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BY AUTHORITY.

LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES.

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

AN ACT for the punishment of crimes in the District of Columbia.

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, every person who shall be convicted, in any court in the District of Columbia, of any of the following offences, to wit: manslaughter, assault and battery with intent to kill, arson, rape, assault and battery with intent to commit a rape, burglary, robbery, horse stealing, mayhem, bigamy, perjury, or subornation of perjury, larceny, if the property stolen is of the value of five dollars or upwards, forgery, obtaining by false pretences any goods or chattels, money, bank note, promissory note, or any other instrument in writing for the payment or delivery of money or other valuable thing, or of keeping a faro bank or other common gaming table, petty larceny upon a second conviction, committed after the passage of this act, shall be sentenced to suffer punishment by imprisonment and labor, for the time and times hereinafter prescribed, in the penitentiary for the District of Columbia.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That every person duly convicted of manslaughter, or of any assault and battery with intent to kill, shall be sentenced to suffer imprisonment and labor for the first offence for a period not less than two nor more than eight years, for the second offence for a period not less than six nor more than fifteen years.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That every person, duly convicted of the crime of maliciously, wilfully, or fraudulently burning any dwelling house, or any other house, barn, or stable adjoining thereto, any store, barn, or out-house, having goods, tobacco, hay or grain therein, although the same shall not be adjoining to any dwelling-house; or of maliciously and wilfully burning any of the public buildings in the cities, towns, or counties of the District of Columbia belonging to the United States; or the said cities, towns or counties; or any church, meeting house or other building for public worship, belonging to any voluntary society, or body corporate; or any college, academy, school-house, or library; or any ship or vessel afloat or building; or as being accessory thereto; shall be sentenced to suffer imprisonment and labor, for a period not less than one nor more than ten years for the first offence, and not less than five nor more than twenty years for the second offence.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That every free person, duly convicted of rape, or as being accessory thereto before the fact, shall be sentenced to suffer imprisonment and labor, for the first offence for a period not less than ten nor more than thirty years, and for the second offence for and during the period of his natural life.

Sec. 5. And be it further enacted, That every free person duly convicted of an assault and battery with intent to commit a rape, shall be punished for the first offence by undergoing confinement in the Penitentiary for a period not less than one nor more than five years, and for the second for a period not less than five nor more than fifteen years.

Sec. 6. And be it further enacted, That every person duly convicted of burglary, or as accessory thereto before the fact, or of robbery, or as accessory thereto before the fact, shall be sentenced to suffer imprisonment and labor, for the first offence for a period not less than three nor more than seven years, and for the second offence for a period not less than five nor more than fifteen years.

Sec. 7. And be it further enacted, That every person convicted of horse stealing, mayhem, bigamy, or as being accessory to any of said crimes before the fact, shall be sentenced to suffer imprisonment and labor, for the first offence for a period not less than two nor more than seven years, and for the second offence for a period not less than five nor more than twelve years.

Sec. 8. And be it further enacted, That every person, convicted of perjury or subornation of perjury, shall be sentenced to suffer imprisonment and labor, for the first offence for a period not less than two nor more than ten years, and for the second offence for a period not less than five nor more than fifteen years.

Sec. 9. And be it further enacted, That every person convicted of feloniously stealing, taking, and carrying away, any goods or chattels, or other personal property, of the value of five dollars or upwards, or any bank note, promissory note, or any other instrument in writing, for the payment or delivery of money or other valuable thing, to the amount of five dollars or upwards, shall be sentenced to suffer imprisonment and labor, for the first offence for a period not less than one nor more than three years; and for the second offence for a period not less than three nor more than ten years.

Sec. 10. And be it further enacted, That every person convicted of receiving stolen goods, or any article the stealing of which is made punishable by this act, to the value of five dollars or upwards, knowing them to have been stolen, or of being an accessory after the fact in any felony, shall be sentenced to suffer imprisonment and labor, for the first offence for a period not less than one nor more than five years, and for the second offence for a period not less than two nor more than ten years.

