New Orleans Republican.
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OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF NEW ORLEANS

### Civil Service Reform.

From Western papers of Wednesday we copy the following message and report:

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

In accordance with an act of Congress, approved March 3, 1871, I convened a commission of eminent gentlemen to devise rules and regulations for the purpose of reforming the civil service. Their labors are now complete, and I have transmit herewith their report, together with the rules they recommend for my notice. These rules have been adopted and will go into effect on the first day of January, 1872, under the law referred to. As I interpret it, the authority is already invested in the executive to enforce these regulations, with full power to abridge, alter or amend them at his option, when changes may be deemed advisable. These views, together with the report of the commissioners, are submitted for your consideration, as to whether further legislation may be necessary in order to carry out an efficient and beneficial civil service system. If not to me without further recommendation, the rules prescribed by the commissioners under the authority already mentioned will be faithfully executed, but they are not binding, without further legislation, on my successors.

Since decisions of bringing this subject to the attention of Congress before the approaching recess, I have not time to sufficiently examine the accompanying report to enable me to suggest definite legislative action. To insure the support which may be necessary in order to give a thorough trial to the policy long needed, I ask for all the strength which Congress can give me to enable me to carry out the reforms in the civil service recommended by the commissioners and adopted, to take effect, as before stated, on January 1, 1872. The law which provides for the convening of a commission to devise rules and regulations for reforming the civil service authorizes, I think, a permanent organization of a primary board, under whose general direction all examinations of applicants for public office shall be conducted. There is no appropriation to continue such a board beyond the termination of its present labors. I, therefore, recommend that a proper appropriation be made to continue the services of the present board for another year, and in view of the fact that three members of the board hold positions in the public service, which precludes them from receiving office compensation under existing laws, that they be authorized to receive a fair compensation for the extra service rendered by them in the performance of this duty.

U. S. GRANT.

Executive Mansion, December 19, 1871.

REPORT OF THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION.

The civil service commissioners, after citing the act under which they were constituted a commission, enter upon a sketch of the policy of the various administrations in the earlier history of the government with regard to appointment to the civil service and briefly note the various efforts made from time to time to correct evils, and then pass to a description of the present condition of the civil service which has hitherto been sustained by common consent, setting forth in detail the serious and threatening evils of the present practice of treating inferior posts of the administration as party prizes, and answering various arguments by which it is sought to be justified. They say that if by examination for admission to the civil service nothing were understood but to test the mere literary proficiency, it might be reasonably opposed as unsatisfactory, for it is unquestionable that a man might be an excellent appraiser of linen and yet know nothing of history or accounts, but, on the other hand, it is equally undeniable that an excellent appraiser of linen is not less excellent because of general intelligence. Of two excellent accountants, the one who has the most general knowledge is certainly preferable; and a country which declares that where technical skill is equal it will select a candidate for its service who is the better educated, is a country which directly and practically encourages intelligence and morality. It is true that certain distinguished men in the public service might not have passed a certain literary examination which is now required of young men entering the same service; but it is equally true that the older men could have passed examination had it, in their case, been required, and the proof is their capacity, of which their present distinction is evidence. The commissioners say, in concluding their report:

"We do not, indeed, suppose that the adoption of any rules, however skillfully framed, would at once remedy evils in the civil service which are universally acknowledged, and experience will doubtless show how every method of reform may be improved; but those evils will certainly not be remedied without an effort by those who are content to demand a civil service reform, but who oppose every practical attempt to promote it, must be suspected of having little real hostility to the system which they decry. Fortunately, however, public attention was never more resolutely turned to a subject, and there was never a more favorable moment to begin reform. The party issues of the past few years are gradually disappearing. The perilous questions of fundamental policy have been determined, and the paramount interests of the country are now those of the administration. Honesty and efficiency of administration, as a settled national policy, will now be the chief demand of every party, but nowhere can the purpose be shown so plainly as in a reformation of the civil service so as to secure integrity, efficiency and economy."

Extract from a recent speech of Mr. Gladstone to show that a similar reform has been made and has succeeded in England are given. The commissioners continue:

We propose, also, that in this country the places in the public service shall be restored to those who are found to be fitted for them, and if any one is disposed to think that an abuse of forty years is a law of republican system, a little reflection will show him his error. If he believes reform to be impossible, he merely shows that he is a victim of the abuse, and forgets that in America every reform is possible. The enforcement of the rules that we submit for approval depends, of course, upon the pleasure of the President, yet should they receive the sanction of Congress in form of a law, their enforcement would become, until repealed, not only the pleasure, but the duty of the President. That sanction, whether to the rules now submitted or to any scheme, will more surely promote the purity and efficiency of the civil service.

