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## THE WESTERN SUN.

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## [BY AUTHORITY.]

### Laws of the Union.

14th Congress, 2nd Session.

#### AN ACT

To amend the act "authorising the payment for property lost, captured or destroyed by the enemy while in the military service of the U. States, and for other purposes," passed on the ninth of April, one thousand eight hundred and sixteen.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled,* That the 9th section of the act, entitled "an act authorising the payment for property lost, captured or destroyed by the enemy while in the military service of the U. States, and for other purposes," passed on the 9th of April, 1816, shall be construed to extend only to houses, or other buildings occupied by an order of an officer or agent of the U. States as a place of deposit for military or naval stores, or as barracks for the military forces of the U. States; and that in acting on all claims arising under the aforesaid 9th section, as well as those whereon commissions are now returned and remain undecided as those on which commissions may be hereafter executed it shall be the duty of the commissioner appointed in virtue of the act aforesaid, carefully to examine and investigate the same, and to report the facts in such case to Congress as soon as may be, that such provision may be made for the relief of the respective claimants as shall be deemed just and proper.

*Sec. 2. And be it further enacted,* That the said commissioner shall in all cases in which the claim to compensation or indemnity shall exceed the sum of 200 dollars award the commission to some one or more discreet commissioners near the places where the witnesses reside, who shall before they proceed to act take an oath or affirmation before some officer authorised by law to administer the same, that they will faithfully & impartially execute the duties assigned to them in said commission, to the best of their judgment; and the said commissioner shall accompany said commission, with direction as to examination of witnesses, on oath or affirmation which the said commissioner or commissioners so acting as hereby authorised to administer; which said commission, when executed together with the examinations taken in pursuance thereof, shall be enclosed, sealed and returned by mail to the office of the said commissioner, *Provided however,* That in acting on examinations taken by virtue of the act to which this is an amendment, the said commissioner shall be authorised, in all cases where he shall adjudge the facts not to be sufficiently disclosed to allow a just decision between the claimants & the U. States, to award a new commission as aforesaid; and, also in all cases in which the said commissioner shall deem it proper to appoint an agent in behalf of the U. States, in executing said commissions; and it shall be the duty of the commissioner or commissioners taking evidence in any case, to make inquiry whether any evidence may be had which may be favorable to the interest of the U. States, and to take such evidence and transmit the same to the said commissioner in like manner.

*Sec. 3. And be it further enacted* That any person in the late war aforesaid, who

has sustained damage by the loss of any horse, mule, ox, waggon cart, boat sleigh or harness, while such property was in the military service of the U. States, either by impressment or contract, except in cases where the risk to which the property would be exposed was agreed to be incurred by the owner, if it shall appear that such loss was without any fault or negligence on the part of the owner, shall be allowed & paid the value thereof

*Sec. 4. And be it further enacted,* That the provisions of this act, and the act to which it is an amendment, shall be, and are hereby extended to cases of property lost captured or destroyed in the wars with the Indian tribes subsequent to the 18th day of February, and prior to the 1st day of September, 1815, in the same manner as if lost, captured or destroyed in the late war with Great Britain.

*Sec. 5. And be it further enacted,* That all claims allowed by said commissioner of 200 dollars or upwards, shall be revised by the Secretary of War, on a statement of the facts made to him by the aforesaid commissioner, and may be confirmed or rejected; and the amount of all claims allowed by the aforesaid commissioner less than 200 dollars and those of 200 dollars and upwards, if confirmed by the Secretary of War, shall be paid in the manner prescribed in the 10th & 14th sections of the act to which this is an amendment.

H. CLAY,

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

JOHN GAILLARD,

*President of the Senate pro tempore.*

March 3, 1817—APPROVED.

JAMES MADISON.

#### AN ACT

To provide for the punishment of crimes and offences committed within the Indian boundaries.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That if any Indian or other person or persons shall within the U. States, and within any town, district or territory belonging to any nation or nations, tribe or tribes, Indians commit any crime, offence or misdemeanor, which if committed in any place or district of country under the sole and exclusive jurisdiction of the U. States, would by the laws of the United States be punished with death, or any other punishment, every such offender, on being thereof convicted, shall suffer the like punishment as is provided by the laws of the U. States for the like offences, if committed within any place or district, of country under the sole & exclusive jurisdiction of the U. States.

*Sec. 2. And be it further enacted* That the superior courts in each of the territorial districts, and the circuit courts, & other courts of the U. States of similar jurisdiction in criminal causes, in each district of the U. States in which any offender against this act shall be first apprehended or brought for trial, shall have and are hereby invested with, full power and authority to hear, try and punish all crimes, offences and misdemeanors against this act; such courts proceeding therein in the same manner as if such crimes offences and misdemeanors had been committed within the bounds of their respective districts: *Provided* That nothing in this act shall be so construed as to effect any treaty now in force between the U. States and any Indian nation, or to extend to any offence committed by one Indian against another, within any Indian boundary.

*Sec. 3. And be it further enacted* That the President of the U. States and the Governor of each of the territorial districts, where any offender against this act shall be apprehended or brought for trial shall have and exercise the same powers for the punishment of offences against this act, as they can severally have and exercise by virtue of the 14th and 15th sections of an act entitled "An act to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the frontiers," passed 30th March, 1809, the punishment of offences therein described.