Sec. 11. And be it further enacted, That every person duly convicted of having falsely forged and counterfeited any gold or silver coin, which now is, or shall hereafter be, passing or in circulation within the District of Columbia; or of having falsely uttered, paid or

tendered in payment, any such counterfeit and forged coin, knowing the same to be forged and counterfeit; or of having aided, abetted or commanded the perpetration of either of the said offences; or of having falsely made, altered, forged, or counterfeited, or caused or procured to be falsely made, altered, forged, or counterfeited, or having wilfully aided or assisted in falsely making, altering, forging, or counterfeiting, any paper, writing, or printed paper, to the prejudice of the right of any other person, body politic or corporate, or voluntary association, with intent to defraud such person, body politic or corporate, or voluntary association, with intent to defraud such person, body politic or corporate, or voluntary association, or for having passed, uttered, or published, or attempted to pass, utter or publish, as true, any such falsely made, altered, forged, or counterfeited paper, writing, or printed paper, to the prejudice of the right of any other person, body politic or corporate, or voluntary association, knowing the same to be falsely made, altered, forged, or counterfeited, with intent to defraud such person body politic or voluntary association, shall be sentenced to suffer imprisonment and labor, for the first offence for a period not less than one year nor more than seven years, for the second offence for a period not less than three nor more than ten years.

Sec. 12. And be it further enacted, That every person, duly convicted of obtaining by false pretences any goods or chattels, money, bank note, promissory note, or any other instrument in writing, for the payment or delivery of money or other valuable thing, or of keeping a faro bank or other common gaming table, shall be sentenced to suffer imprisonment and labor, for a period not less than one year, nor more than five years; and every person, so offending, shall be a competent witness against every other person offending in the same transaction, and may be compelled to appear and give evidence in the same manner as other persons, but the testimony so given shall not be used in any prosecution or proceeding, civil or criminal, against the person so testifying.

Sec. 13. And be it further enacted, That every person upon a second conviction of larceny, where the property stolen is under the value of five dollars, or upon a second conviction of receiving stolen goods, knowing them to be stolen, where the property stolen is under the value of five dollars, shall be sentenced to suffer imprisonment and labor, for a period not less than one nor more than three years.

Sec. 14. And be it further enacted, That all capital felonies and crimes in the District of Columbia, not herein specially provided for, except murder, treason, and piracy, shall hereafter be punished by imprisonment and labor in the penitentiary of said District for a period not less than seven nor more than twenty years.

Sec. 15. And be it further enacted, That every other felony, misdemeanor, or offence not provided for by this act, may and shall be punished as heretofore, except that, in all cases where whipping is part or the whole of the punishment except, in the cases of slaves, the court shall substitute therefor imprisonment in the county jail, for a period not exceeding six months.

Sec. 16. And be it further enacted, That all definitions and descriptions of crimes; all fines, forfeitures, and incapacities, the restitution of property, or the payment of the value thereof; and every other matter not provided for in this act, be, and the same shall remain, as heretofore.

Sec. 17. And be it further enacted, That if any free person shall, in the said District, unlawfully, by force and violence, take and carry away, or cause to be taken and carried away, or shall by fraud unlawfully seduce, or cause to be seduced, any free negro or mulatto, from any part of the said District to any other part of the said District, or to any other place, with design or intention to sell or dispose of such negro or mulatto, or to cause him or her to be kept and detained as a slave for life, or servant for years, every such person, so offending, his or her counsellors, aiders and abettors, shall on conviction thereof, be punished by fine not exceeding five thousand dollars, and imprisonment and confinement to hard labor in the penitentiary, for any time not exceeding twelve years, according to the enormity of the offence.

Sec. 18. And be it further enacted, That, nothing herein contained shall be construed to apply to slaves not residents of the District of Columbia; but such slaves shall, for all offences committed in said District, be punished agreeably to the laws as they now exist: Provided, That this act shall not be construed to extend to slaves.

ANDREW STEVENSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

JOHN C. CALHOUN,
President of the Senate.

Approved, 2d March, 1831.

ANDREW JACKSON.

