OFFICIAL.

To the Qualified Electors of the State of Louisiana.

STATE OF LOUISIANA,
Office of the Secretary of State,
New Orleans, July 14, 1874.

In conformity to article 147, title nine of the constitution of 1868, publication is hereby made to the voters of the State of Louisiana, of the proposed amendments to the constitution of the State agreed to by two-thirds of the members of the elected to each house of the regular session of the General Assembly of the year 1874, and required to be published three months before the next general election for Representatives to the General Assembly in at least one newspaper in every parish of the State, in which a newspaper shall be published. Said amendments appear fully in acts Nos. 4, 22 and 64 of said session of the General Assembly, which are herewith officially published for the information of voters, and will be submitted to the people at the general election Monday, November 2, 1874, in such manner and form that the people may vote for or against such amendments separately; and if a majority of the voters shall approve and ratify all or either of said amendments, the same shall become a part of the constitution.

P. G. DESLONDE,
Secretary of State.

No. 4.]

An act proposing amendments to the constitution of the State of Louisiana.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened (two-thirds of the members of each house agreeing thereto), That the following amendments be proposed and entered upon the respective journals of the Senate and House of Representatives, with the yeas and nays taken thereon, and the Secretary of State shall cause the same to be published three months before the next general election for representatives to the General Assembly in at least one newspaper in every parish of the State in which a newspaper shall be published. And said proposed amendments shall be submitted to the people at said election in such manner and form that the people may vote for or against each amendment separately—i. e., "first proposed amendment for approval," or "against approval," and in like manner as to the others; and if a majority of the voters at said election shall approve and ratify such amendment or amendments, the same shall be appropriately numbered and become a part of the constitution, and be proclaimed as such by the Governor and Secretary of State.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

No. 1.—The issue of consolidated bonds authorized by the General Assembly of the State, at its regular session in the year 1874, is hereby declared to create a valid contract between the State and each and every holder of said bonds, which the State shall by no means and in no wise impair. The said bonds shall be a valid obligation of the State in favor of any holder hereof, and no court shall enjoin the payment of the principal or interest thereof, or the levy and collection of tax therefor; to secure such levy, collection and payment, the judicial power shall be exercised when necessary. The tax required for the payment of the principal and interest of said bonds shall be assessed and collected each and every year until the bonds shall be paid, principal and interest, and the proceeds shall be paid by the Treasurer of the State to the holders of said bonds as the principal and interest of the same shall fall due, and no further legislation or appropriation shall be requisite for the said assessment and collection and for such payment from the treasury.

No. 2.—Whenever the debt of the State shall have been reduced below twenty-five million dollars, the constitutional limit shall remain at the lowest point reached, beyond which the public debt shall not thereafter be increased, and this rule shall continue in operation until the debt is reduced to fifteen million dollars, beyond which it shall not be increased. Nor shall taxation for all State purposes, excepting the support of public schools, ever exceed twelve and a half mills on the dollar of the assessed valuation of the real and personal property in the State, except in case of war or invasion.

No. 3.—The revenue of each year derived from taxation upon real, personal and mixed property, or from licenses, shall be devoted solely to the expenses of the said year for which it shall be raised, excepting any surplus remain, which shall be directed to sinking the public debt. All appropriations and claims in excess of revenue shall be null and void, and the State shall in no manner provide for their payment.

(Signed) CHARLES W. LOWELL,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
(Signed) C. C. ANTOINE,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.

Approved January 24, 1874.
(Signed) WILLIAM P. KELLOGG,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.

A true copy:
P. G. DESLONDE, Secretary of State.

No. 64.]

An act proposing an amendment to the constitution of the State of Louisiana, changing the day for holding the general election.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened (two-thirds of the members elected to each house agreeing thereto), That the following amendment to the constitution of the State of Louisiana shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the State at the next general election for Representatives of the General Assembly: That the words "first Monday," in article seventeen of the constitution, be stricken out, and the words "first Tuesday after the first Monday" be substituted in lieu thereof, and if approved by a majority of the voters at said election the same shall become a part of said article seventeen.

SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, etc., That this act shall take effect from and after its passage.

(Signed) CHARLES W. LOWELL,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
(Signed) C. C. ANTOINE,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.

Approved March 21, 1874.
(Signed) WILLIAM P. KELLOGG,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.

