be, and is hereby, constituted a port of delivery, within the collection district of New Orleans; and there shall be appointed a deputy collector of customs, to reside at said port, who shall receive a salary, to be determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, not exceeding fifteen hundred dollars per annum.

Approved March 1, 1872.

[GENERAL NATURE—No. 12.]

An act making appropriations to supply a deficiency in the appropriations for salaries and contingent expenses of the Post Office Department for the current fiscal year.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following sums are hereby appropriated, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, to supply the deficiency in the appropriations for the service of the Post Office Department for the present fiscal year, viz:

For salaries, eleven thousand four hundred and eighty-three dollars and twenty-five cents.

For contingent expenses, twelve thousand two hundred and sixty-eight dollars and twenty-six cents.

Approved February 20, 1872.

[GENERAL NATURE—No. 27.]

An act to create an additional land district in the State of Minnesota.

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, authorized to establish an additional land district in the State of Minnesota, embracing all that part of the present Alexandria land district which lies north of township number one hundred and thirty-six north, and west of range number thirty-five west of the fifth principal meridian, and to fix from time to time the boundaries of thereof, which district shall be named after the place at which the office shall first be established; and the President shall have power to fix from time to time the location of the office for such district.

SEC. 2. That the President is hereby authorized to appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, a register and receiver for said land district, who shall be required to reside at the site of the land office for said district, who shall be subject to the same laws and responsibilities, and whose compensation, respectively, shall be the same as that now allowed by law to other land officers in said State.

Approved March 12, 1872.

[GENERAL NATURE—No. 26.]

An act to create an additional land district in the State of Nevada.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all that portion of the State of Nevada, embraced in the following described limits, to wit: commencing at the corner common to townships twenty-four and twenty-five north, range forty-four and forty-five east, Mount Diable base and meridian; thence running due east to the eastern boundary line of the State of Nevada; thence north on said eastern boundary of said State to the north boundary of said State; thence west on said north boundary of said State to the eastern boundary of the Carson land district; thence south along said eastern boundary of the Carson land district to the place of beginning, shall constitute a separate land district, to be called the Elko land district, the office of which shall be located at Elko, in Elko county, State of Nevada; which location may be changed by the President of the United States from time to time as the public interest may require.

SEC. 2. That the President shall appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, or in the recess of the Senate, a register and a receiver of public moneys for said district, and said officers shall reside in the place where said land office is located, and shall have the same powers and receive the same emoluments as the same officers now receive in the other land districts in said State.

Approved March 12, 1872.

[GENERAL NATURE—No. 29.]

An act to restore the records of the United States courts in the northern district of Illinois.

Be it enacted by the Senate of House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in proceedings to restore the records of the circuit and district courts of the northern district of Illinois, destroyed by fire on the ninth of October, eighteen hundred and seventy-one, under the act of March third, eighteen hundred and seventy-one, entitled "An act relating to records of the courts of the United States," the notice required by said act may be served upon any non-resident of said district anywhere within the jurisdiction of the United States, or in any foreign country, the proof of the service of such notice, if made in a foreign country, to be certified by a minister or consul of the United States in such country, under his official seal.

SEC. 2. That a certified copy of the official return of the district attorney, clerk of the circuit or district court, or the marshal of the northern district of Illinois, made in pursuance of law, and on file in the Department of Justice, relating to any cause in either of said courts to which the United States was a party, the record of which was destroyed in said fire, may be filed in the court to which it appertains, and shall have the same force and effect as if it were an original return made to said court, and in any case in which the names of the parties, and the date and amount of the judgment or decree shall appear from such returns, it shall be lawful for the court in which they are filed to issue the necessary process to enforce such decree or judgment in the same manner as if the original record was before said court.

SEC. 3. That it shall be the duty of the district attorney for the northern district of Illinois to take such steps as may be necessary to restore the records and files of the circuit and district courts of said district which were destroyed by fire on the ninth of October, eighteen hundred and seventy-one, and in which the United States is interested, so far as the judges of said courts, respectively, shall deem it essential to the interests of the United States that said records and files be restored; and the judges of said courts, respectively, are authorized to direct such steps to be taken as, in their opinion, shall be deemed advisable to restore the judgment dockets and indices of said courts; and, for that purpose, may direct the performance, by the clerks of said courts, and by the United States attorney for said district, of any duty incident thereto, and said clerks and said district attorney shall be allowed such compensation and disbursements for services rendered under this section in cases where no compensation is now provided by law for such services) as may be allowed by the Attorney General, and certified to be just and reasonable by the judge of the court in which said services are rendered, and the amount so allowed shall be paid out of the judiciary fund; provided, however, that the sum allowed the clerks of said courts shall not exceed the sum of twelve thousand dollars, and the entire compensation of the United States attorney for such services shall not exceed the sum of six thousand dollars.

