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(BY AUTHORITY.)

AN ACT Reviving and extending the time allowed for the redemption of land sold for direct taxes, in certain cases.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the time allowed for the redemptions of lands, which have been, or may be, sold for the non-payment of taxes under the several acts, passed the second day of August, one thousand eight hundred and thirteen, the ninth day of January, one thousand eight hundred and fifteen, and the fifth day of March, one thousand eight hundred and sixteen, for laying and collecting a direct tax within the United States, so far as the same have been purchased for and in behalf of the United States, be revived and extended for the term of one year from the end of the present session of Congress: *Provided*, That, on such redemption, interest shall be paid, at the rate of twenty per centum per annum, on the taxes aforesaid, and on the additions of twenty per centum on the additions thereof, and the right of redemption shall ensure, as well to the heirs and assignees of the land so purchased on behalf of the United States as to the original owners thereof.

PHILIP P. BARBOUR,
Speaker of the House of Representatives
DANIEL D. TOMPKINS,
Vice President of the United States,
and President of the Senate.

Washington, Feb. 4, 1822.

Approved: JAMES MONROE.

AN ACT to revive and continue in force an act entitled, "An act to provide for persons who were disabled by known wounds received in the Revolutionary war."

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 persons who were disabled by known wounds received in the Revolutionary war, passed on the tenth day of April, one thousand eight hundred and six, and limited as in said act declared, to the term of six years, and afterwards revived and continued in force for and during the term of six years, by an act, entitled "An act to revive and continue in force "An act to provide for persons who were disabled by known wounds received in the revolutionary war, and for other purposes," passed on the twenty-fifth day of April, in the year one thousand eight hundred and twelve, and afterwards revived and continued in force for the term of one year, by an act, entitled "An act to revive and continue in force an act entitled "An act to provide for persons who were disabled by known wounds received in the Revolutionary war," passed on the fifteenth day of May, in the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty, shall be, and the said act is hereby, revived and continued in full force and effect, for and during the term of six years from and after the passing of this act, and from thence unto the next session of Congress: *Provided*, That any evidence which has been taken to support any claim of any person disabled in the Revolutionary war, under the authority of the "Act of the fifteenth of May, one thousand eight hundred and twenty," reviving and continuing in force, for one year, "An act to provide for persons who were disabled by known wounds received in the Revolutionary war," shall be received and acted upon by the Secretary of War, and in the same manner as if said act was still in force and had not expired: *And* *Provided* also, That this act and any thing contained in the act hereby revived and continued in force, shall not be construed to repeal or make void the fourth section of the act, entitled "An act concerning invalid pensions," passed the third day of March, one thousand eight hundred and nineteen: and the said fourth section of the said last mentioned act shall be, and the same is hereby declared to be, and continue to be in full force and effect, any thing in the said act hereby

revived and continued in force to the contrary notwithstanding.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the right any person now has, or hereafter may acquire, to receive a pension in virtue of any law of the United States, shall be construed to commence at the time of completing his testimony pursuant to the act hereby revived and continued in force.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That the agents for the payment of pensions to invalid pensioners of the United States, shall, in future, be required to give bonds, with two or more sureties, to be approved by the Secretary of the Department of War, in such penalty as he shall direct, for the faithful discharge of the duties confided in them respectively.

PHILIP P. BARBOUR,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

DANIEL D. TOMPKINS,
Vice President of the United States, and
President of the Senate.

Washington, Feb. 4, 1822.

Approved, JAMES MONROE.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16.

Mr. Tucker, of Virg. presented a petition from sundry citizens of Lynchburg, in Virginia, praying that Congress may not pass a Bankrupt Law—the reading of which was called for by Mr. T. as he believed it expressed the sense of the great body of the people in Virginia; and it was referred to the committee of the whole on that subject.

The resolution submitted yesterday by Mr. Floyd, requesting of the President of the United States information whether any foreign government has made claim to any part of the territory of the United States on the coast of the Pacific Ocean, &c. was read for consideration.