AN ACT to provide for the punishment of offences committed in cutting, destroying, or removing live oak and other timber or trees reserved for naval purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That if any person or persons shall cut, or cause or procure to be cut, or aid, assist, or be employed in cutting, or shall wantonly destroy, or cause or procure to be wantonly destroyed, or aid, assist, or be employed in wantonly destroying any live oak or red cedar tree or trees, or other timber standing, growing, or being on any lands of the United States, which, in pursuance of any law passed, or hereafter to be passed, shall have been reserved or purchased for the use of the United States, for supplying or furnishing therefrom, timber for the navy of the United States; or if any person or persons shall remove, or cause or procure to be removed, or aid, or assist, or be employed in removing from any such lands which shall have been reserved or purchased as aforesaid, any live oak or red ce-

dar, tree, or trees, or other timber, unless duly authorized so to do, by order, in writing, of a competent officer, and for the use of the navy of the United States; or if any person or persons shall cut, or cause or procure to be cut, or aid, or assist, or be employed in cutting any live oak or red cedar tree or trees, or other timber on, or shall remove, or cause or procure to be removed, or aid, or assist, or be employed in removing any live oak or red cedar trees, or other timber from any other lands of the United States acquired, or hereafter to be acquired, with intent to export, dispose of, use, or employ the same in any manner whatsoever, other than for the use of the navy of the United States; every such person or persons so offending, on conviction thereof before any court having competent jurisdiction, shall, for every such offence, pay a fine not less than triple the value of the tree or trees, or timber so cut, destroyed, or removed, and shall be imprisoned not exceeding twelve months.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, that if the master, owner or consignee of any ship or vessel shall, knowingly, take on board any timber cut on lands which shall have been reserved or purchased as aforesaid, without proper authority, and for the use of the navy of the United States; or shall take on board any live oak or red cedar timber cut on any other lands of the United States, with intent to transport the same to any port or place within the United States, or to export the same to any foreign country, the ship or vessel on board of which the same shall be taken, transported, or seized shall, with her tackle, apparel, and furniture, be wholly forfeited to the United States; and the captain or master of such ship or vessel wherein the same shall have been exported to any foreign country against the provisions of this act, shall forfeit and pay to the United States a sum not exceeding one thousand dollars.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That all penalties and forfeitures incurred under the provisions of this act shall be sued for, recovered and distributed, and accounted for, under the directions of the Secretary of the Navy and shall be paid over, one half to the informer or informers, if any, or captures, where seized, and the other half to the Commissioners of the Navy Pension Fund, for the use of the said fund; and the Commissioners of the said fund are hereby authorized to mitigate, in whole or in part, and on such terms and conditions as they shall deem proper, and order, in writing, any fine, penalty, or forfeiture incurred under this act.

Approved, March 2, 1831.

AN ACT making appropriations for certain fortifications during the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty one.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following sums be, and the same are hereby, appropriated, to be paid out of any unappropriated money in the Treasury, for certain fortifications, viz:

For the preservation of George's island, Boston harbor, five thousand dollars.

For fort Adams, Rhode Island, one hundred thousand dollars.

For the completion of fort Hamilton, New-York, ten thousand dollars.

For repairing fort Columbus and castle Williams, New York, twenty-five thousand dollars.

For fort Monroe, Virginia, eighty thousand dollars.

For fort Calhoun, Virginia, eighty thousand dollars.

For the completion of fort Macon, eighty thousand dollars.

For the completion of the fort on Oak island, North Carolina, ninety-five thousand dollars.

For fortifications at Charleston, South Carolina, forty-five thousand dollars.

For fortifications at Pensacola, Florida, one hundred thousand dollars.

For a fort at Mobile point, ninety thousand dollars.

For repairs of the battery at Bienville, Louisiana, three thousand four dollars.

For repairs of fort wood, Louisiana, three thousand six hundred dollars.

For contingencies of fortifications, ten thousand dollars.

Approved March 2, 1831.

AN ACT to authorize the State of Illinois to surrender a township of land granted to said State for a seminary of learning, and locate other lands in lieu thereof.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the State of Illinois be, and is hereby, authorized to relinquish to the United States, township number five, north of range number one west, situate in the county of Fayette, in said State, heretofore granted to the said State for the use of a seminary of learning, and to locate upon the public lands within said State, the sale of which is authorized by law, one entire township of land, or a quantity of land equal thereto, in tracts of not less than the quarter of a section.

Approved March 2, 1831.

AN ACT for the relief of certain importers of foreign merchandise.

