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By Authority.

AN ACT concerning the disbursement of Public Money.

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, no advance of public money shall be made in any case whatever—but in all cases of contracts for the performance of any service, or the delivery of articles of any description, for the use of the United States, payment shall not exceed the value of the service rendered, or of the articles delivered previously to such payment: *Provided*, That it shall be lawful under the special direction of the President of the United States, to make such advances to the disbursing officers of the government as may be necessary to the faithful and prompt discharge of their respective duties, and to the fulfilment of public engagements: *And provided also*, That the President of the United States may direct such advances, as he may deem necessary and proper, to such persons in the military and naval service as may be employed on distant stations, where the discharge of the pay and emoluments to which they may be entitled, cannot be regularly effected.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That every officer or agent of the United States, who shall receive public money which he is not authorized to retain, as salary, pay, or emolument, shall render his accounts quarterly to the proper accounting officers of the Treasury, with vouchers necessary to the correct and prompt settlement thereof, within three months, at least after the expiration of each successive quarter, if resident within the United States; and within six months if resident in a foreign country: *Provided*, That nothing herein contained shall be construed to restrain the Secretaries of any of the Departments from requiring such returns from any officer or agent, subject to the control of such Secretaries, as the public interest may require.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That every officer or agent of the United States, who shall offend against the provisions of the preceding sections, shall, by the officer charged with the direction of the department to which such offending officer is responsible, be promptly reported to the President of the United States, and dismissed from the public service: *Provided*, That, in all cases, where any officer, in default as aforesaid, shall account to the satisfaction of the President for such default, he may be continued in office, any thing in the foregoing provision to the contrary notwithstanding.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That no security given to, or obligation, entered into with, the government shall be in any wise impaired, by the dismissing any officer, or from failure of the President to dismiss any officer coming under the provisions of this act.

PHILIP P. BARBOUR,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

DANIEL D. TOMPKINS,

Vice President of the United States and

President of the Senate.

Washington, Jan. 31, 1823.—Approved,

JAMES MONROE.

AN ACT to provide for the appointment of an additional Judge for the Michigan Territory, 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 shall be appointed an additional Judge for the Michigan Territory, who shall possess and exercise, within the Counties of Michilimackinac, Brown and Crawford, in the Territory aforesaid, as said counties are now defined and established, or may be hereafter defined and established, the jurisdiction and power heretofore possessed and exercised by the Supreme Court of the said Territory, and by the County Courts of said counties respectively, within the said Counties, and to the exclusion of the original jurisdiction of the said Supreme Court, and the jurisdiction of the said Court, hereby established, shall be concurrent with the said County Courts; but in all suits, either at law or in equity, appeals shall be allowed from the decisions of the said County Courts to the Court established by this act, in the same manner as is provi-

ded for appeals from said Courts to the Supreme Court of said Territory: *Provided*, always, That the Supreme Court shall have full power and authority to issue writs of error to the Court established by this act, in all civil causes, and to hear and determine the same when sitting as a Supreme Court of the Territory, according to the Constitution and laws of the United States, and to the statutes adopted and published by the Governor and Judges of said Territory: *And, provided also*, That nothing in this act contained shall be construed to give cognizance to the Court hereby established, of cases of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction, nor of cases wherein the United States shall be plaintiffs, except as hereinafter mentioned.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the said Supreme Court are hereby authorized, upon the reversal of a judgment of the Court established by this act, to render such judgment as the said Court ought to have rendered or passed, except where the reversal is in favor of the plaintiff in the original suit and the debt, or damages to be assessed are uncertain; in which case the cause shall be remanded to the county from whence it came, in order to a final determination.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That, when any person, not being an executor or administrator, applies for a writ of error, such writ shall be no stay of proceedings in the court to which it issues, unless the plaintiff in error, his agent or attorney, shall give security, to be approved of by a judge of the said Supreme Court, which shall be certified on the back of such writ, that the plaintiff in error shall prosecute his writ to effect, and pay the condemnation money, and all costs, or otherwise abide the judgment of the court, if he fail to make his plea good; and no cause, except suits in equity, shall be removed to said Supreme Court from the Court hereby established, but by a writ of error, as herein before provided; and suits in equity may be removed by appeal, in the same manner as is provided for appeals from the County Courts, to the Supreme Court.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That the Court established by this act, shall hold one term in each of the counties aforesaid, yearly, at the following times and places, to wit: at Prairie du Chien, on the second Monday in May; at Green Bay, on the second Monday in June; and at Mackinac, on the third Monday in July, in each and every year; and shall then and there proceed to hear and determine the pleas, process, and proceedings, depending therein, in the same manner as the said Supreme or County Courts might, or could have done, in case this act had not been passed; and the Clerks of the said County Court, shall be Clerks of the Court, hereby established in their respective counties, and shall be entitled to such fees for their services as may be allowed them by law; and the officers appointed to execute the process of said County Courts within the said counties, are hereby authorized and required to execute the process of the court hereby established.

