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ASTARTE.

BY OWEN MEREDITH.

When the latest strife is lost, and all is done with,
Ere we slumber in the spirit and the brain,
We drowse back, in dreams, to days that life began with,
And their tender light returns to us again.

I have cast away the tangle and the torment
Of the cords that bound my life up in a mesh:
And the pulse begins to throb that long lay dormant
'Neath their pressure, and the old wounds bleed afresh.

I am touch'd again with shades of early sadness,
Like the summer cloud's light shadow in my hair;
I am thrill'd again with breaths of boyish gladness,
Like the scent of some last primrose on the air.

And again she comes, with all her silent graces,
The lost woman of my youth, yet unpossess'd:
And her cold face so unlike the other faces
Of the woman whose dead lips I since have prest

The motion and the fragrance of her garments
Seem about me, all the day long, in the room:
And her face, with its bewildering old endearments,
Comes at night, between the curtains, in the gloom.

When vain dreams are utter'd with sighing, near the morning,
To my own her phantom lips I feel approach:
And her smile, at eve, breaks o'er without warning
From its speechless, pale, perpetual reproach.

When life's dawning glimmer yet had all the tint there
Of the orient, in the freshness of the grass
(Ah, what feet since then have trodden out the print there?)
Did her soft, her silent footsteps fall and pass.

They fell lightly, as the dew falls, 'mid ungather'd
Meadow flowers: and lightly lingered with the dew.
But the dew is gone, the grass is dried and wither'd,
And the traces of those steps have faded too.

Other footsteps fall about me—faint, uncertain,
In the shadow of the world, as it recedes:
Other forms peer thro' the half uplifted curtain
Of that mystery which hangs behind the creeds.

What is gone, is gone forever. And new fashions
May replace old forms which nothing can restore.
But I turn from sighing back departed passions
With that pining at the bosom as of yore.

I remember to have murmur'd, morn and even,
"Tho' the Earth dispart these Earthlies, face from face,
Yet the Heavenlies shall surely join in Heaven,
For the spirit hath no bonds in time or space.

"Where it listeth, there it bloweth: all existence
Is its region; and it housetH where it will.
I shall feel her thro' immeasurable distance,
And grow nearer and be gathered to her still.

"If I fail to find her out by her gold tresses,
Brows, and breast, and lips, and language of sweet strains,
I shall know her by the traces of dead kisses,
And that portion of myself which she retains."

But my being is confused with new experience,
And changed to something other than it was;
And the Future with the Past are at variance:
And Life falters with the burdens which it has.

Earth's old sins press fast behind me, weakly waiting;
Faint before me fleets the good I have not done:
And my search for her may still be unavailing
'Mid the spirits that are passed beyond the sun.

A Visit to Bulwer.

M. Alexandre Dumas describes, in the last number of the *Revue de Paris*, a visit which he paid to Lord Lytton in 1868. He says:

"When Dickens died, my heart was sad, for I knew him well, and so did my illustrious father, because he knew us and liked us; but when the great Bulwer died, I felt still sadder, for Bulwer, only a few years ago, raised me from despair to hopefulness.

"They who are able to do such things are better than apostles; they are angels.

"Misunderstand me not. Bulwer did not encourage me in anything mean. He only took me up, a broken reed, after fifteen years of literary life, when I was heart-broken, and said:

"'Courage!'

"How did I become acquainted with Bulwer? Go back thirty years. What was I but a boy! What was my father! A great man.

"This great man lived at Versailles. He had a court. Who were his courtiers? Balzac and Eugene Sue.

"I, a poor little fellow, was almost stupefied in seeing around my father the incarnation of goodness, so much ability and brilliancy.

"Do you know why I never appreciated Bonmots? Because I heard too many of them.

"One day there appeared at my father's table a slender gentleman of foreign aspect. Father took me upon his lap, and said to his strange guest, 'This is my son!'

"The distinguished stranger, with a wonderful air of kindness in his eyes, took me in his arms, kissed me, and said:

"'Dear child.'

"I was anxious to know who he was. I asked papa, and he said:

"'He wrote "Eugene Aram."'

"It was Bulwer.

"Four years afterwards I devoured his books. They made me learn the English language. I never regretted it.

"That was long ago. We were all happy. We grew up, and I grew old, and father remained young. France was quiet. I wrote, and sometimes people applauded me.