Mr. Floyd observed, that he had made this motion in consequence of understanding that a copy of the Russian Ukase on the subject of her dominions on the Pacific was in possession of our government. The Russian government laid claim it appeared, to a considerable portion of the territory on that coast which belonged to the United States in addition to what she held without dispute. From a claim so enormous, it would seem that the Emperor of Russia had forgotten the cautious policy which had characterised him heretofore; and the claim was such a one as would be resisted by any country. He hoped the resolution would be agreed to.

The resolution was agreed to without objection.

Mr. Cooke said, the Committee on Military Affairs had obtained, from the Paymaster General, a statement of the saving which would be made in the expense of the military establishment by the passage of the bill now before the House for the better organization of the army—which statement, that all the members of the House might be put in possession of the information it contained, he moved to have printed. The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Cannon, after some remarks explanatory of his object, and to shew that the papers which he had in view could be of no service to the government if detained, and were necessary for the individuals, moved the following joint resolution; which was laid on the table for one day:

Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives, &c. That the Secretary of State be directed to deliver to such person or persons, or their legal representatives, any title papers or otherwise, that may have been filed or deposited in the office of the Board of Commissioners, which had been adjudged by said Board to be invalid, and on which no scrip has been issued, under the act entitled "An act providing for the indemnification of certain claimants of public land in Mississippi Territory," approved March 31st, 1814, whenever application shall be made, either by the person filing or depositing the same, or such person or persons or their legal representatives as aforesaid, or the person making the relinquishment required by said act, and in all cases where papers were filed in said office, and no relinquishment made as required by said act, the said papers shall also be delivered when applied for to the persons who filed them, or the person or persons holding the title to the same, or his or her or their legal representatives.

Mr. Eastis offered the following resolution; which was agreed to—ayes 58, noes 44.

Resolved, That the Committee on Mil-

itary Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of reducing the number and the compensation of the corps of Cadets, and whether it is expedient to make any alterations in the laws and regulations for governing the Military Academy.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Comptroller of the Treasury, transmitting a list of balances on the books of the Register, which have remained unsettled for more than three years prior to the 30th of September last; which was laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

The House then again went into committee (Mr. Taylor in the Chair) on the Bankrupt Bill.

Mr. Sawyer of N. C. addressed the House about an hour and a half against the motion to strike out the first section.

The committee rose on the motion of Mr. Gorham, (who intimated an intention to deliver his opinions on the subject;) and

The House adjourned.

MONDAY, FEB. 18.

Mr. Woodcock laid on the table the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be directed to lay before this House a Statement of the number of Cadets educated in the Military Academy who have remained in the service of the United States five years; and the number who have received commissions and resigned, or have been discharged from service before the expiration of five years; also, the number that have left the Military Academy without commissions, and the amount of money that has been paid each; also, the amount paid to Cadets between the time of their appointment and that of being mustered at the Academy, and the time of leaving the Academy, and the time of receiving commissions and entering the service of the United States; also the number educated at Academy who were in service during the late war; also, the expense of maintaining the officers and instructors of the Academy each year since 1802; and the expense of ammunition which has been furnished for the use of the Academy; and the soldiers who have been stationed at the Academy for the assistance of the officers and cadets since its establishment; and, also, the number of cadets educated at the Academy since its establishment; distinguishing those who are the sons of officers and soldiers who have fallen in defence of their country or died in its service.

Mr. Smith, of Md. from the Committee of Ways and Means, laid on the table certain letters from the Secretary of the Navy, transmitting information respecting the estimates for repairs and contingent expenses of the Navy for 1822; which was ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Hardin, it was

Resolved, That a select committee consisting of seven members of this House, be appointed, whose duty it shall be to inquire whether any part of the public expenditure can be retrenched without detriment to the public service, and whether there be any offices or appointments in the government of the United States which have become useless and unnecessary, and can be dispensed with, and that the committee have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

THE BANKRUPT BILL.

The House then resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the unfinished business of Saturday, (the Bankrupt Bill) Mr. Taylor in the chair.

Mr. Gorham occupied the floor more than an hour, in opposition to the motion to strike out the first section of the bill, and was followed by

Mr. Wood, who spoke on the same side, and continued the debate until after three o'clock; when

Mr. Fuller took the floor and intimated his intention to express his views on the subject, but owing to the lateness of the hour, moved that the committee rise and report which was agreed to; and,

In the House, after granting leave to the committee to sit again,

The House adjourned.