Sec. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That the said court, hereby established, shall have and possess concurrent jurisdiction with the said Supreme Court, in and over all actions arising under the acts and laws in force, or which may be enacted, for the regulating trade and intercourse with the Indians, and over all crimes and offences which may be committed within that part of the Indian country lying north west of Lake Michigan within the territory of Michigan.

Sec. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That the Judge to be appointed by virtue of this act, shall reside in one of the counties aforesaid, and shall receive the same salary, and payable in the same manner, as is provided and established by law for the Judges of the said Supreme Court of the territory of Michigan.

Sec. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That this act shall take effect and be in force, from and after the twentieth day of March next.

APPROVED—JAN. 30, 1823.

AN ACT in addition to "An act to continue in force 'An act to protect the commerce of the United States, and to punish the crime of piracy,' and, also, to make further provisions for punishing the crime of piracy."

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the first, second, third, and fourth sections of an act, entitled "An act to protect the commerce of the United States, and to punish the crime of piracy," passed on the third day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, be, and the same are hereby, continued in force, in all respects, as fully as if the said sections had been enacted without limitation, in the said act, or in the act to which this is an addition, and which was passed on the fifteenth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty.

APPROVED—JAN. 30, 1823.

LAW OF NORTH-CAROLINA.

AN ACT directing the time and place of selling lands and slaves under execution.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That hereafter all sales of land or slaves made by any Sheriff, Coroner, Constable or by any Clerk and Master in Equity under any execution or decree, shall be made at the Court-House of their respective counties; and such sales shall be made on the same Monday, in each and every month, on which the several Courts of Pleas and Quarter-Sessions are generally held, for their respective counties, always making the Monday of each County Court the only sale day in that month; and if, on any sale day, as aforesaid, the whole of the property taken by virtue of an execution, cannot be sold on the same day, the Sheriff, Constable, or other public officer, shall be authorized to postpone the same from day to day until the whole shall be sold, on giving public notice at the court-house, that such sale will be continued on the ensuing day; and all such sales shall commence between the hours of eleven and four o'clock on such sale day: *Provided*, nevertheless, That nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to alter, in any manner, the rules and restrictions under which sales are, by law, directed to be conducted, and executions required to be returned.

II. *And be it further enacted*, That hereafter it shall be lawful for any Sheriff, Coroner or Constable, to sell slaves, under any process to him or them directed, without giving ten days' previous notice of the time of such sale.

III. *And be it further enacted*, That any Sheriff, Coroner, Constable or Clerk and Master in Equity who shall make any sale contrary to this act, shall forfeit and pay the sum of two hundred dollars, to be recovered by any person suing for the same, one half to his own use, and the other half to the use of the county in which the offence is committed.

IV. *And be it further enacted*, That the provisions of this act shall not apply to the counties of Warren, Currituck, Carteret and Tyrell.

V. *And be it further enacted*, That all laws and clauses of laws coming within the purview and meaning of this act be, and the same are hereby repeated.

MISCELLANEOUS.

From the Norfolk Beacon.

For the following interesting account of the expedition of Generals Trespalacios & Long in the Province of Mexico, we are indebted to the politeness of Col. Christie and Capt. Austin. The account merits consideration and confidence, as proceeding from men who describe those events in which they have been prominent, but ill required actors.

A brief account of the Expedition of Gen. Jose Felix Trespalacios and Gen. James Long against the Royal Army, in the provinces of Mexico, in the years 1820 and 1821.

Gen. Jose Felix Trespalacios (a native of the Province of Chawawa, in Mexico,) who had been previously engaged in the Independent service, and was authorized by the Republican Congress of Mexico, to organize an army in the province of Texas, arrived on the 20th December, 1820, at Fort Bolivar, at the mouth of the River Trinidad, the Head-Quarters of Gen. Long, who had been engaged in an expedition against the Province of Texas. Trespalacios having produced to Gen. Long his authority from the Mexican Congress to assume the command in chief, it was given to him on the 25th of the same month, when Gen. Long, his officers and men, were sworn to support the Republic of Mexico, the Mexican flag was raised in the Fort, and General Long received the commission of Lieut. Gen. from Trespalacios.