Approved March 18, 1872.

[GENERAL NATURE—No. 33.]

An act to authorize the construction of a bridge across the Mississippi river at or near the town of Clinton, in the State of Iowa, and other bridges across said river, and to establish them as post-roads.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That it shall be lawful for any person or persons, company or corporation, to build a bridge across the Mississippi river, at such point on said river, within fifteen miles of the town of Clinton, in the State of Iowa, as may accommodate the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroad and its connections on the west side of said river, and to lay on or over said bridge railway tracks for the more perfect connection of any railroads that are, or shall be, constructed to the said river at or opposite said point, under the limitations and conditions hereinafter provided; that said bridge shall not interfere with the free navigation of said river beyond what is necessary in order to carry into effect the rights and privileges hereby granted; and in case of any litigation arising from any obstruction, or alleged obstruction, to the free navigation of said river, the cause may be tried before the district court of the United States of any State in which any portion of said obstruction or bridge touches; provided, that said bridge shall not be so located or constructed as to interfere in any manner with the approaches to the railroad bridge now erected at Clinton, or with the piers of the same, or so as to obstruct in any manner the passage of said bridge by boats, vessels, or rafts, or to render such passage more difficult or dangerous; Provided, however, That this clause shall not be construed to prohibit the crossing of the approaches to said bridge, if such crossing shall be found necessary.

SEC. 2. That any bridge built under the provisions of this act may, at the option of the company building the same, be built as a draw-bridge, with a pivot or other form of draw, or with unbroken or continuous spans; provided, that if the said bridge shall be made with unbroken and continuous spans, it shall not be of less elevation, in any case, than fifty feet above extreme high water mark, as understood at the point of location, to the bottom chord of the bridge; nor shall the spans of said bridge be less than two hundred and fifty feet in length, and the piers of said bridge shall be parallel with the current of the river, and the main span shall be over the main channel of the river, and not less than three hundred feet in length; and provided also, that if any bridge built under this act shall be constructed as a draw-bridge, the same shall be constructed as a pivot draw-bridge, with a draw over the main channel of the river at an accessible and navigable point, and with spans of not less than one hundred and sixty feet in length in the clear on each side of the central or pivot pier of the draw; and the next adjoining spans to the draw shall not be less than two hundred and fifty feet; and said spans shall not be less than thirty feet above low-water mark, and not less than ten feet above extreme high-water mark, measuring to the bottom chord of the bridge; and the piers of said bridge shall be parallel with the current of the river, where said bridge may be erected: And provided also, That said draw shall be opened promptly, upon reasonable signal, for the passage of boats.

SEC. 3. That any bridge constructed under this act, and according to its limitations, shall be a lawful structure, and shall be known and recognized as a post-route, upon which, also, no higher charge shall be made for the transmission over the same of the mails, the troops and the munitions of war of the United States than the rate per mile paid for their transportation over the railroads public highways leading to the said bridge, and the United States shall have the right of way for postal telegraph purposes across said bridge.

SEC. 4. That all railway companies desiring to use the said bridge shall have and be entitled to equal rights and privileges in the passage of the same, and in the use of the machinery and fixtures thereof, and of all the approaches thereto, under and upon such terms and conditions as shall be prescribed by the Secretary of War, upon hearing the allegations and proofs of the parties in case they shall not agree.

SEC. 5. That the structure herein authorized shall be built and located under and subject to such regulations for the security of navigation of said river as the Secretary of War shall prescribe, and the said structure shall be at all times so kept and managed as to offer reasonable and proper means for the passage of vessels through or under said structure; and the said structure shall be changed at the cost and expense of the owners thereof, from time to time as Congress may direct, so as to preserve the free and convenient navigation of said river. And the authority to erect and continue said bridge shall be subject to revocation or modification by law whenever the public good shall, in the judgment of Congress so require, without any expense or charge to the United States.

SEC. 6. That the Muscatine Western Railroad Company, or their assigns, a corporation existing under the laws of the State of Iowa, be, and is hereby, authorized to construct and maintain a bridge across the Mississippi river at the city of Muscatine, in the State of Iowa. The bridge authorized to be built by this section is hereby declared to be a post-route, and shall have all the privileges, and is subject to all the terms, restrictions and requirements contained in the foregoing sections of this act.