A true copy:
P. G. DESLONDE, Secretary of State.

No. 22.]

Joint resolution submitting an amendment to the constitution of the State to limit the debt of New Orleans, and the issue of warrants by the officers; and prescribing certain penalties.

SECTION 1. Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened (two-thirds of the members elected to each House agreeing thereto), That at the general election for members of the General Assembly, which will take place in November, 1874, an amendment to the constitution of the State shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the State for their ratification or rejection in the words following:

Article —. The city of New Orleans shall not hereafter increase her debt, in any manner or form, or under any pretext. After the first day of January, 1875, no evidence of indebtedness or warrant for payment of money shall be issued by any officer of said city, except against cash actually in the treasury; but this shall not be so construed as to prevent a renewal of matured bonds at par, or the issue of new bonds in exchange for other bonds; provided the city debt be not thereby increased, nor to prevent the issue of drainage warrants to the transferee of contract, under act No. 30 of 1871, payable only from drainage taxes, and not otherwise; any person violating the prohibitions [provisions] of this article shall, on conviction, be punished by imprisonment for not less than two nor more than ten years, and by fine of not less than three dollars nor more than ten thousand dollars.

SEC. 2. Be it further resolved, etc., That at said next general election, the wishes of the electors in the premises shall be expressed by printed or written ballots, as follows:

"For the amendment limiting the debt of New Orleans;" or, "Against the amendment limiting the debt of New Orleans," and the said ballots shall be counted and returns made, and the result declared as in the case of election of State officers.

(Signed) CHARLES W. LOWELL,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
(Signed) C. C. ANTOINE,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.

Approved February 24, 1874.
(Signed) WILLIAM P. KELLOGG,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.

A true copy:
P. G. DESLONDE, Secretary of State.

OFFICIAL.

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

[GENERAL NATURE—No. 91.]

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 continuing the improvement of the entrance to the inner harbor of Du Luth, ten thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Ontonagon, twenty-three thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Marquette, fifteen thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the Fox and Wisconsin rivers, three hundred thousand dollars. Not exceeding twenty-five thousand dollars of the above may be used for the purchase of such real estate as may be required for the right of way, or for flowing, in the completion of the Fox and Wisconsin improvement.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Green Bay, Wisconsin, ten thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Menomonee, Michigan and Wisconsin, twenty-five thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor of refuge at the entrance of the Sturgeon Bay Canal, ten thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Two Rivers, Wisconsin, fifteen thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Manitowoc, Wisconsin, ten thousand dollars.

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

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Port Washington, Wisconsin, ten thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Racine, Wisconsin, ten thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Kenosha, Wisconsin, ten thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Chicago, seventy-five thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Calumet, Illinois, twenty-five thousand dollars.

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

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

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

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Ludington, Michigan, twenty thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at White river, Michigan, ten thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Muskegon, Michigan, ten thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Grand Haven, Michigan, fifty thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Black Lake, Michigan, fifteen thousand dollars.

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

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at South Haven, Michigan, ten thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Saint Joseph, Michigan, two thousand dollars.

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

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

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

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

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Monroe, Michigan, ten thousand dollars.

For removing bowlders and rock from the Detroit river, partly in Canadian waters, twenty-five thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Toledo, Ohio, seventy-five thousand dollars.

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

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Huron, Ohio, one thousand five hundred dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Vermilion, Ohio, three thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Black river, Ohio, twenty thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Cleveland, Ohio, thirty thousand five hundred dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Grand river, Ohio, twenty thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Ashtabula, Ohio, twenty-five thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Conneaut, Ohio, one thousand five hundred dollars.

For preserving and continuing the work upon the pier at Rocky river, Ohio, ten thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Dunkirk, New York, thirty-five thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the harbor at Erie, Pennsylvania, twenty thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Buffalo, New York, seventy-five thousand dollars; and the Secretary of War is authorized to remove and prevent accumulations of sand at the entrance to said harbor, provided the same can be done without expense or liability against the United States.

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

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

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

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Great Sodus Bay, New York, fifteen thousand dollars.

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

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Oswego, New York, seventy-five thousand dollars.

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

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

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Plattsburg, New York, five thousand dollars.

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

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Swanton, Vermont, eight thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the Falls of Saint Anthony, and for the improvement of the Mississippi river above the Falls of Saint Anthony, Minnesota, one hundred and fifty thousand dollars; and twenty-five thousand dollars of said amount shall be expended for the improvement of the Mississippi river above the Falls of Saint Anthony.