The country most earnestly desires if that sanction should be delayed the rules adopted for his action could not bind his successor, but, unless we are wholly mistaken, the reform would serve to indicate itself to the good sense of the country; that the people themselves would reject any party and any candidate that proposed to relapse into the present practice. The improvement of the civil service is emphatically the people's cause. The people's reform, and the administration which vigorously begins it, will acquire a glory only less than that of the salvation of a free Union.

JOSEPH H. BLAKEMORE,
DAVID G. COX,
GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS,
ALEXANDER G. CATTELL,
JOSEPH MEDILL,
DAVIDSON A. WALKER,
E. B. ELLIOTT.

THE RULES.

The following are the rules submitted by the commissioners:

First—No person shall be admitted to any position in the civil service within the appointment of the Prerident or heads of departments who is not a citizen of the United States, who shall not have furnished satisfactory evidence in regard to character, health and age, and shall not have passed a satisfactory examination in speaking, reading and writing the English language.

Second—An advisory board of suitable persons to be employed by the President, under the ninth section of the act of March 3, 1871, entitled "An act to make appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1872, and for other purposes," shall, so far as practicable, group positions in each branch of the civil service according to the character of [illegible] and shall [illegible] to the notion with [illegible] the civil service [illegible] grade [illegible] such positions as [illegible] graded for admission [illegible] as provided for [illegible]

Third—A vacancy occurring in the lowest grade of any group of offices shall be filled, after due public notice, from all applicants who shall present themselves, and who shall have furnished evidence satisfactory to the board of competency already mentioned, or who shall have passed a public competitive examination to test their knowledge, ability and special qualifications for the performance of the duties of the office. The board conducting such competitive examination shall prepare, under the supervision of an advisory board, a list of the names of applicants in the order of their excellence as proved by such examination, beginning with the highest, and shall then certify to the nominating or appointing power, as the case may be, the names standing at the head of such list, not exceeding three; and from the names of these a certified appointment shall be made.

Fourth—A vacancy occurring in any grade of group of offices above the lowest, shall be filled by a competitive examination of applicants from other grades of that group, and a list of names from which the appointment is to be made shall be prepared and certified as provided in the preceding rule. But if no such applicants are found competent, the appointment shall be upon an examination of all the applicants, conducted in accordance with the provision for the admission to the lower grade.

Fifth—Applicants certified or otherwise qualified for appointment as cashiers, collectors of customs, assistant treasurers, postmasters, superintendents of money-order division in postoffices, and such other custodians of large sums of money as may hereafter be designated by the advisory board, and for whose pecuniary fidelity another officer is responsible, shall, nevertheless, be not appointed except with the approval of some other officer.

Sixth—Postmasters whose annual salary is less than $200 may be appointed upon the written request of applicants, with such evidence of character and fitness as shall be satisfactory to the head of the department.

Seventh—The appointment of all persons to the civil service shall be in accordance with these regulations, excepting persons appointed by the President by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. Appointments of postmasters and persons appointed to any position in a foreign country, shall be made for a probationary term of six months, during which the conduct and capacity of such persons shall be tested, and if at the end of such probationary term satisfactory proofs of their fitness shall have been furnished by the board of examiners to the head of the department in which they shall have been employed during said term, they shall be reappointed.

Eighth—The President will designate three persons in each department of the public service to serve as a board of examiners, which, under the supervision of the advisory board, and under the regulations to be prescribed by it, and at such times and places as it may determine, shall conduct personally, or by persons approved by the advisory board, all investigations and examinations for admission into said department or for promotion therein.

Ninth—Any person who after long and faithful service in a department shall be incapacitated by mental or bodily infirmities for the efficient discharge of the duties of his position, may be appointed by the head of the department, at his discretion, to a position of less responsibility in the same department.

Tenth—Nothing in these rules shall prevent the appointment of aliens to positions in the consular service, which, by reason of small compensation or of other sufficient cause, are, in the judgment of the appointing power, necessarily so filled, nor the appointment of such persons within the United States as are indispensible to the proper discharge of the duties of certain positions, but who may not be familiar with the English language or legally capable of naturalization.

Eleventh—No head of department, nor any subordinate officer of the government, shall as such officer authorize or permit or assist in levying any assessment of money for political purposes under the form of voluntary contributions, or otherwise, upon any person employed under his control, nor shall any such person pay any money so assessed.