SEC. 7. That a bridge may be constructed and maintained across the Mississippi river, at any point they may select, between the counties of Carroll and Whitesides, in the State of Illinois, and the counties of Jackson and Clinton, in the State of Iowa, either by the Western Union Railroad Company or the Sabula, Ackley, and Dakota Railroad Company, or both of them, or by either or both of their successors or assigns, or by any person, company, or corporation having authority from the States of Illinois and Iowa. The bridge authorized to be built by this section is hereby declared to be a post route, and has all the privileges, and is subject to all the terms, restrictions, and requirements contained in the foregoing sections of this act.

SEC. 8. That a bridge may be constructed and maintained across the Mississippi river, at any point they may select, between the county of La Crosse, in the State of Wisconsin, and the county of Houston, in the State of Minnesota, by the Milwaukee and Saint Paul Railway Company, their successors or assigns, or by any person, company, or corporation having authority from the States of Wisconsin and Minnesota. The bridge authorized to be built by this section is hereby declared to be a post-route, and has all the privileges, and is subject to all the terms, restrictions, and requirements contained in the foregoing sections of this act.

SEC. 9. That the right to alter or amend this act, so as to prevent or remove all material obstructions to the navigation of said river by the construction of bridges, is hereby expressly reserved.

SEC. 10. That this act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage, without any expense or charge to the United States.

Approved April 1, 1872.

[GENERAL NATURE—No. 32.]

An act in addition to an act entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act for the removal of causes in certain cases from State courts,' approved July twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-six," approved March second, eighteen hundred and sixty-seven.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That whenever a personal action has been or shall be brought in any State court by an alien against any citizen of a State who is, or at the time the alleged action accrued was, a civil officer of the United States, being non-resident of that State wherein jurisdiction is obtained by the State court, by personal service of process, such action may be removed into the Circuit Court of the United States in and for the district in which the defendant shall have been served with process, in the same manner as now provided for the removal of an action brought in a State court by the provisions of section three of the act of March second, eighteen hundred and thirty-three, entitled "An act further to provide for the collection of duties on imports."

Approved March 30, 1872.

[GENERAL NATURE—No. 34.]

An act to authorize the restoration of Gilbert Morton to the naval service.

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, authorized to nominate, and, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to re-appoint Gilbert Morton an ensign in the navy.

Approved April 1, 1872.

[GENERAL NATURE—No. 36.]

An act to provide for the reporting and printing of the debates in Congress.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Congressional Printer is hereby directed to enter into a contract, on behalf of the General Government, with Franklin Rives, Jefferson Rives and George A. Bailey, for the reporting and printing of the debates in Congress for the term of two years, on and from the fourth day of March, eighteen hundred and seventy-one, in accordance with a proposed form of contract from the said Rives and Bailey, submitted to and approved by the Joint Committee on Public Printing on the part of the Senate.

SEC. 2. That for the purpose aforesaid there be appropriated and paid, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of four hundred thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, the accounts having been approved, as in previous years, by the Secretary of the Senate and by the Clerk of the House, or their representatives.

SEC. 3. That no person shall be employed as a reporter for the House without the approval of the Speaker of the House; provided, that it shall be the duty of the Joint Committee on Public Printing to publish an advertisement once a week, for four weeks, in one newspaper in each of the cities of Washington, Philadelphia, New York, Boston, Chicago, Cincinnati, Louisville, St. Louis and San Francisco, inviting proposals in detail for reporting and for printing, together and separately, the debates of the Forty-third, the Forty-fourth and the Forty-fifth Congresses, together or separately, and to report all proposals which may be received before the designated day to Congress, at the earliest practicable date, with estimates, hereby directed to be made by the Congressional Printer, of the cost of reporting the debates, and of printing them at the Government Printing Office, accompanied by the recommendations of the Joint Committee on Public Printing on all proposals and estimates so submitted; and that the bills for such advertising be paid in equal parts from the contingent funds of the Senate and of the House of Representatives: And provided further, That no debates shall be reported or published at public expense, after the close of the present Congress, except upon written contracts entered into therefor under the authority of Congress.

Approved April 2, 1872.

[GENERAL NATURE—No. 35.

An act to authorize the President to appoint George Plunkett a paymaster in the navy.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President be and he is hereby authorized to appoint George Plunkett, a paymaster in the United States navy, if in his opinion, the interests of the public service will be thereby promoted.

Approved April 2, 1872.

[GENERAL NATURE—No. 37.]

An act to establish a port of entry and delivery at the city of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That a port of entry and delivery be and is hereby established at the city of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, which shall be entitled to the same provisions and subject to the same regulations and restrictions as other ports of entry and delivery in the United States.