"One day they hissed one of my plays. I was there; but, when I heard those serpentine sounds, I did not betray any emotion. I thought my play was good; yet, when I went home, and retired to my couch, I buried my head in my pillow.

"Ah! France had become too small for me. I wanted to flee, and I went to England.

"Whom should I meet in London but M. Louis Blanc? He said to me:

"'You must see Bulwer.'

"Everybody in London knew where the great man lived. Next day I knocked at the door of his elegant house.

"He sent at once word that he would see me. I entered his library. There he was, the same noble features of him who had taken me in his arms at Vincennes, at my father's house, only his hair had grown more silvery.

"He was affected when he saw me, and I was hardly able to restrain my tears.

"Once I heard Mr. Thiers complimenting a young parliamentary orator. That made a deep impression upon me. But what was my sensation when the great Bulwer said to me he had read my plays, and he had been deeply interested in them!

"Our conversation was very long; but to me it seemed very brief. Bulwer said that he would rather be a great dramatist that a novelist.

"With that *naivete* which is sometimes peculiar to great authors, he asked me which of his works I liked best.

"I was embarrassed, for I liked them all but I answered—

"'Pelham!'

"'Everybody likes that,' he said slowly; 'but have you read "Rienzi?"'

"'Read and admired it,' was my answer.

"'Was it really good?'

"'In my opinion, faultless.'

"There was a smile of gratification in his beautiful eyes. Mine grew more lustrous as I saw it.

"He asked how long would I remain in England. I told him what had brought me there.

"He laughed at me.

"'What! So small a misfortune as that?'

"I dropped my eyes.

"Bulwer laughed, and said:

"'You Frenchmen are the most clever but also the most sensative of playwrights. I know something about your first night audiences in Paris. I have been among them. But nothing does them more good than to tear down what ought to be applauded. I assure you, I myself would never venture with a play first before a Parisian audience.'

"'Ah!' I said, 'your "Lady of Lyons" is popular all over France.'

"'Yes,' he answered, 'because I am an Englishman.'

"When we parted, he whispered into my ear—

"'Courage!'

"That noble word sustained me ever afterward, and I recalled it when I received the news of the death of the great and good man."

An Irishman went for the first time to a play. Just as the drop curtain descended after the first act, an engine in the basement exploded, and the Celt was blown through the roof, alighting in the next square. His first remark, after coming to his senses, was, "And what the divil do they play next?"

OFFICIAL.

Laws of the United States Passed at the Third Session of the Forty-Second Congress.

[GENERAL NATURE—No. 61.]

An act making appropriations for the repair, preservation, and completion of certain public works on rivers and harbors, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following sums of money be, and are hereby, appropriated, to be paid out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War, for the repair, preservation, and completion of the following public works hereinafter named:

For the purpose of dredging out the bay of Superior from the natural entrance to the docks of Superior and DuLuth and preserving both entrances from the lake thereto, one hundred thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Marquette harbor, Michigan, fifteen thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Menominee harbor, Michigan and Wisconsin, twenty-five thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Green Bay harbor, Wisconsin, twenty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Two Rivers harbor, Wisconsin, twenty-five thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Manitowoc harbor, Wisconsin, twenty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Sheboygan harbor, Wisconsin, ten thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Port Washington harbor, Wisconsin, fifteen thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Milwaukee harbor, Wisconsin, ten thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Racine harbor, Wisconsin, twenty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Chicago harbor, Illinois, ninety thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Calumet harbor, Illinois, forty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Michigan City harbor, Indiana, fifty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the Fox and Wisconsin rivers, three hundred thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Manistee harbor, Michigan, ten thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Ludington harbor, Michigan, twenty-five thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the harbors of Washington and Georgetown, District of Columbia, fifty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Great Kanawha river, West Virginia, twenty-five thousand dollars.

For the improvement of White River harbor, Michigan, seven thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Frankfort harbor, Michigan, ten thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Grand Haven harbor, Michigan, seventy-five thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Black Lake harbor, Michigan, twelve thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Saugatuck harbor, Michigan, ten thousand dollars.

For the improvement of South Haven harbor, Michigan, twenty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Monroe harbor, Michigan, fifteen thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Cheboygan harbor, Michigan, fifteen thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Saint Mary's Falls canal, two hundred thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Saint Clair river at the mouth of Black river, fifteen thousand dollars.