Twelfth—The advisory board shall at any time recommend to the President such changes in these rules as it may consider necessary to secure greater efficiency of the civil service.

Thirteenth—From these rules are excepted heads of departments, assistant secretaries of departments, assistant attorney general, and first assistant postmaster general, solicitor general, solicitor of the treasury, naval solicitor, solicitor of internal revenue, examiner of claims in state departments, treasurer of the United States, register of the treasury, first and second comptrollers of the treasury, judges of the United States courts, district attorneys, private secretary of the President, ambassadors and other public ministers, superintendent of coast survey, director of mints, governors of territories, special commissioners, special annual visiting and examining boards, persons appointed to positions without compensation for services, dispatch agents and bearers of dispatches.

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Pantomime matinee at Academy—Three Hunchbacks.

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Great three tent show, museum, menagerie, caravan, circus and sea lions. Matinee to-day.

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The New York *Herald* continues its valuable hanging reports. Of a North Carolina affair we read:

The drop being cleared of all but the ghastly, blind, bound and pinioned victim, at thirty-five minutes past one the prop was jerked from its place, and Pomp's body was performing the most violent contortions in the air, his feet only one foot from the ground. The fall measured two and a half feet. The rope had not been properly adjusted, and the knot slipped from its place to the front and near the chin. The death rattle could be heard in the victim's throat as he surged and swung to and fro. From the violence of his struggles, it is needless to say the neck was not broken, and, awful as this sight was, the few within the room seemed to gaze greedily on the victim, intent on seeing the last agony, and, seemingly, anxious to devour the least of the savage details.

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Preparations for the biggest matinee ever held in New Orleans. Seats for ten thousand people at the circus. Tivoli circle to-day.

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A special from Washington to the Louisville *Ledger*, dated last Tuesday, says:

Mr. Lewis presented in the Senate to-day a petition from Richard H. Merritt, of Caroline county, Virginia, asking compensation to the amount of $2525 for his barn and goods destroyed by Colonel Baker to effect the capture of J. Wilkes Booth and D. C. Harrold, in 1865. Booth and Harrold, it will be remembered, were concealed in Merritt's barn, and it was destroyed by fire in order to get them.

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Comic mules, Tivoli circle, grand combination circus and menagerie. Matinee to-day.

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The Washington *Chronicle* says:

The marriage of Secretary Robeson with Mrs. Aulick will take place very soon. The wedding cake (fruit) has been prepared for some time, and cost $100. The Secretary and his bride will reside in the house formerly occupied by Mr. Harry Willard, on K street, between Thirteenth and Fourteenth streets, which is now being thoroughly repaired and handsomely furnished. It is understood that the wedding will be on a scale of great magnificence.

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Ten thousand Christmas toys exhibited at the Academy, noon to-day.

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Tivoli circle—Old John Robinson's monster sea lions, grand menagerie, monster circus. Matinee to-day.

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[GENERAL NATURE—No. 1.]

AN ACT relating to moneys paid into the courts of the United States.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all moneys in the registry of any court of the United States, or in the hands or under the control of any officer of such court, which were received in any cause pending or adjudicated in such court, shall, within thirty days after the passage of this act, be deposited with the Treasurer, an assistant treasurer, or a designated depositary of the of the United States, in the name and to the credit of such court. And all such moneys which are hereafter paid into such courts or received by the officers thereof shall be forthwith deposited in like manner; provided, that nothing herein shall be construed to prevent the delivery of any such money upon security, according to agreement of parties under the direction of the court.

SEC. 2. That no money deposited as aforesaid shall be withdrawn except by order of the judge or judges of said courts respectively, in term or in vacation, to be signed by such judge or judges and to be entered and certified of record by the clerk, and every such order shall state the cause in or on account of which it is drawn.

SEC. 3. That at each regular and stated session of said courts the clerks thereof shall present an account to said courts of all moneys remaining therein, or subject to the order thereof, stating in detail in what causes said moneys are deposited and in what causes payments have been made, which account and the vouchers thereof shall be filed in court.

SEC. 4. That if any clerk or other officer of a court of the United States shall deposit any money belonging in the registry of the court, in violation of this act, or shall retain or convert any such money to his own use, or to the use of any other person, he shall be deemed guilty of embezzlement, and, on conviction, shall be punished by a fine of not less than five hundred dollars and not more than the amount embezzled, or by imprisonment for a term not less than one year nor more than ten years, or both, at the discretion of the court.