For the survey or improvement of the Minnesota river, twenty-five thousand dollars.

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

For continuing the improvement of the Illinois river, seventy-five thousand dollars.

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

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

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

For continuing the improvement of the White river above Jacksonport, fifty thousand dollars.

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

For continuing the improvement of the Mississippi river between the mouths of the Ohio and Illinois rivers, two hundred thousand dollars; and fifteen thousand dollars of said amount shall be expended between the mouths of the Missouri and Illinois rivers.

For continuing the improvement of the Ohio river, one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, one-half of which shall be expended above and the other half below the suspension bridge between Cincinnati, Ohio, and Covington, Kentucky; forty thousand dollars of the above amount that is to be expended above the suspension bride may, if approved by the chief of engineers, be expended in a permanent improvement of navigation at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

For continuing the improvement of the Wabash river, twenty-five thousand dollars; provided, that a portion of this appropriation, not exceeding nine thousand dollars, may be used by the Secretary of War, in his discretion, for the extinguishment of any right, title or claim of the Wabash Navigation Company in the lock and dam at Grand Rapids, on said river, and other property said company may claim on said river, and for the extinguishment of any right said company may have to affect or interfere in any way with the navigation of said river; but no part of this appropriation shall be expended until said navigation company shall have relinquished all right to control or otherwise in any manner interfere with or affect the free navigation of said river.

For continuing the improvement of the Upper Monongahela river, near Morgantown, West Virginia, twenty-five thousand dollars.

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

For continuing the improvement of the Tennessee river above Chattanooga, twenty-five thousand dollars; and below Chattanooga, including Muscle Shoals, one hundred thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the mouth of the Mississippi river, one hundred and thirty thousand dollars.

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

For removing obstructions in the Choctawhatchie river, Alabama and Florida, five thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Mobile, Alabama, one hundred thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Savannah, Georgia, fifty thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the Chattahoochee and Flint rivers, Georgia, twenty-five thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement at the mouth of the St. John's river, Florida, or may be used for dredging out the inside passage between the St. John's and Nassau inlet, ten thousand dollars.

For the improvement of the Apalachicola river, Florida, ten thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Baltimore, Maryland, seventy-five thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Chester river, at Kent Island Narrows, Maryland, five thousand dollars.

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

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

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

For continuing the improvement at the mouth of Nomoni creek, Virginia, six thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the Rappahannock river, Virginia, seven thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the James river, Virginia, fifty thousand dollars.

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

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

For continuing the improvement of the Nansemond river, Virginia, ten thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the Roanoke river, North Carolina, five thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the Cape Fear river, North Carolina, one hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

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

For continuing the improvement of the Delaware river between Trenton and Bordentown, ten thousand dollars.

For the removal of the obstructions in the harbor and the construction of a pier at New Castle, Delaware, ten thousand dollars.

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

For continuing United States pier in Delaware bay near Lewes, Delaware, ten thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the Schuylkill river, twenty thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the Hudson river, New York, forty thousand dollars; and out of this appropriation the sum of seven thousand four hundred and sixty-two dollars may be paid by the chief of engineers to Emory R. Seward, in full payment for work done by him in removing the overslaugh rock in the Hudson river, under his contract made in eighteen hundred and seventy.

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

For continuing the improvement by removing obstructions in the East and Harlem Rivers at or near Hell Gate, two hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars.

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

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Hyannis, Massachusetts, five thousand dollars.

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

For the improvement of the harbor at Fall River, Massachusetts, ten thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the breakwater at Block Island, twenty thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Newport, Rhode Island, ten thousand dollars.

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

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

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Stonington, Connecticut, twenty thousand dollars.

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

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

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Bridgeport, Connecticut, twenty thousand dollars.

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

For the improvement of the harbor at Milford, Connecticut, five thousand dollars.

That the sum of fifty thousand dollars is appropriated for the opening and improving of the channel between Staten Island and New Jersey.

For continuing the improvement of the Saint Croix river, Maine, ten thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the Machias river, Maine, ten thousand dollars.

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

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

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

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Portland, Maine, twenty thousand dollars.