For the improvement of harbor of refuge, on Lake Huron, seventy-five thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Pentwater harbor, Michigan, twenty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Saint Clair Flats canal, one hundred thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Toledo harbor, Ohio, one hundred thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Sandusky City harbor, Ohio, twenty-five thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Vermilion harbor, Ohio, twelve thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Black River harbor, Ohio, twenty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Cleveland harbor, Ohio, one thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Ashtabula harbor, Ohio, sixteen thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Conneaut harbor Ohio, four hundred dollars.

For the improvement of Dunkirk harbor, New York, forty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Buffalo harbor, New York, seventy-five thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Olcott harbor, New York, ten thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Oak Orchard harbor, New York, ten thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Pultneyville harbor, New York, ten thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Little Sodus harbor, New York, fifteen thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Oswego harbor, New York, one hundred thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Waddington harbor, New York, ten thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Ogdensburg harbor, New York, six thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Plattsburgh harbor, New York, ten thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Swanton harbor, Vermont, fifteen thousand dollars.

For the removal of a sand-bar in the harbor at the mouth of Black river, New York, five thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary.

For the improvement of Peconic river, Long Island, New York, ten thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Burlington harbor, Vermont, twenty-five thousand dollars.

For the preservation of the falls of Saint Anthony, Minnesota, and the navigation of the Mississippi river above the same, fifty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the Minnesota river, Minnesota, ten thousand dollars; provided, that one-half of said sum shall be expended between the mouth of the Yellow Medicine and Minnesota falls on said river.

For construction of the lock and dam of the Mississippi river, at Meeker's Island, Minnesota, according to the surveys and plans of the War Department, twenty-five thousand dollars; provided, that all rights and claims in and to the land grant made to the State of Minnesota for the above work, by act approved July twenty-third, eighteen hundred and sixty-eight, shall be fully relinquished to the United States before any of this appropriation is expended.

For improvement of the upper Mississippi river, twenty-five thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the Illinois river, one hundred thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the Des Moines Rapids, Mississippi river, four hundred thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the Rock Island rapids, Mississippi river, fifty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the harbor of refuge at the entrace of Sturgeon Bay canal, forty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the Mississippi, Missouri and Arkansas rivers, one hundred thousand dollars.

For improvement of Yazoo river, forty thousand dollars.

The ten thousand dollars appropriated at the second session of the Forty-second Congress for the improvement of the Tombigbee river shall be expended in the State of Mississippi.

For the improvement of the Osage river, Missouri, twenty-five thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the White and St. Francis rivers, fifty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the Ouachita river, in Louisiana, sixty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the Mississippi river between the mouth of the Missouri river and the mouth of the Ohio river, two hundred thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the Ohio river, two hundred thousand dollars. And that Godfrey Weitzell, of the corps of engineers, United States army, in charge of the Louisville and Portland canal, is hereby empowered and directed, subject to the approval of the chief of engineers of said corps, to adjust and pay, out of any money appropriated for the improvement of said canal, to J. C. Dennis any legal or equitable claims he may have against the United States arising out of work done by him under Hugh McGlincy and Company's contract to perform work on said canal, in the years eighteen hundred and seventy-one and eighteen hundred and seventy two; and said Godfrey Weitzell is further authorized and directed to pay to said J. C. Dennis, in addition to the amount above provided for, such other sums as said Weitzell shall find that said Dennis is legally or equitably entitled to as assignee of Hugh McGlincy and Company for work done by said Dennis on said improvement; provided, that such sums shall not exceed the amount due and owing by the government of the United States for work done under said contract of Hugh McGlincy and Company, and that the sums thus received of Weitzell shall be in full of the claim of said McGlincy and Company under their contract, and in full of the claim of said Dennis as the assignee of said firm.

For completing the Louisville and Portland canal, one hundred thousand dollars; and the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to assume, on behalf of the United States, the control and management of the said canal in conformity with the terms of the joint resolution of the Legislature of the State of Kentucky, approved March twenty-eighth, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, at such time and in such manner as in his judgment the interests of the United States, and the commerce thereof may require; and the sum of money necessary to enable the Secretary of the Treasury to carry this provision into effect is hereby appropriated: provided, that after the United States shall assume control of said canal, the tolls thereon on vessels propelled by steam shall be reduced to twenty-five cents per ton, and on all other vessels in proportion.

For the improvement of the Upper Monongahela river, near Morgantown, West Virginia, sixty-six thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the Cumberland river, below Nashville, Tennessee, twenty-five thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the Wabash river, Indiana and Illinois, fifty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the Tennessee river, below Chattanooga, including the Muscle Shoals, one hundred thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the Tennessee river above Chattanooga, twenty-five thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the mouth of the Mississippi river, one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars.