SEC. 5. That if any person shall knowingly receive from a clerk or other officer of a court of the United States, any money belonging in the registry of said court, as a deposit, loan, or otherwise, in violation of this act, he shall be deemed guilty of embezzlement, and shall be punished as provided in the last preceding section.

SEC. 6. That the act entitled "An act directing the disposition of money paid into the courts of the United States," approved April eighteenth, eighteen hundred and fourteen, and the act supplementary thereto, approved March eighteenth, eighteen hundred and seventeen, be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

J. G. BLAINE,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
SCHUYLER COLFAX,
Vice President of the United States and President of the Senate.
Approved March 24, 1871.

U. S. GRANT.

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[GENERAL NATURE—No. 2.]

AN ACT authorizing the President to nominate R. H. Lamson a lieutenant in the United States navy.

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 hereby is, authorized to nominate R. H. Lamson a lieutenant in the United States navy.

Approved, March 27, 1871.

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[GENERAL NATURE—No. 3.]

AN ACT to re-establish the office of surveyor at Eastport, Maine.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the office of surveyor at the port of Eastport, formerly existing by law, and abolished by the Secretary of the Treasury, be, and is hereby re-established and created, and shall hereafter exist, subject to the same laws and restrictions that appertained to the same before it was abolished; but it shall hereafter be known as the office of surveyor of Eastport and the district of Passamaquoddy bay.

Approved, March 30, 187[illegible]

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[GENERAL NATURE—No. 4.]

AN ACT to amend an act entitled "An act to divide the State of Virginia into two judicial districts."

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the second clause of the sixth section of the act aforesaid, of which this act is an amendment, be amended as follows: "That the clerk of the circuit or district court of the eastern district of Virginia shall transmit the original papers and certified copies of all orders in any suit or proceeding which shall be removed for further proceedings from the eastern to the western district of Virginia, as authorized by the first clause of the said sixth section of the act aforesaid, to the clerk of the court to which such suit or proceeding shall be removed, together with a statement of all costs; and all further proceedings shall be had in the court to which the same shall be removed, as if the said suit or proceeding had originally been commenced therein."

Approved, April 4, 1871.

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[GENERAL NATURE—No. 5.]

AN ACT relating to the harbor at Buffalo, New York.

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 authorized, when in his judgment he thinks it will be for the interest of the United States, to extend or continue the contract for the improvement of the harbor at Buffalo, made and entered into upon the twentieth day of January, eighteen hundred and sixty-eight.

Approved April 15, 1871.

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[GENERAL NATURE—No. 6.]

AN ACT to authorize the payment of duplicate checks of disbursing officers.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in place of original checks issued for pensions, when lost, stolen or destroyed, disbursing officers and agents of the United States are hereby authorized, after the expiration of six months from the date of such checks, to issue duplicate checks, and the Treasurer, assistant treasurers and designated depositories of the United States are directed to pay such checks, drawn in pursuance of law by such officers or agents, upon notice and proof of the loss of original check or checks, under such regulations in regard to their issue and payment, and upon the execution of such bonds, with sureties, to indemnify the United States, as the Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe: Provided, That this act shall not apply to any check exceeding in amount the sum of five hundred dollars.

Approved April 19, 1871.

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[GENERAL NATURE—No. 7.]

AN ACT to create a port of delivery at Potomac, Virginia, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all the waters, shores, bays, harbors, creeks and inlets on the south side of the river Potomac, comprehended between Boyd's Hole and Cockpit Point, now a part of the collection district of Tappahannock, Virginia, be, and the same are hereby, annexed to the collection district of Alexandria, Virginia.

SEC. 2. That Potomac, in the State of Virginia, shall be, and is hereby, constituted and created a port of delivery within the collection district of Alexandria, and there shall be appointed, at a compensation not exceeding the rate of one thousand dollars per annum, a deputy collector of customs, to reside at said port, who shall perform such duties as may be conferred upon him, in pursuance of law, by the Secretary of the Treasury.

SEC. 3. That all acts and parts of acts establishing at Dumfries, in the collection district of Tappahannock, Virginia, a port [illegible]

[illegible] of the Forty-[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] in the act [illegible] the chairman of said joint committee [illegible] hundred and thirty-five dollars and twenty-two cents, being an unexpended balance of an appropriation by act of March third, eighteen hundred and sixty-nine, "for purchase of building known as the Club House, at Charleston, South Carolina, and the fitting up thereof for the use of the United States courts," and having been, by existing laws, covered into the treasury of the United States, be and the same is hereby reappropriated out of any money in the treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and shall be expended in accordance with the provisions of the act making the original appropriation.