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 shall be, and he is hereby, authorized to extend relief to any importer of foreign merchandise who may have been charged, under the provisions of the third section of the act, entitled "An act for the more effectual collection of the duties on imports," passed the twenty-eighth day of May, one thousand eight hundred and thirty, with any duty in addition to the duties existing on such merchandise previous to the passage of this act, to the amount of said additional duty: Provided, Said merchandise shall have been imported previous to

the first day of January last: Provided, also, That no person shall be entitled to the relief authorized to be given by this act, who, by the exercise of reasonable diligence, by himself, or his agents, factors, or correspondents, could have complied with the provisions of the said third section of said act; and the Secretary of the Treasury, shall require and receive satisfactory evidence, from every person claiming the benefits of this act, that such diligence has been used, and that he has acted bona fide, and without any intent to violate or evade the provisions of said third section, before he shall grant the relief herein provided.

Approved March 2, 1831.

AN ACT for the sale of the lands in the State of Illinois reserved for the use of salt springs on the Vermillion river in that State.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the State of Illinois shall be, and is hereby, authorized and empowered to cause to be sold and conveyed, in such manner and on such terms and conditions as the Legislature of said State has or may direct, the whole or any part of the lands reserved and set apart by the President of the United States, on the twenty ninth day of March, eighteen hundred and twenty five, for the use of salt works, on the Vermillion river, in said state and to apply the proceeds of such sale to such objects as the Legislature of said State has or may direct: Provided, Said land shall not be sold for less than one dollar and twenty five cents per acre.

Approved, March 2, 1831.

AN ACT for the relief of the citizens of Shawneetown.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That it shall and may be lawful for any purchaser, the assignee or legal representatives of any purchaser, of any in or out lot or lots in the town of Shawneetown, in the State of Illinois, which lot or lots may have reverted for the non-payment of the purchase money, to re-enter the same lot or lots which may have so reverted, with the Register and Receiver of the district of Shawneetown, at any time within six months after the passage of this act, upon the following terms and conditions, to wit: by paying, in addition to what has heretofore been paid upon each in lot, five dollars, and upon each out-lot, one dollar and twenty five cents, per acre.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That there be, and hereby is, granted to the trustees of the town of Shawneetown, and their successors in office, for ever, in trust, to sell, or otherwise dispose of, for the purpose of graduating and paving the river bank within the limits of said town, all the vacant ground not necessary for streets, all the in or out lots within the bounds of said town, which remain unsold, and all such as may remain unsold under the provisions of the first section of this act; this act to be carried into effect under the direction of the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

Approved, March 2, 1831.

AN ACT to authorize the Secretary of War to purchase an additional quantity of land for the fortifications at Fort Washington, upon the river Potomac.

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 purchase, in fee simple, from the executrix or trustees of William Dudley Digges, deceased, a certain piece of land required for the complete defence of the works at fort Washington, on the Potomac, according to a survey of the same, deposited in the Topographical Bureau at Washington: Provided, the said purchase can be effected for the release of the amount of a judgment against William Dudley Digges, deceased, for thirteen thousand three hundred and sixty-nine dollars, and eighty-seven cents, with interest from ninth June, one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, until paid, and costs, which the sureties of the late Robert Brent have assigned to the United States: And provided further, That those who are legally authorized to convey the said land shall make and execute a good title thereto, in fee simple, with an acquittance of all claims against the United States for the previous use of occupation of all or any portion of the premises, or for any alleged injury to an adjacent fishery, the right and title to which is to be released to the United States.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That, upon the completion of the above purchase, on the terms and conditions specified, the proper officer of the United States shall be, and he hereby is, authorized to enter up satisfaction upon the judgement aforesaid.

Approved, March 2, 1831.

AN ACT granting a quantity of land to the Territory of Arkansas, for the erection of a public building at the seat of Government of said Territory.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Legislature of the Territory of Arkansas be, and they are hereby authorized to select, or cause to be selected a quantity of the unappropriated lands in the Territory of Arkansas, not exceeding ten sections, and in portions not less than one quarter section, which is hereby granted to said Territory for the purpose of raising a fund for the erection of a public building at Little Rock, the seat of Government of said Territory.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That the Legislature of the said Territory be, and they are hereby authorized to adopt such measures for the sale of said tract of land, or any part thereof, at such times and manner, and convey the same by such deeds, as they shall deem expedient; and upon the presentation of such

deeds of conveyance as shall be adopted by said Legislature, and given to the purchasers, to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, it shall be the duty of the President to issue patents to the purchasers, as in other cases.

Approved, March 2, 1831.

BLESSINGS OF THE MANUFACTURING SYSTEM.