Approved April 2, 1872.

[GENERAL NATURE—No. 38.]

An act to amend an act entitled "An act to authorize protection to be given to citizens of the United States who may discover deposits of guano," approved August 18, 1856.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the provisions of the act of Congress approved August eighteenth, eighteen hundred and fifty-six, entitled "An act to authorize protection to be given to citizens of the United States who may discover deposits of guano," be and the same are hereby extended to the widow, heirs, executors or administrators of such discoverer, where such discoverer shall have died before perfecting proof of discovery or fully complying with the provisions of said act approved as aforesaid, after complying with the requirements of the act of Congress of August eighteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-five: Provided, that nothing herein contained shall be held to impair any rights of discovery or any assignment by a discoverer heretofore recognized by the government of the United States.

SEC. 2. That section three of an act approved July twenty-eighth, eighteen hundred and sixty-six, entitled "An act to protect the revenue, and for other purposes," amendatory of the act aforesaid, approved August eighteenth, eighteen hundred and fifty-six, be and the same is hereby amended by striking out the word "five," wherever the same occurs, and inserting in lieu thereof the word "ten."

Approved April 2, 1872.

[GENERAL NATURE—No. 39.]

An act to enable honorably discharged soldiers and sailors, their widows and orphan children, to acquire homesteads on 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 private soldier and officer who has served in the army of the United States during the recent rebellion for ninety days, or more, and who was honorably discharged, and has remained loyal to the government, including the troops mustered into the service of the United States by virtue of the third section of an act entitled "An act making appropriations for completing the defenses of Washington, and for other purposes," approved February thirteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and every seaman, marine, and officer who has served in the navy of the United States, or in the marine corps, during the rebellion, for ninety days, and who was honorably discharged, and has remained loyal to the government, shall, on compliance with the provisions of an act entitled "An act to secure homesteads to actual settlers on the public domain," and the acts amendatory thereof, as hereinafter modified, be entitled to enter upon and receive patents for a quantity of public lands (not mineral) not exceeding one hundred and sixty acres, or one-quarter section, to be taken in compact form according to legal subdivisions, including the alternate reserved sections of public lands along the line of any railroad or other public work, not otherwise reserved or appropriated, and other lands subject to entry under the homestead laws of the United States; provided, that said homestead settler shall be allowed six months after locating his homestead within which to commence his settlement and improvement; and provided, also, that the time which the homestead settler shall have served in the army, navy, or marine corps aforesaid, shall be deducted from the time heretofore required to perfect title, or it discharged on account of wounds received, or disability incurred, in the line of duty, then the term of enlistment shall be deducted from the time heretofore required to perfect title, without reference to the length of time he may have served; provided, however, that no patent shall issue to any homestead settler who has not resided upon, improved, and cultivated his said homestead for a period of at least one year after he shall commence his improvements as aforesaid.

SEC. 2. That any person entitled under the provisions of the foregoing section to enter a homestead who may have heretofore entered under the homestead laws a quantity of land less than one hundred and sixty acres shall be permitted to enter under the provisions of this act so much land as, when added to the quantity previously entered, shall not exceed one hundred and sixty acres.

SEC. 3. That in case of the death of any person who would be entitled to a homestead under the provisions of the first section of this act his widow, if unmarried, or in case of her death or marriage, then his minor orphan children, by a guardian duly appointed and officially accredited at the Department of the Interior, shall be entitled to all the benefits enumerated in this act, subject to all the provisions as to settlement and improvements therein contained; provided, that if such person died during his term of enlistment, the whole term of his enlistment shall be deducted from the time heretofore required to perfect the title.

SEC. 4. That where a party at the date of his entry of a tract of land under the homestead laws, or subsequently thereto, was actually enlisted and employed in the army or navy of the United States, his services therein shall, in the administration of said homestead law, be construed to be equivalent, to all intents and purposes, to a residence for the same length of time upon the tract so entered; provided, that if his entry has been canceled by reason of his absence from said tract while in the military or naval service of the United States, and such tract has not been disposed of, his entry shall be restored and confirmed; and provided further, that if such tract has been disposed of, said party may enter another tract subject to entry under said laws; and his right to a patent therefor shall be determined by the proofs touching his residence and cultivation of the first tract, and his absence therefrom in such service.

SEC. 5. That any soldier, sailor, marine, officer, or other person coming within the provisions of this act may, as well by an agent as in person, enter upon said homestead; provided, that said claimant in person shall, within the time prescribed, commence settlements and improvements on the same, and thereafter fulfill all the requirements of this act.