Extract of a letter from a Member of Congress to his friend in Winchester, Kentucky.

"Within the last six days, we have had a great boisteration in the wigwams of pretenders to the Presidency: at this time the names of Candidates for that office are LOWNDES, CALHOUN, CRAWFORD, TOMPKINS, THOMPSON, CLINTON, KING, and ADAMS.

"It is thought that the election will come to the Congress, in which event CLAY will stand as good a chance as any of them."—*Repub. Sent.*

LITERARY.

FROM THE NEW-YORK STATESMAN.

ONTWA.

To those who are accustomed to attribute the dearth of good American poetry to the newness of the country, and who contend that age, wealth, and literary ease will bring along with them the refinements of taste and fancy, it may occasion some surprise to hear of a new poem, "written in the desert, and under the huts of the savages," on the shores of Huron and Michigan. Yet such is the origin of "ONTWA, THE SON OF THE FOREST"—a poem recently published by Messrs Wiley & Halstead of this city.—We are permitted only to say, that its author is an officer of the American army, who is fond of softening the rigours of the camp by the cultivation of elegant letters, and who appears to be ambitious of uniting the bay of the scholar with the laurel of the soldier.

Of the illustrations of the poem, which are copious and written with a degree of chasteness and elegance that we have seldom seen equalled, General Cass, Governor of Michigan Territory is the avowed author. This gentleman, residing in a new and uncultivated section of the country, which has as yet but a sparse population, and enjoys few of the literary advantages of the more favoured portions of the United States, has carried with him genius, science, philosophy, & taste; and to his exertions we are indebted for much of our knowledge of those extensive regions, which border on the great western Lake. He has drawn around him a circle of scientific and literary gentlemen, who have traversed the wilderness and endured the greatest privations in prosecuting their favourite pursuits.

But to return to the poem. The story of Ontwa is at once simple, natural and interesting. It is founded on an historical fact recorded in vague terms by some of the early historians of the country, that about the middle of the 17th century, the tribe of Indians called the Eries, inhabiting the country around Lake Erie, were subdued and exterminated by the Iroquois, another tribe from the borders of Lake Champlain. This account was sufficiently authentic to render the incidents of the poem probable, and sufficiently indefinite and obscure to leave scope for the invention and imagination of the poet. The outlines of the story, as embellished by our author, are these: One of those holy and philanthropic men, who, soon after this country was discovered, came to our shores, passed up the chain of Lakes on the northern frontier of the United States—entered Pann or Green Bay—and thence, by the assistance of an Indian guide, and availing himself of Fox and Ouisconsin rivers, crosses over to the Mississippi, and arrives at the Falls of St. Anthony. They find Ontwa sitting motionless on a rock, gazing upon the cataract, who, after being accosted by the guide in a friendly manner, and recovering from his trance, relates his own pathetic tale, which is emphatically one of "love and murder."

Ontwa, the last of his race, was the son of Kaskaskia, chief of the Erie tribe, who resided on the northern shore of the Lake of that name. His father, warned by dreams and omens of the approach of an enemy from the east, and of impending ruin, despatched Ontwa, as a messenger, to bid defiance to the foe. He meets Saranac, chief of the Iroquois, with an immense army on the south shore of Lake Ontario—before reaching the camp of the chief, finds Oneyda, daughter of Saranac, asleep in a paradise of woods—falls in love with her—is wounded and dragged before the chief as a spy—is released, and returns to his own tribe—Kaskaskia rallies his forces and marches to Niagara, where he meets the Iroquois, and a destructive battle is fought, in which the Eries are exterminated, with the exception of Ontwa, who is taken captive, and destined as a sacrifice.—Oneyda administers the intoxicating draught to the warriors of her tribe, bursts the chains of Ontwa, and escapes with him, but is overtaken by an enraged chief to whom she was exposed, and is murdered in the presence of her lover, who being left an outcast in the world, had wandered to the place where he was met by a missionary guide.