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

For continuing the improvement of the Merrimack river, Massachusetts, ten thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the entrance of Salem harbor, Massachusetts, ten thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Boston, Massachusetts, one hundred thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Plymouth, Massachusetts, and for dredging, five thousand dollars.

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

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

For continuing the improvement of the Upper Willamette river, Oregon, seven thousand five hundred dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the Upper Columbia river, twenty thousand dollars.

For continuing the improvement of the harbor at Galveston, Texas, sixty thousand dollars.

For removing wrecks and rocks off the harbor of San Francisco, California, twenty-five thousand dollars.

For the improvement of Oakland harbor, one hundred thousand dollars.

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

For continuing the improvement of Saginaw river, Michigan, fifteen thousand dollars.

That the appropriation under the act of March third, eighteen hundred and seventy-three, for the improvement of the harbors of Washington and Georgetown be made to apply to dredging the Virginia or Georgetown channel of the Potomac river above and below Long Bridge, and that the earth excavated therefrom be deposited so as to carry out as far as practicable the plan for improving the harbors of Washington and Georgetown, in accordance with the recommendation made to Congress December seventeenth, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, by a board of survey created by act of Congress approved March fifth, eighteen hundred and seventy-two.

For surveys and estimates for the improvements recommended by the Senate Select Committee on Transportation Routes to the Seaboard, upon the four routes indicated in the report of said committee, and also upon a route from the mouth of the Youghiogeny river, to continue the slack water navigation up said river to its head waters at the foot of the Alleghany mountains, thence by canal to Cumberland, intersecting there the Chesapeake and Ohio canal, two hundred thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War in such manner as, in his judgment will secure the greatest amount of exact information for each of said routes.

For the improvement of the harbor at Charleston, South Carolina, eighteen thousand dollars.

For examinations and surveys of rivers and harbors, and for incidental repairs at harbors for which there is no special appropriation, seventy-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:

Harbor of New Bedford, Massachusetts.

Cascades and Dalles of the Columbia river, Oregon, and Washington Territories, for the purpose of ascertaining the practicability and cost of constructing canals and locks at such points.

Skaget river, for removing jams, Washington Territory.

Yam Hill river, Oregon, for removing rocks and sand bars.

Snohomish river, for removing jams, Washington Territory.

Chehallis river, for removing jams, Washington Territory.

Tennessee river, above the mouth of Holston river to Chilhowee Mountains, Tennessee.

Hiawasse river, below Benton, Tennessee.

Urbanna creek, Virginia, below Urbanna.

Black Warrior river, below the mouth of Locust Fork, Alabama.

Cahaba river, below Centreville, Alabama.

Nantucket Harbor Bar, Massachusetts.

Lamprey river, below Newmarket, New Hampshire.

Exeter river, below Exeter, New Hampshire.

Minnesota river, for further examination for improvement by canals, locks and dams.

Oconee river, from the Ocmulgee to Milledgeville, Georgia.

Chickahominy river, Virginia.

Hampton river, Virginia.

Wolf Lake Cut, Indiana.

Snake river, Idaho, from Shoshonee Falls to Lewiston, examination and estimates for removing bowlders and other obstructions.

Sacramento river, below Tehama, California.

Feather river, below Marysville, California.

Lake Winnipiseogee, for placing buoys on obstructions, New Hampshire.

Smutty Nose Island, as to repair breakwater, Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Pagan Creek, Virginia.

New River, from the lead mines in Wythe county, Virginia, to the "Mouth of Wilson" in Grayson county, Virginia.

The Little Kanawha river, below Bull Town.

Chippewa river, below Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin.

Dakota river, between Southern Dakota Railroad and Northern Pacific Railroad, Dakota Territory.

Tombigbee river, by way of Big Bear creek, to the Tennessee, to connect water communication.

Estuary in Santa Barbara channel, about two miles north of Point Muger, California.

Cleveland breakwater, new estimate for four fathoms water, Ohio.

San Joaquin river, below Stockton, California.

Guyandotte river, below Logan Courthouse, West Virginia.

Cedar Bayou bar; and ten thousand dollars are hereby appropriated for the improvement of Red Fish bar, in Galveston bay, Texas.

Withlacooche river, from mouth of Ocopilco river, Georgia.

Ochalochnee river, below Atlantic and Gulf railroad, Georgia.

Red river, at Alexandria, Louisiana.