For removing the raft in Red river, Louisiana, eighty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Cypress bayou, and construction of dams, and dredging at the foot of Soda lake, Texas, fifty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Mobile harbor and bay, Alabama, one hundred thousand dollars.

For completing work now in progress in improving Charleston harbor, South Carolina, five thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Savannah harbor and river, Georgia, fifty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of St. Johns river, Florida, ten thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the entrance to the harbor of Baltimore, in Patapsco river and Chesapeake bay, two hundred thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the Wicomico river, Maryland, five thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Cambridge harbor, Maryland, five thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Chester river, at Kent Island narrows, Maryland, fifteen thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Aquia creek, Virginia, two thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the mouth of Occoquan river, Virginia, five thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the mouth of Nomoni creek, Virginia, ten thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the Rappahannock river below Fredericksburg, Virginia, fifteen thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the James river, Virginia, seventy-five thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the south branch of Elizabeth river, Virginia, fifteen thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the Appomattox river, below Petersburg, Virginia, thirty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Nansemond river, Virginia, fifteen thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Roanoke river below Weldon, North Carolina, ten thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Cape Fear river below Wilmington, North Carolina, one hundred thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Wilmington harbor, Delaware, six thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the channel of the Delaware river, at Fort Mifflin bar, fifty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the channel of the Delaware river at and near the Horse-Shoe shoals, fifty thousand dollars; the work not to be commenced until an examination and survey has been made by a board of engineers of the United States army, appointed by the Secretary of War, and a favorable report upon the feasibility and expense of the plan adopted for the prevention and removal of the obstructions.

For the improvement of the channel of the Schuylkill river, Pennsylvania, forty thousand dollars, of which amount a portion shall be used for commencing the removal of the rocks at and near South street wharf.

For the improvement of Broadkin river, Delaware, ten thousand dollars.

For building an additional pier for the ice harbor at New Castle, Delaware, twenty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of South river, New Jersey, five thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the North and South branches of Shrewsbury river, New Jersey, five thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Delaware river between Trenton and Bordentown, New Jersey, fifteen thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the Hudson river, New York, forty thousand dollars.

For removing obstructions in East river, New York, including Hell Gate, two hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Passaic river, New Jersey, twenty-five thousand dollars.

For the improvement of East Chester creek, New York, twenty-five thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Rondout harbor, Hudson river, New York, twenty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Pawtucket river, Rhode Island, ten thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Providence river, Rhode Island, ten thousand dollars.

For dredging the entrance of Newport harbor, Rhode Island, and for a jettee on the south end of Goat Island, eight thousand five hundred dollars.

For the improvement of Cohansey creek, New Jersey, ten thousand dollars.

For the improvement of harbor at Block Island, Rhode Island, fifty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Wickford harbor, Rhode Island, five thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Pawcatuck river, Rhode Island and Connecticut, ten thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Connecticut river below Hartford, Connecticut, twenty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Connecticut river above Hartford and below Enfield falls, twenty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of New Haven harbor, Connecticut, twenty-five thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Housatonic river, Connecticut, ten thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Bridgeport harbor, Connecticut, thirty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Norwalk harbor, Connecticut, ten thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Stonington harbor, Connecticut, by deepening and dredging the same and its approaches, twenty-five thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Saint Croix river above the "ledge," Maine, ten thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Machias river, Maine, twelve thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Camden harbor, Maine, ten thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Penobscot river, Maine, twenty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Kennebec river, Maine, twelve thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Portland harbor, Maine, fifty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Richmond island, Maine, sixty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Cocheco river, New Hampshire, ten thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Merrimac river, Massachusetts, twenty-five thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Boston harbor Massachusetts, including Deer and Lovell's islands, one hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

For improvement of the South channel at entrance of Duxbury harbor, Massachusetts, ten thousand dollars.

For improvement of Plymouth harbor, Massachusetts, three thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Provincetown harbor, Massachusetts, six thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Hyannis harbor, Massachusetts, ten thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Wareham harbor, Massachusetts, ten thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Taunton river, Massachusetts, ten thousand dollars.

For removing sand-bar forming at the entrance of Salem harbor, Massachusetts, fifteen thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the Lower Willamette and Columbia rivers, from Portland, Oregon, to the sea, twenty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the Upper Willamette river, Oregon, three thousand dollars.