SEC. 6. That the Commissioner of the General Land Office shall have authority to make all needful rules and regulations to carry into effect the provisions of this act.

Approved April 4, 1872.

[GENERAL NATURE—No. 40.]

An act to amend the thirty-second section of an act entitled "An act to reduce internal taxes, and for other purposes," approved July fourteenth, eighteen hundred and seventy.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section thirty-two of an act entitled "An act to reduce internal taxes, and for other purposes," approved July fourteenth, eighteen hundred and seventy, be and the same is hereby amended to read as follows: Section 32. And be it further enacted, That merchandise transported under the provisions of this act shall be conveyed in cars, vessels or vehicles, securely fastened with locks or seals, under the exclusive control of the officers of customs; and inspectors shall be stationed at proper points along the designated routes, or upon any car, vessel, vehicle or train, at the discretion of the said Secretary, and at the expense of the said companies respectively. And such merchandise shall not be unladen or transshipped between the ports of first arrival and final destination, unless authorized by the regulations of the Secretary of the Treasury, in cases which may arise from a difference in the gauge of railroads, or from accidents, or from legal intervention, or from low water, ice, or other unavoidable obstruction to navigation; but in no case shall there be permitted any breaking of original packages of such merchandise.

Approved April 5, 1872.

[GENERAL NATURE—No. 41.]

An act defining the rights of part owners of vessels in certain cases.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That any person or persons or body corporate having more than one-half ownership of any vessel shall have the same power to remove a captain, who is also part owner of such vessel, as such majority owners now have to remove a captain not an owner; provided, that this act shall not apply where there is a valid written agreement subsisting, by virtue of which such captain would be entitled to possession, nor in any case where a captain has possession as part owner, obtained before the passage of this act.

Approved April 9, 1872.

[GENERAL NATURE—No. 42.]

An act to change the time for holding the spring term of the United States circuit and district courts at Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That instead of the time now provided for in the act approved February first, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, "to change the times for holding circuit and district courts of the United States for western district of Virginia," for holding the spring term at Harrisonburg, in that State, said courts shall be held thereat on the Tuesday after the first Monday in May in each year.

Approved April 13, 1872.

[GENERAL NATURE—No. 43.]

An act for the relief of the officers and crew of the United States steamer "Kearsarge."

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Navy be and he hereby is authorized and directed to pay, out of money hereafter to be appropriated, to Rear Admiral John A. Winslow, and the officers and crew belonging to the United States steamer "Kearsarge" while engaged in the capture and destruction of the vessel called the "Alabama," on the nineteenth day of June, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, the sum of one hundred and ninety thousand dollars, the same being the estimated value thereof, to be distributed to the officers and crew attached to the "Kearsage" at the date above named according to the pay roll of the ship at the time, and to be in lieu of the bounty authorized by the eleventh section of the act of June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, entitled "An act to regulate prize proceedings, and so forth;" provided, that no money shall be paid to the assignee of any of said officers or crew, entitled to receive the same, but only to himself in person, or to his wife, or to his personal representatives, excluding any such assignee; and provided further, that if any of the officers or crew of said United States steamer "Kearsage" shall have received the bounty provided for by the said section eleven of the act of June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, the same shall be deducted from the amount to be paid to such officer or seaman under this act.

Approved April 17, 1872.

[GENERAL NATURE—No. 44.]

An act to change the boundaries of the collection district of Brazos de Santiago, in the State of Texas.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the county of Starr, now forming a part of the collection district of Corpus Christi, in the State of Texas, shall be detached therefrom and annexed to the collection district of Brazos de Santiago, and form a part of said district in said State.

Approved April 17, 1872.

[GENERAL NATURE—No. 48.]

An act in relation to bounties.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That every volunteer, non-commissioned officer, private, musician, and artificer who enlisted into the military service of the United States prior to July twenty-second, eighteen hundred and sixty one, under the proclamation of the President of the United States of May third, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, and the orders of the War Department issued in pursuance thereof, and was actually mustered before August sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, into any regiment, company, or battery, which was accepted by the War Department under such proclamation and orders, shall be paid the full bounty of one hundred dollars, under and by virtue of the said proclamation and orders of the War Department, in force at the time of such enlishment and prior to July twenty-second, eighteen hundred and sixty-one: Provided, That the same has not already been paid.

Approved April 22, 1872.

[GENERAL NATURE—No. 49.]