To supply a deficiency in the appropriation for folding documents and materials for the House of Representatives, twenty thousand dollars.

Senate of the United States: For labor, three thousand dollars; for clerks to committees, pages, horses and carryalls, fifteen thousand dollars.

For compensation of the clerks in the office of the surveyor general of Minnesota, employed upon work consequent upon the special appropriation for the survey of the public lands within the limits of the grant to the Northern Pacific railroad, per act of July fifteenth, eighteen hundred and seventy, nine thousand two hundred dollars, for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-two.

For compensation of the clerks in the office of the surveyor general of California, two thousand six hundred dollars, for the year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-one.

To pay Dexter R. Crocker for carrying the mail from Canyonville, Oregon, to Yreka, California, from the twenty-fourth of April to the ninth of November, eighteen hundred and fifty-three, one thousand six hundred and twenty-five dollars.

For payment of S. R. Harlow, late marshal of the southern district of New York, for expenses incurred in arresting one Mott, in San Francisco, for violation of revenue law in said district, five hundred and fifty dollars, or so much thereof as may be due.

SEC. 4. That in addition to the clerkships authorized by the act approved May five, eighteen hundred and sixty, the Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized and empowered to promote from the clerks of class one employed in the Census Office, three to be clerks of class four, seven to be clerks of class three, and fifteen to be clerks of class two, and the sum of seven thousand six hundred dollars is hereby appropriated to pay the increased salary; provided, that no increase in the total number of clerks employed in said bureau shall be deemed to be authorized hereby; and provided further, that the authority for such additional clerkships of the second, third and fourth class shall terminate one year from date.

For the purpose of carrying out the stipulations of the treaty of July twentieth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, between the United States of America and his Majesty the King of the Belgians, providing for the payment of interest in the matter of the capitalization of the Scheldt dues, being a deficiency in the appropriations for the payment of the seventh annual installment due the government of Belgium under said treaty, April first, eighteen hundred and seventy-one, and the eighth annual installment, due April first, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, twelve thousand dollars, in coin, or so much thereof as may be necessary.

For the completion of the customhouse at Saint Paul, Minnesota, thirty-five thousand one hundred and sixty-three dollars and sixty-five cents, being the amount of a balance of an appropriation for that building now standing to its credit on the books of the treasury, but unavailable under existing laws.

That section two of "An act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the government for the fiscal year ending June thirty, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, and for other purposes," approved March three, eighteen hundred and seventy-one, be and hereby is amended by striking out after the words "for customhouse, Astoria, Oregon," the word "completion," and inserting in place thereof "continuation of the construction."

For completion of the courthouse and postoffice building at Des Moines, Iowa, six thousand eight hundred and fifty six dollars.

SEC. 5. That the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars, appropriated by act approved March third, eighteen hundred and sixty-nine, for the purchase of site, and the erection thereon of a postoffice and courthouse building in Omaha, Nebraska, the same being unexpended, is hereby revived and reappropriated for said purpose.

SEC. 6. That any appropriations heretofore made for any public works, buildings, or grounds, for the year commencing July first, eighteen hundred and seventy-one, shall be available for the current year; provided, that no expenditure beyond the several sums already appropriated shall be authorized by this section. And that the appropriation for the payment of the salary and traveling expenses of a special agent of the Treasury Department, and for the salaries of all supervising inspectors, local inspectors, and clerks employed in the administration of the steamboat inspection laws, made under section first of "An act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the government for the year ending June thirty, eighteen hundred and seventy-one," approved July fifteen, eighteen hundred and seventy, and still remaining unexpended, shall be applicable, as heretofore, to the payment of such salaries and expenses until sufficient revenue shall accrue therefor under the provisions of section sixty-six of "An act to provide for the better security of life on board of vessels propelled in whole or in part by steam, and for other purposes," approved February twenty-eight, eighteen hundred and seventy-one; the amount paid under the provisions of this section to be reimbursed to the treasury out of the revenues received under the provisions of said act of February twenty-eight, eighteen hundred and seventy-one.

And the appropriation "for the survey of the boundary line between Idaho and Utah Territories," contained in the act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the government for the year ending June thirty, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, and for other purposes, approved March three, eighteen hundred and seventy one, is hereby made subject to present use.

SEC. 7. That the sum of twenty thousand five hundred and twenty-three dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, be, and the same is hereby, appropriated to pay the claim of Robert T. Kirkpatrick, provided for in joint resolution approved February fifteenth, eighteen hundred and seventy-one.