The story is well told, and the incidents are natural and interesting. There is nothing extravagant or *outré* either in the plan or execution. The sentiments are remarkably delicate, but have none of that artificial refinement and polish, which would be inconsistent with the feelings and manners of the simple unsophisticated children of the forest.

The following passage is a part of the interview between Ontwa and Oneyda, previous to their flight from the camp of Saranac.—It is, we think extremely beautiful:

"Can Ontwa pant her simple grace—
Her slender form, and lovely face,
Which only half its beauty show'd,
So widely loose her dark locks flow'd—
The tear that dim'd her glist'ning eye,
When she would bid the wanderer fly!
The sinking moon with pleas'd delay,
Glanc'd on her charms a mellow ray,
And show'd, on neck and features fair,
The dew, and brighter tear drop there,
Did Ontwa then alone depart!
Ah! no, I cried with selfish heart,
"Sweet blossom of the wild thy hand
Have severed Ontwa's captive bands;
But vainly dost thou set him free,
When still his heart is bound to thee.
The sterner bond no longer holds,
But wreath of love hath stronger folds:
Oh, thou bright vision of my sleep,
Ere Ontwa's eyes had learnt to weep—
Thou whom I tho't a star from heaven,
Or spirit by the blue wave given,
When wreathing o'er thy morning rest,
I placed the wild rose on thy breast—
Oh whither, now, shall Ontwa turn?
His country's fires no longer burn:
Of home and sire and kindred rest,
What has the lonely wanderer left—
If thou, Oneyda, scorn his love,
And send him forth alone to rove?"

One more extract, and we have done.

It is a description of the death of Oneyda, in the arms of Ontwa:

"Her warm blood o'er my bosom gush'd,
As from her wound the torrent rush'd;
While yet her eye, with ray intense,
Beam'd forth its dying eloquence:
And ere the smile had left her cheek,
Which still of parting love would speak,
Her soul of snowy hue had flown—
And left me in the world alone."

The following is an interesting extract from Governor Cass's Illustration of "Ontwa."

PICTURED ROCKS.

Upon the southern coast of Lake Superior, about fifty miles from the falls of St. Mary's, are the immense precipitous cliffs, called by the voyageurs, *Le Portail*, and the "Pictured Rocks." This name has been given to them, in consequence of the different appearance which they present to the traveller, as he passes their base in his canoe. It requires little aid from the imagination, to discern in them the ostellated tower, the lofty dome, spires and pinnacles, and every sublime, grotesque, or fantastic shape, which the genius of architecture has ever invented. These cliffs are an unbroken mass of rocks rising to an elevation of three hundred feet above the level of the lake, and stretching along the coast for fifteen miles. The voyagers never pass this coast except in a profound calm; and the Indians, before they make the attempt, offer their accustomed oblations, to propitiate the favour of their Manitous. The eye instinctively searches along this internal rampart for a single place of security: but the search is in vain. With an impassable barrier of rock on one side, and an interminable expanse of water on the other, a sudden storm upon the lake would as inevitably ensure destruction to the passenger in his frail canoe, as if he were on the brink of the cataract of Niagara. The rock itself is a sandstone, which is disintegrated by the continued action of the water, with comparative facility. The lake is so deep that these masses, as they are torn from the precipice, are concealed beneath its waters until they are reduced to sand. The action of the waves has undermined every projecting point; and there, the immense precipice rests upon ashes, and the foundation is intersected by caverns extending in every direction.

When we passed this mighty fabric of nature, the wind was still, and the lake calm. But even the slight motion of the waves, which in the most profound calm agitates these internal seas, swept through the deep caverns with the noise of distant thunder, and died upon the ear, as it rolled forward in the dark recesses, inaccessible to human observation: no sound more melancholy or more awful ever vibrated upon human nerves. It has left an impression, which neither time nor distance can efface. Resting in a frail bark canoe upon the limpid waters of the lake, we seemed almost suspended in air—so pellucid is the element upon which we floated. In gazing upon the towering battlements which impended over us, and from which the smallest fragment would have destroyed us, we felt, and felt intensely, our own insignificance. No situation can be imagined more appalling to the courage, or more humbling to the