On the 4th of March, 1821, Lorenzo Christie arrived at Fort Bolivar: having previously served in the expedition of the immortal Mina, he received the Commission of Colonel from General Trespalacios, and on the 13th March, left Fort Bolivar, in company with him for New Orleans, for the purpose of raising men to strengthen the expedition against the Provinces.—Trespalacios informed Colonel Christie on their way to New-Orleans, that he (T.) was to receive \$600,000 on his arrival;—but in this he was disappointed; and after remaining at New Orleans until August, he returned to head quarters at the Province of Texas, without having accomplished any of the objects of his journey to New Orleans. On the 18th of August, hearing that the port of Alvarada, in the Province of Vera Cruz, had declared in favor of Independence, he (Trespalacios) embarked for that place, for the purpose of reporting his division to the Independent Chiefs in that part of the country.—On his arrival at Alvarada, he was inform-

ed that Iturbide had possession of the city of Mexico, whither he immediately repaired, accompanied by Col. Benjamin R. Milan, Capt. William Singer, and Lieut. John Claiborn. On his arrival at Mexico, he reported himself to Gen. Iturbide and was recognised and received the appointment of Governor of the Province of Texas, but did not report any of the officers that accompanied him, or the party that he had left in the Province of Texas under the command of General Long. When Trespalacios moved from Fort Bolivar he left General Long in command, with discretionary orders to attack any post in the country most convenient. General Long marched from Fort Bolivar on the 20th of September, with a party of fifty-two men, to make an attack on the town of Labadia in the Province of Texas. His party being small made it necessary to make a secret attack on the fort in the night. On the morning of the 14th Oct. at 4 o'clock, he entered the Fort without firing a gun.

—After he had gained possession of the Town he was informed that a few days previous to his attack, Labadia and St. Antonio had declared themselves in favor of Independence. He immediately wrote to Martinez, the Governor of the Province, informed him of his attack on the Fort, and offered to surrender that and the town to the Governor, and proceed to Mexico to report himself and his division to Government. The answer he received to this proposal, was an armed force of 500 men under the command of Col. Paris, who demanded that he should surrender his arms and the Fort. The General refused to give up his arms, but consented to restore the town and fort. Col. Paris attacked the fort, and kept up a warm fire for 36 hours, when he beat a parley, and assented to the proposals offered by Gen. Long, who accordingly capitulated to Col. Paris and gave up the fort. In the capitulation Col. Paris agreed to furnish good quarters for the party of Gen. Long in the town, and that he should proceed to St. Antonio, the Capital of the Province to make arrangements with the Governor concerning the party until he could go to the seat of government, (Mexico,) and report himself to Iturbide. This capitulation was broken immediately after Gen. Long's departure for St. Antonio; his party was confined under a strong guard, and on his arrival at St. Antonio he also was confined without being allowed an interview with the Governor. On the 5th Oct. the party was marched under guard to St. Antonio, and in a few days after set out for Monterey, the Capital of the four internal provinces.

On Gen. Long's arrival at this place, he was treated very politely by the Captain General Don Gaspar Lopez, who entertained him in his own house and his party were allowed the liberty of the town. Gen. Lopez sent a full statement of the conduct of Gen. Long to Government, and orders came on to Monterey for the immediate release of him and his party. On the following day Gen. Long proceeded to Mexico to report himself and his party to the National Congress. On his arrival there, he was coolly received by Trespalacios, who at that time was Governor of the Province of Texas. Trespalacios feeling conscious he had not done justice to the Americans who had supported him, and knowing that every thing would be fully represented by Gen. Long, it is confidently believed by all who were acquainted with the death of the General, that Trespalacios was the cause of his being assassinated.—A short time after the death of Gen. Long, Trespalacios proceeded to the Province of Texas. On his arrival at Monterey, he caused the party which came on with Gen. Long to be arrested and confined on charges that they intended to assassinate him on his way to his Province; hoping thereby to have the whole party put to death.—But not being able to support his charges, the party were sent prisoners to Mexico, and there remained in confinement until the arrival of the honorable Joel R. Poinsett in the City of Mexico, and but for the friendly interference of that gentleman, there is no doubt but that they would have been executed, or made prisoners for life.

Extract of a letter dated Villa de Praya St. Jago, Dec. 14, 1822.

