



AND

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By Authority.

LAW OF THE UNITED STATES

An Act for the relief of Daniel Cotton.

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the proper accounting officers of the treasury be, and they are hereby authorised and directed to settle the account of Daniel Cotton, and allow him for the detention and use of his ship, called the Anna Maria, from the twenty-third day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred, when she was arrested by the Bey of Tunis, until the twenty-third day of the May following, when she discharged her Tunisian cargo at Marseilles, allowing him while in the port the usual rate of demurrage, and while on the voyage the usual rate of freight, agreeably to the burden of the said ship; and after deducting from the whole sum allowed for such detention, demurrage and freight, five thousand dollars paid unto the master of said ship by William Eaton, then consul for the United States at Tunis, they pay the balance with interest to said Daniel Cotton, out of any monies in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

J. B. VARNUM, Speaker of the House of Representatives. JN. MILLEDGE, President of the Senate pro tempore. February 23, 1809.—APPROVED. TH. JEFFERSON

An Act for the relief of certain Alabama and Wyandott Indians.

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby authorised to cause to be surveyed and designated by proper metes and bounds, a tract of land, not exceeding two thousand five hundred acres, out of any lands of the United States, lying in the territory of Orleans, and west of the River Mississippi, and by lease vest the said tract of land in a certain tribe of Alabama Indians and their descendants, for the term of fifty years; Provided nevertheless, That it shall not be lawful for the said tribe of Indians to transfer or assign their interest in the said land, and every suit, transfer or assignment shall be null and void; And provided also, That if the said tribe of Indians shall remove from the said tract of land, their interest in, and to the same shall thenceforth cease and determine.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That there shall be designated, under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, two tracts of land in the Michigan territory, one including the village called Brown's town, and the other the village called Maguaga, in the possession of the Wyandott tribe of Indians, containing in the whole not more than five thousand acres; which two tracts of land shall be reserved for the use of the said Wyandotts and their descendants and be secured to them in the same manner, and on the same terms and conditions as is provided in relation to the Alabama Indians, by the first section of this act.

J. B. VARNUM, Speaker of the House of Representatives. JN. MILLEDGE, President of the Senate pro tempore. February 28, 1809.—APPROVED. TH. JEFFERSON.

An act making provision for the further accommodation of the household of the President of the United States.

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That after the third day of March next, the President of the United States be, and he is hereby authorised and empowered, to cause to be sold such articles, furnished by the United States for the President's household, as may be decayed, out of repair, or unfit for use; and that the proceeds of such sale, and so much of a sum not exceeding fourteen thousand dollars in addition thereto, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, as the President of the United States may judge necessary, be and hereby are appropriated for the accommodation of the household of the President, to be laid out and expended for such articles of furniture as he shall direct.

J. B. VARNUM, Speaker of the House of Representatives. JN. MILLEDGE, President of the Senate, pro tempore. March 2, 1809.—APPROVED. TH. JEFFERSON.

An Act to extend the time for making payment for the public lands of the United States.

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That every person who hath heretofore purchased any of the public lands of the United States, at any of the land offices established for the disposal of the said lands, when such purchase was made at public or private sale, (sales by virtue of a pre-emption right only excepted) and whose lands have not already been actually sold or reverted to the United States, for non-payment, of part of the purchase money, and the time for making the last payment on account of such purchase according to former laws may have expired, or shall expire on or before the first day of January next, shall be allowed a further term of two years for the payment of the residue of the principal due on account of such purchase; which further term of two years shall be calculated to commence from the expiration of one year from and after the day on which the last payment on account of such purchase should, according to former laws, have become due, and shall be allowed only on the following conditions, that is to say— First, That all the arrears of interest on the land purchased, to the end of one year from and after the day on which the last payment on account of such purchase should, according to former laws, have become due, shall have been paid at or before the end of such year. Second, That the residue of the sum due on account of the principal of such purchase, shall be paid, with the interest thereon, in two equal annual payments, viz. one half of the said residue, with the interest which may then be due thereon, within one year, and the other half of the said residue, with the interest which may be due thereon, within two years after the expiration of one year, from and after the day on which the last payment on account of such purchase should, according to former laws, have become due. And in case of failure in paying either the arrears of interest on each of the two instalments of principal, with the accruing interest, at the time and times above mentioned, the tract of land shall be forthwith advertised and offered for sale, in the manner and on the terms and conditions now prescribed for the sale of lands purchased from the United States, and not paid for within the limited time; and shall revert in like manner to the United States, if the sum due, wit interest, be not at such sale bid den and paid.