For the improvement of breakwater at Wilmington, California, one hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

For surveys and examinations, and contingencies of rivers and harbors, one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars.

SEC. 2. That the Secretary of War is hereby directed to cause examinations or surveys, or both, to be made at the following points, namely: At the outlet of Point Judith lake, Rhode Island; Crow shoals, Delaware bay, near Cape May light, New Jersey, for an artificial harbor or breakwater; Harlem river, near the East river, New York, for removal of rocks therefrom; of the piers and connecting bridges at Chester, Pennsylvania; the Penobscot river, from Oldtown to Medway and vicinity, Maine; the Galena river, from its mouth to upper bridge in city of Galena, Illinois; the harbor at Fall River, Massachusetts, for removal of rocks therefrom; at Wood's hole, in Buzzard's bay, Massachusetts, for removal of rocks therefrom; Old House channel to main channel of Pamlico sound, North Carolina; the harbor of Washington, North Carolina; at bayou Lafourche, Louisiana, from Lafourche crossing to the mouth; from mouth of Red river down Atchafalaya river to Brashear, in Louisiana; at the entrance of Matagorda bay and the channel to Indianola, Texas; Pine river, Saint Clair county, Michigan; Monistique harbor, Lake Michigan; Sebawaing river, Michigan; Yamhill river, Oregon; the mouth of Coquille river, Oregon; Red river, from Morehead to Pembina; at the mouth of Kewaunee river, Wisconsin; at Elk river, Maryland, below Elkton; at Raritan river, New Jersey, below New Brunswick, including the shoals called the Middle Ground; the Youghiougheny river, Pennsylvania; Aroostook river, Maine, for improvement of the channel; at San Antonio creek, San Francisco bay, California; Santa Cruz, California; Estero bay, near Santa Barbara, California. And not to exceed five thousand dollars of the above appropriation may be expended in an exploration of routes for the extension of the Chesapeake and Ohio canal to the Ohio river, by the north and south branches of the Potomac river.

For connecting the inland waters along the margin of the Gulf of Mexico, from Donaldsonville, in Louisiana, to the Rio Grande river, in Texas, by cuts and canals, not to exceed twenty thousand dollars of the amount herein appropriated for surveys of rivers and harbors; at Great Pee Dee river, from Pine Bluff to Cheraw, South Carolina; at Ashley river, South Carolina; at Cleveland, Ohio, for the construction of a harbor of refuge; at Forked Deer river, below Dyersburg, Tennessee; at harbor at Wilson, on Lake Ontario, New York; at East Pascagoula harbor, Mississippi sound; at Portsmouth harbor, New Hamphshire, for breakwater between Gerrish's island and Wood island; in Ipswich bay, Massachusetts, at Hodgkins' cove, to ascertain the practicability of a harbor of refuge by building a breakwater there.

SEC. 3. That the Secretary of War is hereby authorized and required to detail from the engineer corps one or more engineers, whose duty it shall be to inquire into and report upon the practicability of bridging, consistently with the interests of navigation, the channel between Lake Huron and Lake Erie, at such points as may be needful for the passing of railroad trains across said channel, and also its effect upon the navigation of the same; and further, to inquire into the number and character of the vessels navigating said channel, and the number of trips made by each, and, if said bridging be practicable, to report what extent of span or spans and elevation above the water will be required in the construction of such bridge or bridges, so as not seriously to injure the navigation of said channel.

SEC. 4. That the appropriation for building the pier at Lewes, Delaware, contained in the act approved July fifteenth, eighteen hundred and seventy, an act 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 extended until June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-four.

Approved March 3, 1873.

[GENERAL NATURE—No. 62.]