SEC. 8. That so much of the appropriation for paying the expenses of taking the ninth census of the United States contained in the act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the government for the year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, approved March third, eighteen hundred and and seventy-one, as may be necessary, may be used during the current fiscal year; and the proviso in the eighth section of said act is amended by adding after the words "eight dollars per day" the words "exclusive of mileage."

SEC. 9. That the appropriation of thirty thousand three hundred and twenty-six dollars "for necessary expenses in the erection, furnishing machinery," and so forth, of the branch mint at Carson city, contained in the act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the government for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, and for other purposes, approved March third, eighteen hundred and seventy-one; is hereby made subject to present use.

SEC. 10. That the appropriation for building a pier at Lewes, Delaware, contained in sections twelve and thirteen of the act approved July fifteenth, eighteen hundred and seventy, entitled "An act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the government for the year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-one, and for other purposes," be, and the same is hereby continued until June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-two.

SEC. 11. That there be added to the miscellaneous item of the contingent fund of the House of Representatives the sum of two thousand five hundred and sixty-three dollars and thirty cents, or so much thereof as may be necessary for the payment of the balance remaining unpaid upon the accounts of witnesses who appeared before the sub-[illegible] cent eight [illegible] and for [illegible] thousand copies of [illegible] ordered by resolution of the House of [illegible] fourteen, eighteen hundred and seventy-two thousand dollars; also for [illegible] House of Representatives, one thousand five hundred and forty-three dollars and fifty-nine cents. For the compensation of an assistant journal clerk in the House of Representatives for the fiscal year ending June thirty, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, twenty-five hundred and ninety-two dollars. And for one thousand copies of the "Constitution of the United States, with the Rules of the Senate," compiled by William J. McDonald, under a resolution of the Senate of March fourteen, eighteen hundred and seventy-one, one thousand dollars. For the payment of clerks of committees of the House, in accordance with the resolution of the House of the ninth instant, two thousand dollars.

SEC. 12. That the provisions of the eleventh section of the act approved July fifteenth, eighteen hundred and seventy, entitled "An act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the government for the year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-one, and for other purposes," be, and hereby are extended so as to include such persons as were actually employed in the States lately in insurrection, in connection with the Treasury Department, as officers of the United States during the year eighteen hundred and sixty-seven in connection with the revenues of the government; and an amount sufficient to carry out the provisions of this section, not exceeding fifteen thousand dollars, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

SEC. 13. That the following sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for subsistence for the fiscal year ending June thirty, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, of the Arapahoe, Cheyenne, Apache, Kiowa, and Comanche Indians who have been collected and located upon the reservation set apart for their use and occupation by the treaties made with them in eighteen hundred and sixty-seven, two hundred thousand dollars.

SEC. 14. That the Commissioner of the General Land Office is hereby authorized to approve the survey of the eastern boundary of Nevada, made by Isaac E. James, notwithstanding any departure from instructions which, in the opinion of said Commissioner, does not materially impair the accuracy of the work.

SEC. 15. That the privileges of the act entitled "An act to reduce internal taxes, and for other purposes," approved July fourteenth, eighteen hundred and seventy, be, and are hereby, extended to the port of Detroit, in the State of Michigan.

SEC. 16. That any bona fide settler under the homestead or pre-emption laws of the United States, who has filed the proper application to enter, not to exceed one quarter section of the public lands in any district land office, and who has been subsequently appointed a registrar or receiver, may perfect the title to the said land, under the pre-emption laws, by furnishing the proofs and making the payments required by law, to the satisfaction of the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

SEC. 17. That from and after the passage of this act all powers conferred upon certain persons as commissioners, by the act approved June twenty-first, eighteen hundred and seventy, for the improvement of M street, northwest, and by the act approved July fifteenth, eighteen hundred and seventy, for the improvement of the Washington City canal, shall be transferred to the Board of Public Works of the District of Columbia; and the persons acting as commissioners under said acts are hereby directed to transfer to said board of public works all books, papers, and other property in their possession pertaining to the works under their charge; and private property shall be assessed for the improvement of M street, and Seventh street southwest, from B street to the river, heretofore authorized by law, as provided in the act of February twenty-first, eighteen hundred and seventy-one. And in case said board shall, under said act of July fifteenth, eighteen hundred and seventy, decide to open said canal, they are hereby empowered to open both its branches, so as to connect with the government canal at the arsenal; Provided, That the cost of said work shall not exceed the amount already fixed by law for that purpose.