"The interest evinced by almost every person, towards the infant colony of free blacks emigrated to Africa from the United States, has induced me to enclose you a description of the place and settlement, from an American gentleman who has often visited and resided at Mesurada, and it appears from all accounts to be quite correct.

Description of Cape Mesurada, by a gentleman who has resided there, and has a local knowledge of the country.

Cape Mesurada, the place fixed upon by the American settlers for their colony is tolerably high land, and projects about one-fourth of a mile into the sea. On the north side of the Cape runs the river Mes-

urada, in an easterly direction, in which are two small islands that appertain to the colony. To the northward of the Cape the land is low, as far as half Cape Mout, about twenty five miles from Mesurada.—From the summit of the Cape can be seen a number of kingdoms, for there are not many kings in the vicinity of Mesurada who can boast of having one hundred subjects. The land is productive of corn, coffee, &c. A large quantity of camwood and ivory can always be procured in a short time, consequently valuable to the settlement.

The situation of the town must be healthy, as the Cape is not high enough to attract the clouds, but it is sufficiently lofty to rarify the air, in addition to which is the regular land and sea-breeze, the land breeze lasting until 12 o'clock. There are a great number of cool, fresh water springs, on and near the Cape, which are a valuable acquisition to a colony.

The natives are very superstitious people. They believe in their Gnyons, which are sold to them by their doctors; they always have them about their persons; they are made of different articles, according to the fancy of the doctor. Small pieces of horn, with a composition enclosed by the doctor, they affirm prevents death.—Within fifteen miles of Cape Mesurada is the Rio St. Paul, valuable for the quantity of ivory and camwood which comes down from the country. It is said there is a communication between the rivers Mesurada and St. Paul, which if correct is certainly favorable to this settlement.

The anchorage in Mesurada Bay is safe, from 7 to 13 fathoms, soft bottom. On the bar, at the entrance of Mesurada River, in the channel, in the rainy season, is 22 fathoms; inside of the river, from 4 to 6 fathoms—rise and fall, 7 feet.

The curiosities of this place consist of but one flat stone or rock, called by the natives the Devil's Rock, which appears to have been separated by some convulsion of the earth. It is perpendicular and about 40 feet high; here they sacrifice a white fowl to the devil to make slave ships arrive. They have innumerable quantities of devil's bushes, which are held sacred, and used only for sacrifices and grand palavers.

Were the society to send out agents to govern the Colony, having a local knowledge of the country, the Cape would be the most flourishing colony on the coast, in a short time.

From the New-York Statesman.

Extract of a letter from Washington, dated January 21.

On an ordinary day, a spectator in Congress hall witnesses the following order of proceedings: By 10 o'clock in the morning, the members begin to drop in; those who are on standing or select committees, for the purpose of meeting and consulting in private rooms appropriated to that object, others, to write letters, fold and direct documents to their friends; and the remainder lounge on the sofas around the hall, read newspapers, or join in conversation on the topics of the day. From 10 to 12 o'clock, the House of Representatives is a kind of political exchange, where the intelligence received by letters and papers from different parts of the United States is freely circulated and diffused thro' the whole mass, unless it be some secret political news, which in that case is whispered only to a circle of friends.

A few minutes before twelve, the chaplain makes his appearance, takes the speaker's desk, and offers up a concise prayer. He does not always attract the attention of the whole of his audience. If a member happens to be folding and sealing a package, or deeply engaged in the midst of a newspaper paragraph, he keeps his seat with his hat on, and service proceeds without his assistance and cognizance. Such instances are, however, rare, and a great degree of decorum is commonly observed. By the time the religious exercise is finished, most of the members have arrived, and the galleries are filled with ladies and gentlemen, as spectators.

Precisely at 12 o'clock, the Speaker takes his seat and calls the House to order—that is to say, announces the fact that it is time for business; for there is the same disorder after he takes the chair as before, the members all sitting or walking with their hats on, and attending to their own concerns. As soon as the Speaker has taken his seat, the mace consisting of a green wand surmounted by a golden eagle, is placed on his right and the star-spangled banner is hoisted on the dome of the Capitol, as a signal to persons at a distance that the House is in session, and also to show perhaps that Congress fights under American colours. The wind is sometimes so high as to compel them to strike their flag before the action has ended; and from this circumstance, on a cold or muggy day, a member at a distance, presumes Congress has adjourned. A want of punctuality is not, however, a common fault, and you seldom see a vacant seat in the house.