An act to revise, consolidate, and amend the laws relating to pensions.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That if the ability of any officer of the army, including regulars, volunteers, and militia, or any officer in the navy or marine corps, or any elisted man, however employed, in the military or naval service of the United States, or in its marine corps, whether regularly mustered or not, disabled by reason of any wound of injury received, or disease contracted, while in the service of the United States and in the line of duty; any master serving on a gunboat, or any pilot, engineer, sailor or other person not regularly mustered, serving upon any gunboat or war vessel of the United States, disabled by any wound or injury received, or otherwise incapacitated, while in the line of duty, for procuring his subsistence by manual labor; any person not an enlisted soldier in the army, serving for the time being as a member of the militia of any State under orders of an officer of the United States, or who volunteered for the time being to serve with any regularly organized military or naval force of the United States, or who otherwise volunteered and rendered service in any engagement with rebels or Indians, disabled in consequence of wounds or injury received in the line of duty in such temporary service; any acting assistant or contract surgeon, disabled by any wound or injury received or disease contracted in the line of duty while actually performing the duties of assistant surgeon or acting assistant surgeon with any military force in the field or in transitu or in hospital, or any provost marshal, deputy provost marshal, or enrolling officer, disabled by reason of any wound or injury received in the discharge of his duty, to procure a subsistence by manual labor, has been since the fourth day of March, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, or shall hereafter be impaired by reason of such disability, he shall, upon making due proof of the fact, according to such forms and regulations as are or may be provided by and in pursuance of law, be placed upon the list of invalid pensioners of the United States, and be entitled to receive, for a total disability or a permanent specific disability, such pension as is hereinafter provided in such cases, and for an inferior disability, except in cases of permanent specific disability for which the rate of pension is expressly provided, an amount proportionate to that provided for total disability, to commence as hereinafter provided, and to continue during the existence of the disability; provided, that no claim of a State militiaman, or non-enlisted person, on account of disability from wounds or injury received in battle with rebels or Indians, while temporarily rendering service, shall be valid unless prosecuted to a successful issue prior to the fourth day of July, eighteen hundred and seventy-four; and provided further, that no person shall be entitled to a pension by reason of wounds or injury received or disease contracted in the service of the United States subsequent to the twenty-seventh day of July, eighteen hundred and sixty-eight, unless the person who was wounded or contracted the disease was in the line of duty; and, if in the military service, was at the time actually in the field, or on the march, or at some post, fort, or garrison, or en route by direction of competent authority to some post, fort or garrison; or, if in the naval service, was at the time borne on the books of some ship or other vessel of the United States, at sea or in harbor, actually in commission, or was at some naval station, or on his way, by direction of competent authority, to the United States, or to some other vessel, or naval station, or hospital.

SEC. 2. That the pension for total disability shall be as follows, namely: For lieutenant colonel and all officers of higher rank in the military service and in the marine corps, and for captains, and all officers of higher rank, commander, surgeon, paymaster, and chief engineer, respectively ranking with commander by law, lieutenant commanding and master commanding, in the naval service, thirty dollars per month; for major in the military service and in the marine corps, and lieutenant, surgeon, paymaster, and chief engineer, respectively ranking with lieutenant by law, and passed assistant surgeon in the naval service, twenty-five dollars per month; for captain in the military service and in the marine corps, chaplain in the army, and provost marshal, professor of mathematics, master, assistant surgeon, assistant paymaster, and chaplain in the naval service, twenty dollars per month; for first lieutenant in the military service and in the marine corps, acting assistant or contract surgeon, and deputy provost marshal, seventeen dollars per month; for second lieutenant in the military service and in the marine corps, first assistant engineer, ensign, and pilot in the naval service, and enrolling officer, fifteen dollars per month; for cadet midshipman, passed midshipman, midshipmen, clerks of admirals and paymasters, and of other officers commanding vessels, second and third assistant engineer, master's mate, and all warrant officers in the naval service, ten dollars per month; and for all enlisted men whose rank or office is not mentioned in this section, eight dollars per month; and the masters, pilots, engineers, sailors, and crews upon the gunboats and war vessels shall be entitled to receive the pension allowed herein to those of like rank in the naval service; and every commissioned officer of the army, navy, or marine corps shall receive such and only such pensions as is herein provided for the rank he held at the time he received the injury, or contracted the disease which resulted in the disability, on account of which he may be entitled to a pension; and any commission or presidential appointment, regularly issued to such person, shall be taken to determine his rank from and after the date, as given in the body of the commission or appointment conferring said rank; provided, that a vacancy existed in the rank thereby conferred; that the person commissioned was not so disabled for military duty; and that he did not willfully neglect or refuse to be mustered.