An act to create the Linkton land district, in the State of Oregon.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all that portion of the State of Oregon lying south of the fourth standard parallel south of the base line, between townships eighteen and nineteen south, and east of the meridian line between ranges five and six in said State, shall constitute an additional land district, to be called the Linkton district; and the office of said district shall be located at Linkville, subject to be changed by the President of the United States as the public interests may require.

SEC. 2. That the President be, and he is hereby, authorized to appoint, in accordance with existing laws authorizing appointments to office, a register and receiver for the district hereby created, who shall each be required to reside at the site of the office for said district, have the same powers, responsibilities and emoluments, and be subject to the same acts and penalties which are or may be prescribed by law in relation to other land officers of the United States for the State of Oregon.

SEC. 3. That all sales and locations made at the offices of the district in which the lands embraced in this district have hitherto been included, situate within the limits of this district, which shall be valid and right in other respects up to the day on which the new office shall go into operation, be, and the same are hereby, confirmed.

Approved April 24, 1872.

[GENERAL NATURE—No. 50.]

An act relating to proposals and contracts for transportation of the mails, 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 or persons bidding for the transportation of the mails upon any route which may be advertised to be let, and receiving an award of the contract for such service, who shall wrongfully refuse or fail to enter into contract with the Postmaster General, in due form, and perform the service described in his or their bid or proposal, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction thereof, be punished by a fine not exceeding five thousand dollars, and by imprisonment for a term not exceeding twelve months.

SEC. 2. That each bid for carrying the mail shall hereafter have affixed to it the oath of the bidder, taken before an officer qualified to administer oaths, that he has the ability pecuniarily to fulfill his obligations, and that the bid is made in good faith and with the intention to enter into contract and perform the service, in case his bid shall be accepted; and that the signatures of his guarantors are genuine, and that he believes said guarantors pecuniarily responsible for and able to pay all damages the United States shall suffer by reason of the bidder failing to perform his obligations as such bidder.

SEC. 3. That any postmaster or other officer of the Postoffice Department who shall affix his signature to the certificate of sufficiency of guarantors or sureties before the guaranty or contract is signed by the guarantors or sureties, or shall knowingly make any false or illusory certificate, shall be forthwith dismissed from office, and shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall, on conviction thereof, be punished by a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars, or by imprisonment not exceeding one year, or both.

SEC. 4. That no bidder for carrying the mails shall be released from his obligation under his bid or proposal, notwithstanding an award made to a lower bidder, until a contract for the designated service shall have been duly executed by such lower bidder and his sureties, and accepted, and the service entered upon by the contractor to the satisfaction of the Postmaster General.

SEC. 5. That after any regular bidder or contractor for the transportation of the mail upon any route shall have failed to enter into contract, and commence the performance thereof as herein provided, the Postmaster General shall proceed to contract with the next lowest bidder for such service, who will enter into a contract and perform the same, unless the Postmaster General shall consider such bid too high; in which case he shall re-advertise such service. And in all cases of regular contracts hereafter made, the contract may, in the discretion of the Postmaster General, be continued in force beyond its express terms for a period not exceeding six months, until a new contract with the same or other contractors shall be made by the Postmaster General.

SEC. 6. That hereafter all bidders upon every mail route for the transportation of the mails upon the same, where the annual compensation for the service on such route at the time exceeds the sum of five thousand dollars, shall accompany their bids with a certified check or draft, payable to the order of the Postmaster General, upon some solvent national bank, which check or draft shall not be less than five per centum on the amount of the annual pay on said route at the time such bid is made, and in case of new service, not less than five per centum of the amount of one year's pay proposed in such bid, if the bid exceed five thousand dollars per annum. In case any bidder, on being awarded any such contract, shall fail to execute the same with good and sufficient sureties, according to the terms on which such bid was made and accepted, and enter upon the performance of the service to the satisfaction of the Postmaster General, such bidder shall forfeit the amount so deposited to the United States, and the same shall forthwith be paid into the treasury for the use of the Postoffice Department; but if such contract shall be duly executed and the service entered upon as aforesaid, such draft or check so deposited shall be returned to the bidder.

SEC. 7. That in case of the sickness, or unavoidable absence from his office, of the postmaster of any money-order postoffice, he may, with the approval of the Postmaster General, authorize the chief clerk, or some other clerk employed therein, to act in his place, and to discharge all the duties required by law of such postmaster; provided, that the official bond given by the principal of the office shall be held to cover and apply to the acts of the person appointed to act in his place in such cases; and provided, further, that such acting officer shall, for the time being, be subject to all the liabilities and penalties prescribed by law for the official misconduct, in like cases, of the postmaster for whom he shall act.