Harlem river, from Randall's Island by way of Spuyten Duyvil creek, to Hudson river, New York.

Blackwater river, Virginia.

Mouth of Kennebunk river, Maine.

Brazos river, below Waco, including the bar at its mouth.

Gaudalupe river, below Gonzales, Texas.

St. Croix river, below St. Croix Falls, in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

The Red River of the North, from Breckenridge to Moorhead.

Big Sandy river, below Piketon, Kentucky.

Twelve Pole river, below Wayne Courthouse, West Virginia.

Harbor of Hingham, Massachusetts, with reference to removal of obstructions.

Sebawaing river, Michigan, for entrance, with eight feet water.

Mouth of Saginaw river, Michigan.

French Broad river, North Carolina, from Brevard to Buncombe county line.

Big Sandy river, from its mouth to Piketon, and to Warfield, in Kentucky.

Rock Castle river, Kentucky, from the foot of the narrows at Graham's Mills, to its mouth.

Smith's Shoals, in the Cumberland river, Kentucky.

Inside passage, between Fernandina and St. John's river, known as Nassau river, Florida.

Grand Marias Harbor, Lake Superior, Minnesota.

Pamunkey river, Virginia.

Mataponi river, Virginia.

Little Wicomico river, Virginia.

Totuskee river, Virginia, below the bridge.

Survey of harbor of Crisfield, Somerset county, Maryland, with a view of removing obstructions.

Harbor of Leonardtown, Britton Bay, Potomac river, Maryland, with a view to remove obstructions.

Harbor of Norfolk, Virginia.

SEC. 3. That a board of engineers, to be composed of three from the army, one from the Coast Survey and there from civil life, be appointed by the President; which said board shall make a survey of the mouth of the Mississippi river, with a view to determine the best method of obtaining and maintaining a depth of water sufficient for the purposes of commerce, either by a canal from said river to the waters of the gulf, or by deepening one or more of the natural outlets of said river; and said board shall make a full and detailed estimate and statement of the cost of each of said plans, and shall report the same, together with their opinion thereon, showing which of all said plans they deem preferable, giving their reasons therefor, to the Secretary of War, to be presented at the commencement of the second session of the Forty-third Congress; and that the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated, out of any funds in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, to defray the cost of said survey.

Approved June 23, 1874.

[GENERAL NATURE—No. 92.]

An act reorganizing the several staff corps of the army.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Inspector General's Department shall consist of one colonel, two lieutenant colonels, and two majors, with the rank, pay and emoluments of officers of said grades; and the Secretary of War may, in addition, detail officers of the line, not to exceed four, to act as assistant inspector general; provided, that officers of the line detailed as acting inspectors general shall have all the allowances of cavalry officers of their respective grades; and no new appointment shall be made in the Inspector General's Department until the number of inspectors general is reduced to five.

SEC. 2. That the Bureau of Military Justice shall hereafter consist of one Judge Advocate General, with the rank, pay and emoluments of a Brigadier General; and the said Judge Advocate General shall receive, revise, and have recorded the proceedings of all courts martial, courts of inquiry and military commissions, and shall perform such other duties as have been heretofore performed by the Judge Advocate General of the army. In the corps of judge advocates no appointment shall be made as vacancies occur until the number shall be reduced to four, which shall thereafter be the permanent number of the officers of that corps.

SEC. 3. That hereafter there shall be three assistant commissaries general of subsistence, with the rank, pay and emoluments of lieutenant colonel, instead of the two now allowed by law of said grade in the Subsistence Department; that the number of commissaries of subsistence with the rank, pay and emoluments of a captain of cavalry, is hereby reduced to twelve, and no appointment to fill a vacancy in said grade shall be made until the number thereof shall be reduced to twelve, and the number thereafter shall remain fixed at twelve.