H. CLAY,

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

JOHN GAILLARD,

*President of the Senate pro tempore.*

March 3, 1817—APPROVED.

JAMES MADISON.

#### AN ACT

To fix the peace establishment of the Marine Corps.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the peace establishment of the Marine Corps shall consist of the following officers, non commissioned officers musicians and privates viz: 1 Lieutenant colonel, 9 captains, 24 first Lieutenants, 16 second Lieutenants, 1 Adjutant and Inspector, 1 Paymaster and one Quarter-Master, to be taken from the said captains and lieutenants; 73 corporals, 42 drums and fifes & 750 privates.

*Sec. 2. And be it further enacted* That the President of the U. States cause the provisions of this act to be carried into effect on the 1st day of April next, or as soon thereafter as circumstances will admit, and cause any supernumerary officers to be discharged from the service of the U. States; and to all persons so discharged, there shall be paid three month's additional pay.

*Sec. 3. And be it further enacted* That the President of the U. States may, in the recess of the Senate, appoint any of the officers authorised by this act which appointments shall be submitted to the Senate, at their next session, for their advice and consent.

H. CLAY,

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

JOHN GAILLARD,

*President of the Senate pro tempore.*

March 3d, 1817.—APPROVED.

JAMES MADISON.

#### AN ACT

Making appropriations for the support of the Navy of the U. States for the year one thousand eight hundred and seventeen.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That for defraying the expenses of the Navy for the year 1817 the following sums be and they are hereby respectively appropriated: that is to say:

For pay and subsistence of the officers, and pay of seamen, 1,927,332 dollars.

For provisions, 426,765 dollars.

For medicine, hospital stores, and all expenses on account of sick, including those of the marine corps 1000 dollars.

For repairs of vessels, 325,000 dollars.

For ordnance, ammunition, and military stores, 1,000 dollars.

For the purchase of salt petre and sulphur, 20,000 dollars.

For navy parks, docks, and wharves, 150,000 dollars.

For contingent expenses, including freight, transportation, and recruiting expenses, 350,000 dollars.

For expenses in procuring gold and silver medals, and swords in conformity with sundry resolutions of Congress, 15,000 dollars.

For pay and subsistence of the marine corps, 187,308 dollars.

For clothing for the same, 34,166 dollars.

For military stores for the same, 1,188 dollars.

For contingent expenses for the same 14,000 dollars.

*Sec. 2. And be it further enacted* That the several appropriations herein before made, shall be paid out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

H. CLAY,

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

JOHN GAILLARD,

*President of the Senate pro tempore.*

March 8d, 1817.—APPROVED.

JAMES MADISON.

#### AN ACT

Supplementary to an act entitled "An act further to amend the several acts for the establishment and regulation of the Treasury, War, & Navy Departments."

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled,* That nothing contained in the act of the 3d of March, 1809, entitled "An act to amend the several acts for the establishment and regulation of the Treasury, War and Navy Departments" shall be construed to authorise the President of the U. States to direct any sum appropriated to fortifications, arsenals, armories, custom houses, docks, navy yards or buildings of any sort, or to mu-

nitions of war, or to the pay of the army or navy, to be applied to any other object of public expenditure.

H. CLAY,

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

JOHN GAILLARD,

*President of the Senate pro tempore.*

March 3, 1817—APPROVED.

JAMES MADISON.

#### AN ACT

Supplementary to an act entitled "an Act concerning the naval establishment"

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled,* That every purser now in service, or who may hereafter be appointed, shall instead of the bond required by the act to which this is a supplement, enter into bond with two or more sureties, in the penalty of 25,000 dollars, conditioned for the faithful discharge of all his duties as purser in the navy of the U. States, which said sureties shall be approved by the judge or attorney of the U. States for the district in which such purser shall reside.

*Sec. 2. And be it further enacted,* That from and after the 1st day of May next, no person shall act in the character of purser, who shall not enter into bond as aforesaid, excepting pursers on distant service who shall not remain in service longer than 2 months after their return to the U. States, unless they shall comply with the provisions of the first section of this act.

H. CLAY,

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

JOHN GAILLARD,

*President of the Senate pro tempore.*

March 1, 1817—APPROVED.

JAMES MADISON.

An important discovery has been recently made in the literary world, by the Abbe Mai, who has found, in the Ambrosian Library a work entitled Epitome Dionysii Halycarnassensis, which contains the Books of Livy that have heretofore supposed to be lost.

## SHIPWRECK.

By the arrival on Saturday morning of the schr. Industry, Capt. Hitchcock, in 9 days from Savannah, we learn that the brig Goliath, of Boston from Havre de Grace, bound to Savannah, with \$10,000 in specie on board, was cast away on the night of the 17th inst on the south Breaker-head, near the Tybee Light-House. The vessel was totally lost—the crew and specie were saved.—*Com. Adv.*

Captain Baxter, of the British brig Robert, who arrived on Saturday morning in 19 days from Tobago, informs that a severe epidemic, supposed the yellow fever, had raged among the inhabitants of that Island through the greater part of the winter. He believes that the disease has swept off at least one tenth of the population since the first of January. The disorder is attributed to the long prevalence of northerly winds, accompanied with unusual coldness of the weather.— *ib*

A few days ago a christening took place at Rothwell church, where the united ages of the mother and daughter, and aunt and her niece, and two sisters, all present at the ceremony, did not amount to nineteen!!!!

[Lon. Pap.]

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