SEC. 3. That for the period commencing July fourth, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, and ending July third, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, those persons entitled to a less pension than hereinafter mentioned, who shall have lost both feet in the military or naval service and in the line of duty, shall be entitled to a pension of twenty dollars per month; for the same period those persons who, under like circumstances, shall have lost both hands or the sight of both eyes, shall be entitled to a pension of twenty-five dollars per month; and for the period commencing March third, eighteen hundred and sixty-five, and ending June third, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, those persons who under like circumstances shall have lost one hand and one foot, shall be entitled to a pension of twenty dollars per month; and for the period commencing June sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-six, and ending June third, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, those persons who under like circumstances shall have lost one hand or one foot, shall be entitled to a pension of fifteen dollars per month; and for the period commencing June sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-six, and ending June third, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, those persons entitled to a less pension than hereinafter mentioned, who by reason of injury received or disease contracted in the military or naval service of the United States and in the line of duty, shall have been permanently and totally disabled in both hands, or who shall have lost the sight of one eye, the other having been previously lost, or who shall have been otherwise so totally and permanently disabled as to render them utterly helpless, or so nearly so as to require regular personal aid and attendance of another person, shall be entitled to a pension of twenty-five dollars per month; and for the same period those who under like circumstances shall have been totally and permanently disabled in one hand, or one foot, or otherwise so disabled as to render their inability to perform manual labor equivalent to the loss of a hand or foot, shall be entitled to a pension of fifteen dollars per month.

SEC. 4. That from and after June fourth, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, all persons entitled by law to a less pension than hereinafter specified, who, while in the military or naval service of the United States, and in line of duty, shall have lost the sight of both eyes, or shall have lost the sight of one eye, the sight of the other having been previously lost, or shall have lost both hands, or shall have lost both feet, or been permanently and totally disabled in the same, or otherwise so permanently and totally disabled as to render them utterly helpless, or so nearly so as to require the regular personal aid and attendance of another person, shall be entitled to a pension of thirty-one dollars and twenty-five cents per month; and all persons who, under like circumstances, shall have lost one hand and one foot, or been totally and permanently disabled in the same, or otherwise so disabled as to be incapacitated for performing any manual labor, but not so much as to require regular personal aid and attendance, shall be entitled to a pension of twenty-four dollars per month; and all persons who, under like circumstances, shall have lost one hand, or one foot, or been totally and permanently disabled in the same, or otherwise so disabled as to render their incapacity to perform manual labor equivalent to the loss of a hand or foot, shall be entitled to a pension of eighteen dollars per month; provided, that all persons who, under like circumstances, have lost a leg above the knee, and in consequence thereof are so disabled that they can not use artificial limbs, shall be rated in the second class and receive twenty-four dollars per month; and all persons who, under like circumstances, shall have lost the hearing of both ears, shall be entitled to a pension of thirteen dollars per month; provided, that the pension for a disability not permanent, equivalent in degree to any provided for in this section, shall, during the continuance of the disability in such degree, be at the same rate as that herein provided for a permanent disability of like degree; provided further, that, except in cases of permanent specific disabilities, no increase of pension shall be allowed to commence prior to the date of the examining surgeon's certificate; and that in this, as well as all other cases, the certificate of an examining surgeon, or of a board of examining surgeons, shall be subject to the approval of the Commissioner of Pensions.

SEC. 5. That the rate of eighteen dollars per month may be proportionately divided for any degree of disability established for which the second section of this act makes no provision.

SEC. 6. That officers absent on sick leave, and enlisted men absent on sick furlough, or on veteran furlough, while with the organization to which they belong, shall be regarded in the administration of the pension laws in the same manner as if they were in the field or hospital.

SEC. 7. That the period of service of all persons entitled to the benefit of the pension laws, or on account of whose death any person may become entitled to a pension, shall be construed to extend to the time of disbanding the organization to which such person belonged, or until their actual discharge for other cause than the expiration of the service of such organization.

SEC. 8. That if any person embraced within the provisions of the first section of this act has died since the fourth day of March, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, or shall hereafter die, by reason of any wound, injury, or disease which, under the conditions and limitations of said section, would have entitled him to an invalid pension had he been disabled, his widow, or if there be no widow, or in case of her death, without payment to her of any part of the pension hereinafter mentioned, his child or children, under sixteen years of age, shall be entitled to receive the same pension as the husband or father would have been entitled to had he been totally disabled, to commence from the death of the husband or father, to continue to the widow during her widowhood, and to his child or children until they severally attain the age of sixteen years, and no longer, and that if the widow remarry, the child or children shall be entitled from the date of remarriage. That the provisions of this act are hereby extended to and made to embrace the officers and privates of the Missouri State militia, and the provisional Missouri militia, disabled by reason of injury received or disease contracted in the line of duty while such militia was co-operating with United States forces, and the widow or children of any such person, dying of injury received or disease contracted under the circumstances herein set forth, shall be entitled to the benefits of this act; provided, that the pensions on account of such militia shall not commence prior to the date of the passage of act. That the provisions of this section shall be so interpreted as to apply to the widows, child or children of officers and privates of the Missouri State militia, and the provisional Missouri militia, if the husband or father was wounded, or contracted the disease of which he died, while in the service of the government of the United States.