That the sum of ten thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated for the purpose of repairing and relaying, where necessary, the pavement on Pennsylvania avenue from Fifteenth street to the east side of Rock creek: Provided, That a like sum shall be expended for the same purpose by the proper authorities of the District of Columbia: And provided further, That the Washington and Georgetown Railroad Company shall in like manner repair such portion thereof as they are by their charter required to do: the work to be done under the supervision of the Board of Public Works for the District of Columbia.

SEC. 18. That to correct an error in the enrollment of the act approved March third, eighteen hundred and seventy-one, making appropriations for the naval service for the year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, and for other purposes, the same be amended as follows. In section two, strike out all of the section from and including the word "provided," where it first occurs, and insert in lieu thereof the following: "And the Secretary of the Navy is authorized to invite, by public advertisement, plans and specifications for such dock, and to award to any person not in the naval service, whose plans may be adopted by the Navy Department, a sum not exceeding five thousand dollars. But no plan shall be adopted until it shall first receive the sanction of a board of not less than five experienced officers, to be appointed by the Secretary of the Navy, a majority of whom shall be constructors and engineers, and one of whom shall be an experienced civil engineer; and it shall be the duty of said board to consider all the plans and specifications laid before it, whether the same were prepared in the Navy Department or by parties competing therewith, and the plans and specifications that shall be adopted shall be open to the inspection of all persons who desire to become bidders, for at least ninety days before the awarding of said contract."

For three assistant observers at the Naval Observatory, in addition to the sum appropriated by the "Act making appropriations for the naval service for the year ending June thirty, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, and for other purposes," approved March third, eighteen hundred and seventy-one, five hundred dollars.

SEC. 19. That so much of the proviso in the act making appropriations to supply deficiencies, and so forth, approved April twentieth, eighteen hundred and seventy, as limits the completion of the marine hospital building at Chicago, Illinois, to a sum not exceeding three hundred thousand dollars, is hereby repealed; and it shall be lawful for the proper authorities to expend the money already appropriated for continuing the work upon said building: Provided, That no part thereof shall be expended until plans and specifications shall have been completed that will limit the cost of said building to a sum, including all moneys already expended, not exceeding three hundred and fifty-nine thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine dollars and thirty-four cents.

SEC. 20. That the Secretary of the Treasury be authorized to sell, for the best price in cash that can be obtained, the marine hospital building in the city of San Francisco; and the proceeds of such sale, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be held and reserved as a fund for the erection of a pavilion hospital on some government reservation in or near said city, if Congress shall hereafter so determine.

SEC. 21. That there be appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, twelve thousand dollars for the relief of destitute aged persons in the District of Columbia, such sum to be received and distributed by such officer or association of persons in the District of Columbia as the Secretary of War shall designate, and that a report of the distribution of the money hereby appropriated shall be made to Congress at its next session.

SEC. 22. That the Secretary of War is hereby authorized to furnish to the National Freedmen's Relief Association condemned clothing and bedding, if such there be on hand, not [illegible] five [illegible] contribution [illegible] above [illegible] buildings in [illegible] the quarter-[illegible] the association [illegible] the purpose of en-[illegible] further to relieve the destitute [illegible]

SEC. 24. That [illegible] in the act entitled [illegible] appropriations for [illegible] government [illegible] for other [illegible] public buildings in the city of [illegible] Missouri, [illegible] and other [illegible] of the United States shall be made available during the year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-two.

SEC. 25. That the salary of the consul at Matamoras, [illegible] established at two thousand dollars per annum for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, and thereafter.

That there be paid to the deputy assistant treasurer in the city of [illegible] the sum of six hundred dollars, the same being a deficiency in his compensation for the present fiscal year.

SEC. 26. That there be and is hereby, appropriated, for [illegible] compensation to assistant [illegible] the census of eighteen hundred and seventy, the sum of three hundred and [illegible] thousand dollars.

SEC. 27. That the [illegible] purpose of more effectually securing [illegible] property on the coast of New Jersey and Long Island for the fiscal year ending June thirty, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, two hundred thousand dollars, to be expended in accordance with the provisions of the "Act for the better preservation of life and property from vessels shipwrecked on the coast of the United States," approved December fourteenth, eighteen hundred and fifty-four, and that the Secretary of the Treasury be authorized to employ crews of experienced surfmen at such stations and for such periods as he may deem necessary and proper, and at such compensation as he may deem reasonable, not to exceed forty dollars per month for each person to be employed.