Let those who hold up to us the example of England as a nation grown rich by her manufactures, read what follows. When the Tariffites speak of the wealth of England, they think only of the wealth of her aristocracy. They are rich, but the poor of England are poor indeed.—Banner of the Constitution.

Distress in England.—In the recent speech in Parliament, Mr. Hunt made the following appalling statements:—"It had been communicated to him by letter, that, taking the whole of the weavers who had signed the petition to the House which he had presented yesterday, the average earnings were not more than 4s. 6d. per week each. When at Preston lately, on a Sunday, instead of going to church, (a laugh,) he had gone into the miserable habitations of eight or ten of the weavers, and not one of them he had found could possibly earn more than 6s. a week. Their food consisted of nothing but oatmeal broth in the morning, potatoes for dinner, and oatmeal broth again in the evening. A man, his wife, and two children, were to live upon 4s. 6d. a week; they gave 6l. a year for their miserable hovel, and had to pay 2s. a year taxes, 2s. more towards the clergy, and three half-pence for each chimney-pot. It was five years, since any one of the family had had a new garment, and their clothes were so ragged and dirty that they were unable to go to the parish church. Think of this, ye gentlemen who talk of morality and religion—the poor are never to receive the benefits of religion—so destitute are they of clothes, and so deficient of soap to clean themselves, that the family is not able to repair to the parish church to hear the public worship. The poor man was called upon to pay his taxes, when he had barely bread to sustain existence, and it was then that it would strike him that upon this pension list there were a great number of persons who ought not to be there. It would be a great honor to that House if it would show some intention to relieve the wants of the people.

EFFECTS OF LABOR-SAVING MACHINERY.

The following articles show in strong relief, the great blessings which are conferred upon the human family by the invention of labor-saving machinery.

Advantages of Machinery.—1769, Richard Arkwright, a barber of Preston, invented the principal part of the machinery for spinning cotton, and by so doing, he gave bread to about two millions of people, instead of fifty thousand; and, assisted by subsequent inventions, raised the importation of cotton wool from India from less than two millions of pounds per annum, to two hundred millions; set in motion six millions of spindles, instead of fifty thousand; and increased the annual produce of manufacture from two hundred thousand pound sterling to thirty six million pounds. We make it cheaper, and we make it better. The trade in cotton, as it exists at the present day, is the great triumph of human ingenuity. We bring the raw material from the country of the people who grow it, on the other side of our globe; we manufacture it by our machines into articles which we used to buy from their ready made, and taking back those articles to their own markets, encumbered with the cost of transport for 14,000 miles, and encumbered also with the taxes which the State has laid upon it in many various ways, we sell it to these very people cheaper than they can produce it themselves, and they buy it therefore with eagerness. Mark, therefore, if the cotton spinners of Lancashire had triumphed sixty years ago over Arkwright's machinery, there would not have been a single man, woman, or child, of those spinners employed at all, within twenty years after that most fatal triumph. The manufacture of cotton would have gone to other countries; cotton spinning in England would have been at an end. The same thing would have happened if the power-loom, twenty years ago, had been put down by combination; that is if the hand-loom weavers had not been as well informed and as reasonable as we see they are. Mr. Fielden says, "The introduction of the power-loom, I conceive, will be the cause of saving the manufactures to this kingdom; without the power-loom, manufactures must be annihilated entirely, for the Americans are making use of the power-loom."

[Results of Machinery.]

DESTRUCTION OF MACHINERY.

To Mr. Swing—The wool your coat is made of is spun by machinery, and this machinery makes your coat two or three shillings cheaper; perhaps six or seven shillings. Your white hat is made by machinery at half price. The coals you burn are pulled out of the pit by machinery, and sold to you much cheaper than they could be if they were pulled out by hand. You do not complain of these machines, because they do you good, though they throw many artisans out of work. But what right have you to object to fanning machines, which make bread cheaper to the artisans, and to avail yourselves of other machines, which make manufactures cheaper to you?

If all machinery were abolished, every thing would be so dear that you would be ten times worse off than you are. Poor people's cloth would get up to a guinea a yard; hats could not be sold for less than 15 shillings; coals would be 3 shillings per cwt. It would be quite impossible for a poor man to obtain any comfort.

If you object to machinery in farming, you may as well object to a plough, because it employs fewer men than a spade. You may object to a harrow, because it employs fewer men