J. B. VARNUM, Speaker of the House of Representatives. JN. MILLEDGE, President of the Senate pro tempore. March 2, 1809.—APPROVED. TH. JEFFERSON.

An Act further to amend the several acts for the establishment and regulation of the Treasury, War and Navy Departments.

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all warrants drawn by the Secretary of the Treasury, or of War, or of the Navy, upon the Treasurer of the United States, shall specify the particular appropriation or appropriations, to which the same should be charged: The monies paid by virtue of such warrants shall, in conformity therewith, be charged to such appropriation or appropriations, in the books kept in the office of the Comptroller of the Treasury, in the case of warrants drawn by the Secretary of the Treasury, & in the books of the accountants of the War and Navy Department respectively, in the case of warrants drawn by the Secretary of War, or by the Secretary of the Navy; and the officers, agents or other persons, who may be receivers of public monies, shall render distinct accounts of the application of such monies, according to the appropriation or appropriations under which the same shall have been drawn, and the Secretary of War and of the Navy, shall, on the first day of January, in each and every year, severally report to Congress a distinct account of the expenditure and application of all such sums of money, as may, prior to the thirtieth day of September preceding, have been by them respectively drawn from the Treasury; in virtue of the appropriation law of the preceding year, and the sums appropriated by law for each branch of expenditure in the several departments shall be solely applied to the object or objects for which they are respectively appropriated, and

to no other: Provided, nevertheless— That during the recess of Congress, the President of the United States may, and he is hereby authorised, on the application of the Secretary of the proper Department, and not otherwise, to direct, if in his opinion necessary for the public service, that a portion of the monies appropriated for a particular branch of expenditure in that Department, be applied to another branch of expenditure in the same Department, in which case, a special account of the monies thus transferred, and of their application, shall be laid before Congress, during the first week of their next ensuing session.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of the Comptroller of the Treasury, in every case where, in his opinion, further delays would be injurious to the United States, and he is hereby authorised to direct the Auditor of the Treasury, and the Accountants of the War and Navy Departments, at any time, forthwith to audit and settle any particular account which the said officers may be respectively authorised to audit and settle, and to report such settlement for his revision and final decision. And the said Comptroller shall also lay an annual statement before Congress, during the first week of their session, of the accounts in the Treasury, War or Navy Departments, which may have remained more than three years unsettled, or on which balances appear to have been due, more than three years, prior to the thirtieth of September then last past, together with a statement of the causes which have prevented the settlement of the accounts or the recovery of the balances due to the United States.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That, exclusively of the purveyor of public supplies, paymasters of the army, pursers of the navy, military agents, and other officers, already authorised by law, no other permanent agents shall be appointed either for the purpose of making contracts, or for the purchase of supplies, or for the disbursement, in any other manner, of monies for the use of the military establishments, or of the navy of the United States, but such as shall be appointed by the President of the United States, with the advice and consent of the Senate: Provided, That the President may, and he is hereby authorised, in the recess of the Senate, to appoint all or any of such agents, which appointments shall be submitted to the Senate, at their next session, for their advice and consent, and the consent of the United States is hereby authorised, until otherwise provided by law, to fix the number and compensations of such agents: Provided, That the compensation allowed to either shall not exceed one per centum on the public monies disbursed by him, nor, in any instance, the compensation allowed by law to the purveyor of public supplies.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That every such agent as may be appointed by virtue of the next preceding section, and every purser of the navy, shall give bond, with one or more sufficient sureties in such sums as the President of the United States may direct, for the faithful discharge of the trust reposed in him, and the paymaster of the army, military agents, the purveyor of public supplies, the pursers of the navy, and the agents appointed by virtue of the preceding section, shall, whenever practicable, keep the public monies in their hands, in some incorporated bank, to be designated for the purpose by the President of the United States, and shall make monthly returns in such form as may be prescribed by the Treasury Department, of the monies received and expended during the preceding month, and of the unexpended balance in their hands.