That the [illegible] conferred by the joint resolution of June [illegible] eighteen hundred and [illegible] in regard to claims from the counties of [illegible] and Jefferson, in the State of West Virginia, and by the joint resolution of July twenty-eight, eighteen hundred and sixty-six, in regard to claims from the State of Tennessee, and by the joint resolution of December twenty [illegible] eighteen hundred and sixty-six, as amended by the act of March three, eighteen [illegible] and seventy-one, in regard to [illegible] and other vessels, shall not be [illegible] by any construction [illegible] operating commissioners of claims to consider claims arising in States proclaimed to be in insurrection, and the jurisdiction upon all claims presented by loyal citizens from said State of Tennessee, and from said counties of Berkeley and Jefferson, to the proper department before the third of March, eighteen hundred and seventy-one, shall remain as before the passage of said act creating said commissioners of claims.

For covering the steam pipes in the Capitol with fire proof non-conducting felting, eight thousand dollars.

SEC. 28. That there be, and is hereby, appropriated, to pay expenses of the legislative assembly of Wyoming Territory, convened October, anno Domini eighteen hundred and seventy, and for printing journals of said assembly, and incidental expenses of the office of secretary for the year eighteen hundred and seventy, the sum of four thousand two hundred and fifty dollars.

SEC. 29. That three thousand dollars is appropriated, out of which such sum shall be paid to John Thompson Mason, late collector of the port of Baltimore, for services rendered in the disbursement of the lighthouse fund, and for services performed for lighthouse purposes outside the limits of his collection district, such sum as the Secretary of the Treasury may find legally due and owing to said party on an adjustment of his accounts by the Treasury Department.

SEC. 30. That the act approved January the twenty-second, anno Domini eighteen hundred and sixty-seven, entitled "An act to fix the times for the regular meetings of Congress," be, and the same is hereby, repealed after the adjournment of the present session of Congress.

Approved, April 20, 1871.

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[GENERAL NATURE—No. 10.]

AN ACT to enforce the provisions of the fourteenth amendment to the constitution of the United States, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That any person who, under color of any law, statute, ordinance, regulation, custom or usage of any State, shall subject, or cause to be subjected, any person within the jurisdiction of the United States to the deprivation of any rights, privileges or immunities secured by the constitution of the United States, shall, any such law, statute, ordinance, regulation, custom or usage of the State to the contrary notwithstanding, be liable to the party injured in any action at law, suit in equity, or other proper proceeding for redress, such proceeding to be prosecuted in the several district or circuit courts of the United States, with and subject to the same rights of appeal, review upon error, and other remedies provided in like cases in such courts, under the provisions of the act of the ninth of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-six, entitled "An act to protect all persons in the United States in their civil rights, and to furnish the means of their vindication;" and the other remedial laws of the United States which are in their nature applicable in such cases.

SEC. 2. That if two or more persons within any State or Territory of the United States shall conspire together to overthrow, or to put down, or to destroy by force the government of the United States, or to levy war against the United States, or to oppose by force the authority of the government of the United States, or by force, intimidation, or threat, to prevent, hinder, or delay the execution of any law of the United States; or by force to seize, take, or possess any property of the United States contrary to the authority thereof; or by force, intimidation, or threat to prevent any person from accepting or holding any office or trust or place of confidence under the United States, or from discharging the duties thereof, or by force, intimidation, or threat to induce any officer of the United States to leave any State, district, or place where his duties as such officer might lawfully be performed, or to injure him in his person or property on account of his lawful discharge of the duties of his office, or to injure his person while engaged in the lawful discharge of the duties of his office, or to injure his property so as to molest, interrupt, hinder, or impede him in the discharge of his official duty, or by force, intimidation or threat to deter any party or witness in any court of the United States from attending such court, or from testifying in any matter pending in such court fully, freely and truthfully, or to injure any such party or witness in his person or property on account of his having so attended or testified, or by force, intimidation or threat to influence the verdict, presentment or indictment of any juror or grand juror in any court of the United States, or to injure such juror in his person or property on account of any verdict, presentment or indictment lawfully assented to by him, or on account of his being or having been such juror, or shall conspire together or go in disguise upon the public highway or upon the premises of another for the purpose of either directly or indirectly of depriving any person or any class of persons of the equal protection of the laws or of equal privileges or immunities under the laws, or for the purpose of preventing or hindering the constituted authorities of any State from giving or securing to all persons within such State the equal protection of the laws, or shall conspire together for the purpose of in any manner impeding, hindering, obstructing or defeating the due course of justice in any State or Territory with intent to deny to any citizen of the United States the due and equal protection of the laws, or to injure any person in his person or his property for lawfully enforcing the right of any person or class of per-