject to the regulations, already provided for his purpose.

Sec. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That this act shall commence and be in force, from and after the thirtieth day of June next after the passing thereof.

H. CLAY,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

JAS. BARBOUR,

President of the Senate, pro tempore.

March 2, 1819.—Approved.

JAMES MONROE.

AN ACT in addition to the acts prohibiting the slave trade.

Be it enacted by the Senate & House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled,

That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized, whenever he shall deem it expedient, to cause any of the armed vessels of the United States to be employed to cruise on any of the coasts of the United States, or territories thereof, or of the coast of Af-

rica, or elsewhere, where he may judge attempts may be made to carry on the slave trade by citizens or residents of the U. States, in contravention of the acts of Congress prohibiting the same, and to instruct and direct the commanders of all armed vessels of the United States, to seize, take, and bring into any port of the United States, all ships or vessels of the United States, where-soever found, which may have taken on board, or which may be intended for the purpose of taking on board, or of transporting or may have transported, any negro, mulatto, or person of color, in violation of any of the provisions of the act, entitled "An act in addition to an act to prohibit the importation 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," or of any other act or acts prohibiting the traffic in slaves, to be proceeded against according to law: And the proceeds of all ships and vessels, their tackle apparel & furniture, and the goods and effects on board of them, which shall be so seized, prosecuted, and condemned shall be divided equally between the United States and the officers and men who shall seize, take, or bring, the same into port for condemnation, whether such seizure be made by an armed vessel of the United States or revenue cutter thereof: And the same shall be distributed in like manner as is provided by law for the distribution of prizes taken from an enemy. *Provided,* That the officers and men so entitled to one half of the proceeds aforesaid, shall safe keep every negro, mulatto, or person of color found on board of any ship or vessel so seized, taken, or brought into port, for condemnation, and shall deliver every such negro, mulatto, or person of color, to the marshal of the district into which they are brought, into a port of the United States, or, if elsewhere, to such person or persons as shall be lawfully appointed by the President of the United States in the manner hereinafter directed, transmitting to the President of the United States, as soon as may be after such delivery, a descriptive list of such negroes, mulattoes or persons of color, that he may give directions for the disposal of them. *And provided further,* that the commanders of such commissioned vessels, do cause to be apprehended, & take into custody, every person found on board of such vessel, so seized and taken, being of the officers or crew thereof, and him or them convey, as soon as conveniently may be, to the civil authority of the United States, to be proceeded against in due course of law, in some of the districts thereof.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized to make such regulations and arrangements, as he may deem expedient for the safekeeping, support, and removal beyond the limits of the United States, of all such negroes, mulattoes, or persons of color, as may be so delivered and brought within their jurisdiction: And to appoint a proper person or persons, residing upon the coast of Africa, as agent or agents, for receiving the negroes, mulattoes, or persons of color, delivered from on board vessels seized in the prosecution of the slave trade by commanders of the United States' armed vessels.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That a bounty of twenty five dollars be paid, to the officers and crews of the commissioned vessels of the United States, of revenue cutters, for each and every negro mulatto, or person of color, who shall have been, as hereinbefore provided, delivered to the marshal or agent duly appointed to receive them: And the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized and required to pay, or cause to be paid, to such officers and crews, or their agent, the aforesaid