Sec. 5. And be it further enacted, That all purchases and contracts for supplies or services which are or may, according to law, be made by or under the direction of either the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of War or the Secretary of the Navy, shall be made either by open purchase, or by previously advertising for proposals respecting the same: And an annual statement of all such contracts and purchases, and also of the expenditure of the monies appropriated for the contingent expenses of the military establishment, for the contingent expenses of the navy of the United States, and for the dis-

charge of the miscellaneous claims, not otherwise provided for, and paid at the Treasury, shall be laid before Congress, at the beginning of each year, by the Secretary of the proper Department. J. B. VARNUM, Speaker of the House of Representatives, JN. MILLEDGE, President of the Senate pro tempore. March 3rd, 1809.—APPROVED. TH. JEFFERSON.

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J. B. VARNUM, Speaker of the House of Representatives, JN. MILLEDGE, President of the Senate pro tempore. March 3rd, 1809.—APPROVED. TH. JEFFERSON.

President Adams' Letter.

Office of the Anti-Monarchist, March 20, 1809.

The following letter of the late President of the United States, the venerable patriot, JOHN ADAMS, was addressed to Daniel Wright and Erastus Lyman, Esquires, of Northampton, Massachusetts, in answer to a letter, dated March 3, 1809, which they addressed to him, at the desire of the republicans of this town requesting him to express his opinion respecting the present circumstances of the nation, with regard to foreign powers and domestic parties: Quincy, March 13, 1809.

GENTLEMEN, I have received your very civil letter of the third of this month with emotions very similar to those which I felt, many years ago upon the following occasion.

Returning from Holland to Paris in 1784, I was invited to dine with my wife & daughter by the Baron de Sael, Ambassador from Sweden. As I was the first of the corps diplomatic, who arrived, the Ambassador was shewing me a fine Portrait of the King of Sweden, his master, when the count Deodat, Ambassador from the Elector of Saxony came in. After compliments to de Sael, Deodati turned to me, whom he had known several years before, and the following dialogue ensued.

Deodati. Very well! Mr. Adams! You are a Republican I suppose.

Adams. You are in the right, Mr. Ambassador, I have the honor to be a Republican.

Deodati. And your countrymen are Republicans, and your Government is Republican.

Adams. Certainly, My Countrymen are Republicans and our Government is Republican.

Deodati. And you have made your Countrymen and your Government Republican.

Adams. Not all; Sir, my Countrymen and its Government have been Republican from their origin, and long before I was born.

Deodati. Very well! You at least have made your Country very celebrated. You have made it independent—You have made an astonishing treaty with Holland—You have made a marvellous Peace with England—You have made her acknowledge your Independence, &c. &c. &c.

Adams. I beg your pardon, sir, you are too polite: You do me too much honor. I have no pretensions to have performed all those great achievements. I have acted a part in some of those affairs, but—

Deodati.—But!—Very well!—I will now tell you the recompence you will receive for all that you have done.

Adams. I shall be very glad to hear your prognostications concerning my destiny.

Deodati. Your fortune will be that of all the republicans. Of Aristides: of Phocion: of Miltiades: of Scipio: &c. &c. &c.

Adams. I believe it.

Deodati. You believe it?

Adams. Yes.