SEC. 9. That the pensions of widows shall be increased from and after the twenty-fifth day of July, eighteen hundred and sixty-six, at the rate of two dollars per month for each child under the age of sixteen years, of the husband on account of whose death the claim has been, or shall be, granted. And in every case in which the deceased husband has left, or shall leave, no widow, or where his widow has died or married again, or where she has been deprived of her pension under the provisions of the pension law, the pension granted to such child or children shall be increased to the same amount per month that would be allowed under the foregoing provisions to the widow, if living and entitled to a pension; provided, that the additional pension herein granted to the widow on account of the child or children of the husband by a former wife shall be paid to her only for such period of her widowhood as she has been, or shall be, charged with the maintenance of such child or children; for any period during which she has not been, or she shall not be, so charged, it shall be granted and paid to the guardian of such child or children; provided further, that a widow or guardian to whom increase of pension has been, or shall hereafter be, granted on account of minor children, shall not be deprived thereof by reason of their being maintained in whole or in part at the expense of the State or the public in any educational institution, or in any institution organized for the care of soldiers' orphans.

SEC. 10. That in the admistration of the pension laws, children born before the marriage of their parents, if acknowledged by the father before or after the marriage, shall be deemed legitimate.

SEC. 11. That the widows of colored or Indian soldiers and sailors who have died, or shall hereafter die, by reason of wounds or injuries received, or casualty receive or disease contracted, in the military or naval service of the United States, and in the line of duty, shall be entitled to received the pension provided by law without other evidence of marriage than satisfactory proof that the parties were joined in marriage by some ceremony deemed by them obligatory, or habitually recognized each other as man and wife, and were so recognized by their neighbors, and lived together as such up to the date of entistment, when such soldier or sailor died in the service, or, if otherwise, to date of death; and the children born of any marriage so proved shall be deemed and held to be lawful children of such soldier or sailor; provided, that this section shall not be applicable to any claims on account of persons who shall have enlisted after the passage of this act.

SEC. 12. That if any person has died, or shall hereafter die, leaving a widow entitled to a pension by reason of his death, and a child or children under sixteen years of age by such widow, and it shall be duly certified under seal by any court having probate jurisdiction, that satisfactory evidence has been produced before such court upon due notice to the widow that the widow aforesaid has abandoned the care of such child or children, or that she is an unsuitable person, by reason of immoral conduct, to have the custody of the same, or on presentation of satisfactory evidence thereof to the Commissioner of Pensions, then no pension shall be allowed to such widow until such child or children shall have attained the age of sixteen years, any provisions of this act or of any previous act to the contrary notwithstanding; and the said child or children aforesaid shall be pensioned in the same manner and from the same date as if no widow had survived such person, and such pension shall be paid to the guardian of such child or children; provided, that if in any case payment of pension shall have been made to the widow, the pension to the child or children shall commence from the date to which her pension has been paid.

SEC. 13. That if any person embraced within the provisions of the first section of this act has died since the fourth day of March, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, or shall hereafter die, by reason of any wound, injury, casualty, or disease, which, under the conditions and limitations of said section would have entitled him to an invalid pension, and has not left or shall not leave a widow or legitimate child, but has left or shall leave other relative or relatives who were dependent upon him for support at the date of his death, such relative or relatives shall be entitled in the following order of precedence to receive the same pension, as such person would have been entitled to had he been totally disabled, to commence from the death of such person, namely, first, the mother; secondly, the father; thirdly, orphan brothers and sisters under sixteen years of age, who shall be pensioned jointly; provided, that where orphan children of the same parent have different guardians, or a portion of them only are under guardianship, the share of the joint pension to which each ward shall be entitled shall be paid to the guardian of such ward; provided, that if in any case said person shall have left father and mother who are dependent upon him, then, on the death of the mother, the father shall become entitled to the pension, commencing from and after the death of the mother; and upon the death of the mother and father, or upon the death of the father and the remarriage of the mother, the dependent brothers and sisters under sixteen years of age shall jointly become entitled to such pension until they attain the age of sixteen years respectively, commencing from the death