bounty, for each person delivered as aforesaid.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That when any citizen or other person, shall lodge information, with the attorney for the district of any state or territory, as the case may be, that any negro, mulatto, or person of color has been imported therein contrary to the provisions of the acts in such case made and provided, it shall be the duty of the said attorney forthwith to commence a prosecution, by information; & process shall issue against the person charged with holding such negro, negroes, mulatto, mulattoes, person or persons, of color, so alleged to be imported contrary to the provisions of the acts aforesaid: And if, upon the return of the process executed, it shall be ascertained, by the verdict of a jury, that such negro, negroes, mulatto, mulattoes, person or persons of color, have been brought in, contrary to the true intent & meaning of the acts in such cases made and provided, then the court shall direct the marshal of the said district to take the said negroes, mulattoes, or persons of color, into his custody, for safekeeping subject to the orders of the President of the U. States; & the informer or informers, who shall lodge the information, shall be entitled to receive, over and above the portion of the penalties accruing to him or them by the provisions of the acts in such case made and provided, a bounty of fifty dollars, for each and every negro, mulatto, or person of color, who shall have been delivered into the custody of the marshal; and the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized and required to pay, or cause to be paid, the aforesaid bounty, upon the certificate of the clerk of the court for the district where the prosecution may have been had, with the seal of office thereto annexed, stating the number of negroes, mulattoes, or persons of color, so delivered.

Sec. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That it shall be the duty of the commander of any armed vessels of the United States, whenever he shall make any capture under the provisions of this act, to bring the vessel and her cargo, for adjudication, into some of the ports of the state or territory to which such vessel, so captured, shall belong, if he can ascertain the same; if not, then to be sent to any convenient port of the United States.

Sec. 6. *And be it further enacted,* That all such acts, or parts of acts, as may be repugnant to the provisions of this act, shall be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

Sec. 7. *And be it further enacted,* That a sum, not exceeding one hundred thousand dollars, be, and the same is hereby, appropriated to carry this law into effect.

H. CLAY,

Speaker of the House of Representatives

JAS. BARBOUR,

President of the Senate, pro tempore.

March 2, 1819.—Approved.

JAMES MONROE.

AN ACT to incorporate a company to build a Bridge over the Eastern Branch of Potomac, between eleventh and Twelfth streets east, in the city of Washington.

Be it enacted by the Senate & House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled,

That the following persons viz: William Prout, William Marbury, Samuel N. Smallwood, Timothy Winn, and Adam Lindsay, or any three of them, be, and are hereby, constituted a board of commissioners, with full power and authority to open, or cause to be opened, books, for receiving and entering subscriptions, for raising a capital stock, not exceeding twenty-five thousand dollars, in shares of one hundred dollars each, for the purpose of erecting a bridge between eleventh and twelfth streets east, in the City of Washington, over the Eastern Branch, to the most convenient landing on the opposite shore, and making such other incidental works and defraying such other incidental expenses, as shall be re-

quired by this act, or deemed necessary or expedient by the company hereinafter named; the time, place and manner, of receiving and entering such subscriptions, to be ascertained by the said board of commissioners, and duly advertised in such newspapers as they may deem expedient: *Provided,* That the time [ ] be fixed upon, by the said board of commissioners, for opening books for receiving said subscriptions, shall be on or before the second Monday in March next, and that no subscription shall be received, unless the sum of ten dollars be first paid into the hands of the person authorized to receive the same, on each share subscribed for.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That whenever two hundred of the said shares shall be subscribed for, all persons who may then be, or hereafter may become, the actual holders or proprietors of shares in the said capital stock, either as subscribers for the same, or as the legal representatives, successors, or assignees, of such subscribers, shall be, and they are hereby, made and created a body politic and corporate, by the name and style of "The Navy Yard Bridge Company," and by that name may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, and do, and suffer all acts, matters, and things, which a body politic and corporate may lawfully do and suffer; and may have a common seal, and the same may break and alter at pleasure, and may make all bye-laws, rules, and regulations, and ordinances, for the good government of said company, and for carrying into effect the objects of their institution, so that such bye-laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances, be not repugnant to the laws of the United States, in force within the District of Columbia.