SEC. 8. That the Postmaster General, whenever he may deem it consistent with the public interest, may accept new surety upon any contract existing, or hereafter made, for carrying the mails, in substitution for and release of any existing surety.

SEC. 9. That the Postmaster General is hereby authorized to cause to be placed to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States, for the service of the Postoffice Department, the net proceeds of the money-order business; and that the receipts of the Postoffice Department, derived from this source, during each quarter, shall be entered by the Auditor of the Treasury for the Postoffice Department, in the accounts of said Department, under the head of "Revenue from money-order business."

Approved April 27, 1872.

[GENERAL NATURE—No. 51.]

An act to amend section second, act of August thirtieth, eighteen hundred and fifty-two, in relation to the transportation and exportation of imported goods, wares, and merchandise in bond through certain ports in the State of Texas.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section second of the act of August thirtieth, eighteen hundred and fifty-two, entitled "An act authorizing imported goods, wares, and merchandise, entered and bonded for warehousing in pursuance of law, to be exported by certain routes to ports and places in Mexico," be so amended that imported merchandise, duly entered and bonded at a port of the United States, and withdrawn from warehouse in accordance with existing law, for exportation for San Fernando, Paso del Norte, and Chihuahua, in Mexico, shall pass through Indianola, the port of entry for the district of Saluria, in the State of Texas, under such regulations as the Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe, as well as through the port of Lavaca, in said district, as required by said section.

Approved April 30, 1872.

REWARDS.

$1000 REWARD.—IN VIEW OF THE increase of counterfeit nickel pieces given for fare in the street railroad cars, a reward of One Thousand Dollars will be paid for the detection and conviction of any one making and passing knowingly such counterfeit five cent pieces in any of the city railroad cars, and One Hundred Dollars for the detection and conviction of any one knowingly putting counterfeit five cent pieces or nickels in the car fare boxes. Drivers are instructed to have arrested at once any person putting such counterfeit coins in the fare box.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
President New Orleans and Carrollton Railroad Company.
F. WINTZ,
President New Orleans City Railroad Company.
ARCH. MONTGOMERY,
President Crescent City Railroad Company.
A. McCLELLAN,
President St. Charles Street Railroad Company.
E. J. HART,
President Canal and Claiborne Street Railroad Company.
R. H. SCHMIDTZ,
my11 30t President Orleans Railroad Company.

INSURANCE.

CRESCENT MUTUAL
INSURANCE COMPANY.

TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL STATEMENT.

NEW ORLEANS, May 16, 1872.

The Trustees, in conformity to the charter, submit the following statement of the affairs of the company on the thirtieth of April, 1872:

Fire premiums for the year	$194,062 44
Marine premiums for the year	61,350 64
River premiums for the year	183,299 36
Total	$438,718 44
Earned premiums, less reinsurance and return premiums	$358,153 65
Net profits	$79,823 61

The company has assets to the amount of $732,129 40.

The Board of Trustees resolved to pay interest at SIX PER CENT CASH on all the outstanding CERTIFICATES OF SCRIP, to the legal holders thereof on and after the second Monday in June next.

They have also declared a SCRIP DIVIDEND OF THIRTY-THREE AND ONE-THIRD PER CENT on the earned premiums entitled to participate for the year ending April 30, 1872, for which certificate will be issued on and after the first Monday in August next, free of government tax.

THOMAS A. ADAMS, President.
HENRY V. OGDEN, Secretary.

Trustees.

SAMUEL H. KENNEDY, JOHN PHELPS,
C. T. BUDDECKE, P. H. FOLEY,
A. G. OBER, A. THOMSON,
E. H. SUMMERS, B. NEWGASS,
P. N. STRONG, VICTOR MEYER,
JOSEPH BOWLING, J. J. GARRARD,
S. S. NEWMAN.
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MERCHANTS' MUTUAL INSURANCE
COMPANY OF NEW ORLEANS.

No. 104 Canal street.

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL STATEMENT.