Deodati. You will experience all the ingratitude, all the injustice of the ancient republicans.

Adams. I expect it: & always have expected it.

Deodati. You will be ill treated, hated, despised and persecuted.

Adams. I have no doubt of all that. It is in the ordinary nature and course of things.

Deodati. Your virtue must be very heroic or your philosophy very stoical to undertake all these adventures, with your eyes open, for such a reward.

So much for Deodati and his warning voice: and so much for my well grounded anticipations.

This is no fabulous dialogue of the dead: but strict historical truth.

A curious coalition of French and English emissaries with federal and republican libellers have so completely fulfilled the prophecy of Deodati and my own forebodings, so totally destroyed my reputation by their calumnies, that I have neither power nor influence to do any thing for my country, to as-

sist her in her present distress, or guard her against future calamities.

Nothing remains to me but the right of private judgment, and that I exercise freely, and communicate my sentiments as freely, to those who wish to know them.

I AM totis viribus, [with my whole strength] against any division of the Union, by the North-River or by Delaware river, or by the Potomac or any other river, or by any chain of mountains. I am for maintaining the independence of the nation, at all events.

I am no advocate for Mr. Gore's declaration of war against France.—Knowing, as I do from personal experience, the mutually friendly dispositions between the people of France, and the people of America. Bonaparte out of the question, I should be very sorry to see them converted into ill will and our old English prejudices revived. Lasting injuries & misfortunes would arise to this country from such a change.

I am averse also to a war with England, and wish to maintain our neutrality as long as possible, without conceding important principles. If either of the belligerent powers force us into a war, I am for fighting that power, whichever it may be.

I always consider the whole nation as my children: but they have almost all been ungrateful to me. You two gentlemen are almost the only ones out of my own house, who have for a long time, and I thank you for it, expressed a filial affection for

JOHN ADAMS.

Mr. Daniel Wright, & Mr. Erastus Lyman Northampton.

The above letter of the venerable revolutionary patriot JOHN ADAMS, ought to be preserved as a lasting evidence of his unshaken patriotism. Superior to the calumnies of the day, he looks with the penetrating eye of a statesman into futurity. Perceiving the dangers which may befall his country from a faction from foreign attachments, & from wars, he warns his countrymen against the excesses into which they may be plunged by designing men.

The points established by this letter are important and deserving the serious attention of all friends to American independence. It appears,

1st. That, like his great predecessor, Washington, he is opposed to a division of the states.

2d. That he is opposed to a declaration of war against France as recommended by Mr. Gore to the legislature of this state, at the late session.

3. That he is opposed to the doctrine of the Legislature of this commonwealth at the late session, inasmuch as Mr. Gore's war report has been accepted and approved of by that body.

4th. That in accordance with the views of the present administration, he is for maintaining the rights and independence of this country, at all events, and wishes to avoid war with both England and France, as long as possible, without sacrificing the essential interests of the nation.

Let not the people of Massachusetts be hurried into excesses by the intemperate proceedings of the state Legislature, who have declared the "laws of the Union not binding," recommended a war with France, and endeavored to prove that there is a difference of interests between the people of New-England and the people of the Southern states. Let Massachusetts rather listen to the counsels of the first revolutionary statesman and patriot. Let her regard the ringing voice of a man grown grey in service of his country, of one who will lool from party politics, can view passing scenes with impartiality. Romans had great respect for the counsel of the aged. Let us, for example, and hearken to the advice of this venerable man, whose virtues are fully Roman.

It is to be regretted that he had placed confidence in Pickering & Hamilton, as he thereby subjected himself to the unmerited abuse of some republicans who had always respected his voluntary services. Surrounded by a British faction, it was difficult for him to extricate himself from their toils at the close of his administration, dismissing Pickering, and others of the same stamp, from his councils, he made a noble sacrifice on the altar of patriotism. Since that time he has been calumniated by the leading terrorists, or rather by the tools who now control the federal party.