Sec. 9. *And be it further enacted* That at all elections for directors & officers of said company, each & every member of the said company shall be entitled to as many votes as he or she may hold shares of the capital stock of said company, and may vote by proxy, executed under their hands and seals, in the presence of two witnesses; and that when two hundred of the said shares shall be subscribed for, as aforesaid, or as soon after as may be, the said board of commissioners shall call a meeting of the company, at some convenient place in the city of Washington, giving at least three weeks notice thereof, by public advertisement, in one or more newspapers published in the District of Columbia; and the said company shall then and there elect, by ballot, five directors and a treasurer, and such other officers, agents and servants, as the company may think fit to appoint; and as soon thereafter as a board of directors shall be formed, they shall elect one of their body to be president of the said board of directors; and all the powers, authority, and duties, whatsoever, by this act vested in the said board of commissioners, shall cease and determine, and thenceforward become vested in the president and directors for the time being of the said company; and the said board of commissioners shall account to the president and directors of the said company, at their first meeting, for all moneys received by them or their agents, on account of subscriptions, and shall immediately pay over the same to the treasurer of said company. And the said directors and treasurer shall hold their offices until the first Tuesday in October next, and until a new election shall be made by the company. And there shall be holden on that day, and annually thereafter, on every first Tuesday in October, a meeting of the said company, for the purpose of electing five directors and a treasurer and other officers and agents, as aforesaid.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That the said shares shall be negotiable and transferrable from one to another by assignments in writing, executed before two witnesses, at least, and authenticated and regis-

tered, as the said company may prescribe and direct in their by-laws and regulations, and shall be deemed personal, and not real property; and that the shares held by any individual shall be liable to be attached, or taken by fieri facias, to satisfy the debts due from such individual, in like manner as other personal property may be.

Sec. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That a meeting of the said company may, at any time, be called, at some convenient place in the City of Washington, by a majority of the directors of the company, for the time being, and by one-third of the members of the said company, or by the proprietors of one-third of the shares actually subscribed for, or the legal representatives or proprietors: *Provided, however,* That no meeting of the said company shall be legal or valid, unless a quorum shall be formed, consisting of the majority of the members of said company, or of the proprietors of at least two-thirds of the number of shares actually subscribed for, their legal representatives, successors, or proxies, nor unless the time of such meeting be previously advertised, for three weeks successively, in one or more gazettes, in the District of Columbia; and the said company shall have power, at any meeting legally called and constituted, in pursuance of this act, to displace any of their directors or officers, and to supply, by a new election, all vacancies that may happen among the directors or officers of the company; and a majority of the said directors may provisionally supply, by their own election, any vacancies that may happen among the number of directors, or among the number of the officers of the company, and the person so elected, by the said directors, may continue in office till the next legal meeting of the company.

Sec. 6. *And be it further enacted,* That the amount of each share shall be paid by instalments of ten dollars, at such time as the said company shall direct; and in case any instalment or instalments shall not be paid, at the time appointed by the said company, or within ten days thereafter, the same may be recovered in the name of the said company, by warrant from a justice of the peace, if the amount due shall not exceed twenty dollars, & if the sum so due shall exceed twenty dollars, the same may be recovered by motion in the name of the said company, on ten days notice, in any court of record in the county or district where the debtor should be found; and in all such warrants and motions, the certificate of the clerk of the said company, authenticated by the president, under the common seal of the said company, shall be conclusive evidence of the defendant's being a member of the company, and prima facie evidence of the amount due on the shares held by such defendant; and if such instalment be not paid within sixty days after the time limited for the payment of the same, and advertisement for four weeks successively, in one or more newspapers published in the District of Columbia, the president and directors of the said company may proceed to forfeit, for the use of the company, the share or shares of the person or persons so failing to pay.

Sec. 7. *And be it further enacted,* That the said company be, and they are hereby, authorized and empowered to erect and build, or cause to be erected and built, over the Eastern Branch, between Eleventh and Twelfth streets, east, in the city of Washington, and the land of William Marbury, on the opposite shore of the said Eastern Branch, a good and sufficient bridge, at least twenty-five feet wide, of sound and suitable materials, and in all respects adequate for the passage of travellers, horses, cattle, and carriages, with a secure railing on each side, at least four feet high.

Sec. 8. *And be it further enacted,* That the said company shall cause to be built, and kept and maintained in good repair, a convenient & suffi-