In conformity with the requirements of their charter, the company publish the following statement:

Premiums received during the year ending May 31, 1871, including unearned premiums of the previous year—

On fire risks		$757,877 68
On marine risks		103,866 61
On river risks		339,680 35
Total premiums		$1,101,603 64
Less unearned premiums		322,429 00
Net earned premiums, May 31, 1871		$779,640 64
Losses paid—		
On fire risks	$439,790 37	
On marine risks	69,330 27	
On river risks	73,791 03	
Total	$571,912 27	
Taxes	46,531 71	
Reinsurances and return premiums	30,053 27	
Total	$648,396 35	
Deduct interest, less expenses	32,260 75—	$615,135 60
Profit		$363,505 04

The company have the following assets—

Real estate	$119,965 11
City bonds	354,050 00
Bank and railroad stocks	37,658 00
Notes secured by mortgage	416,923 8
Notes secured by pledge	162,588 8
Bills receivable	57,765 49
Premiums in course of collection	62,023 94
State bonds	2,500 00
Scrip of other companies	6,112 50
Stock of Vallette Dry Dock Company	10,000 00
Stock of Levee Steam Cotton Press	2,500 00
Stock of Marine Dry Dock and Ship Yard Company	2,500 00
Harbor Protection Company	1,500 00
Mortgage bonds Grand Lodge of Louisiana	2,000 00
Mortgage bonds Turners' Association	2,000 00
Mortgage bonds Odd Fellows' Hall	5,000
Stock Opera House Association	3,000 00
Judgments	18,134 10
Cash on hand	321,362 89
Total assets	$1,483,189 57
Less—Unclaimed interest and interest payable July next on all outstanding scrips of the company	$79,745 96
Issues of scrip for the years 1863, 1864 and 1865, payable in July	169,890 00
Unearned premiums on May 31, 1871	222,422 00— $481,057 96
	$1,002,131 67

The above statement is a just, true and correct transcript from the books of the company.

P. FOURCHY, President.
G. W. NOTT, Secretary.

STATE OF LOUISIANA,
Parish of Orleans, City of New Orleans.
Sworn to and subscribed before me the third day of June, 1871.
JOSEPH CUVILLIER, Notary Public.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors, held on the third day of June, 1871, it was resolved to declare a scrip dividend of thirty per cent on the net earned participating premiums for the year ending thirty-first of May, 1871, for which certificate will be issued on and after the first day of August next. Also, to pay on and after the second Monday in July next the whole issues of Scrip for the years 1863, 1864 and 1865, and six per cent interest on all outstanding scrip of the company.

DIRECTORS:

P. Fourchy,	L. F. Generes,
P. Maspero,	P. S. Witz,
D. McCoard,	S. Z. Relf,
M. Puig,	Joseph Hoy,
D. A. Chaffraix,	Charles Lafitte

je4 1y J. J. Fernandez.

NEW ORLEANS MUTUAL
INSURANCE COMPANY.

Office Corner of Camp and Canal Streets.

ASSETS DECEMBER 31, 1870, $602,743 07.

Insures fire, marine and river risks, dividing the profits on each department separately to the insured.

J. W. HINCKS, Secretary. J. TUTES, President.

Directors.

George Urquhart,	M. Payro,
A. Rochereau,	Placide Forstall,
G. W. Babcock,	Augustus Reichard,
A. Schreiber,	Ernest Miltenberger,
Charles Lafitte,	W. B. Schmidt,
T. Bailly Blanchard,	J. Tujes.

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James E. Zuntz vs. J. R. Powell.

SEVENTH DISTRICT COURT FOR THE PARISH of Orleans, No. 7266.—By virtue of a writ of fieri facias to me directed by the honorable the Seventh District Court for the parish of Orleans, in the above entitled cause, I will proceed to sell at public auction, at the St. Louis Auction Exchange, in the basement rotunda of the St. Louis Hotel, St. Louis street, between Chartres and Royal streets, in the Second District of this city, on FRIDAY, June 28, 1872, at twelve o'clock M., the following described property, to wit—

1. A CERTAIN PORTION OF GROUND, situated in the Third District of this city, in the square bounded by Bayou Road, the projected continuation of Tonti street, the projected continuation of Kerlerec street, and Rocheblave street, measuring in French measure one hundred and thirty-five feet front on Bayou Road, by a depth of two hundred and sixty feet on the side line nearer Tonti street, and of two hundred and twenty feet on the side line nearer Rocheblave street, and about one hundred and thirty-five feet in width on the rear line, designated by the number one on a sketch annexed for reference to an act of mortgage by defendant, J. R. Powell, in favor of T. L. Shute, passed before T. O. Starke, notary public, in this city, on the second day of April, 1869.

Together with all the buildings and improvements thereon and appurtenances thereunto belonging, or in any wise appertaining.

2. And a certain other portion of ground situated in the said Third District of this city, in the square bounded by Columbus street, the projected continuation of Kerlerec street and Rocheblave street, measuring in French measure one hundred and thirty-five feet front on Columbus street, by a depth of two hundred and eighty feet on the side line nearer Rocheblave street, and three hundred and