SEC. 4. That the medical department of the army shall hereafter consist of one Surgeon General, with the rank, pay and emoluments of a brigadier general, one assistant surgeon general and one chief medical purveyor, each with the rank, pay and emoluments of a colonel; and two assistant medical purveyors, with the rank, pay and emoluments of lieutenant colonels, who shall give the same bonds which are or may be required of assistant paymasters general of like grade, and shall, when not acting as purveyors, be assigned to duty as surgeons by the President; fifty surgeons, with the rank, pay and emoluments of majors; one hundred and fifty assistant surgeons, with the rank pay and emoluments of lieutenants of cavalry for the first five years' service, and with the rank pay and emoluments of captains of cavalry after five years' service; and four medical store keepers, with the same compensation as is now provided by law; and all the original vacancies in the grade of assistant surgeons shall be filled by selection by competitive examination, and the Secretary of War is hereby authorized to appoint, from the enlisted men of the army, or cause to be enlisted, as many hospital stewards as the service may require, to be permanently attached to the Medical Department, under such regulations as the Secretary of War may prescribe. And the number of contract surgeons shall be limited to seventy-five on or before the first day of January in the year eighteen hundred and seventy-five; and thereafter no more than that number shall be employed.

SEC. 5. That the Ordnance Department shall consist of one Chief of Ordnance, with the rank, pay and emoluments of a Brigadier General; three colonels, four lieutenant colonels, ten majors, twenty captains, sixteen first lieutenants; and all vacancies which may hereafter exist in the grade of first lieutenant in said department shall be filled by transfer from the line of the army; provided, that no appointment or promotion in said department shall hereafter be made until the officer or person so appointed or promoted shall have passed a satisfactory examination before a board of ordnance officers senior to himself.

SEC. 6. That no officer now in service shall be reduced in rank or mustered out by reason of any provision of law herein made reducing the number of officers in any department or corps of the staff.

SEC. 7. That as vacancies shall occur in any of the grades of the Ordnance and Medical Departments, no appointments shall be made to fill the same until the numbers in such grade shall be reduced to the numbers which are fixed for permanent appointments by the provisions of this act; and thereafter the number of permanent officers in said grades shall continue to conform to said reduced numbers, and all other grades in said Ordnance and Medical Departments than those authorized by the provisions of this act shall cease to exist as soon as the same shall become vacant by death, resignation or otherwise; and no appointment or promotion shall hereafter be made to fill any vacancy which may occur therein.

SEC. 8. That so much of section six of an act entitled "an act making appropriations for the support of the army for the year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy, and for other purposes," approved March third, eighteen hundred and sixty-nine, as applies to the Ordnance, Subsistence and Medical Departments of the army be and the same is hereby repealed; provided, that this section repealing said section shall not apply to any of the grades of the Medical or Ordnance Departments which are omitted or abolished by the provisions of this act.

Approved June 23, 1874.

[GENERAL NATURE—No. 93.]

An act for the creation of a court for the adjudication and disposition of certain moneys received into the Treasury under an award made by the tribunal of arbitration constituted by virtue of the first article of the treaty concluded at Washington the eight of May, anno Domini eighteen hundred and seventy-one, between the United States of America and the Queen of Great Britain.

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, appoint five suitable persons, who shall constitute a court, to be known as the "Court of Commissioners of Alabama Claims." Each of the judges and other officers of said court shall take the oath of office prescribed by law to be taken by all officers of the United States. The President shall designate, by appointment, one of the said judges to be presiding judge of the court; and all vacancies which may occur in said court by reason of death, resignation or inability, or refusal or neglect of any or either of said judges to discharge the duties of his position shall be filled in the same manner as vacancies occurring in offices under the constitution of the United States are filled.

SEC. 2. That the said judges shall meet and organize said court in the city of Washington, where the said court shall hold its sittings. Three judges of said court shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and the agreement of the three shall be necessary to decide any question arising before said court.

SEC. 3. That the said court be, and it is hereby, authorized to publish notice of its sessions, and to make all needful rules and regulations not contravening the laws of the United States, or the provisions of this act, for regulating the forms and mode of procedure before the said court, and for carrying into full and complete effect the provisions of this act. Such rules and mode of procedure shall conform, as far as practicable, to the mode of procedure and practice of the circuit courts of the United States; and the said court is hereby vested with the same powers now possessed by the circuit and district courts of the United States to compel the attendance and testimony of parties, claimants and witnesses to preserve order, and to punish for contempts; and in all claims which shall be presented before said court the person or persons prosecuting such claim shall be deemed the complainant, and the United States shall be deemed the respondent. And said court shall have power to compel the production of any books or papers deemed material to the consideration of any claim or matter pending therein.

SEC. 4. That each of said judges shall be paid monthly, at the rate of six thousand dollars per annum; and they shall have a clerk, who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to be paid at the rate of three thousand dollars per annum; and the said court shall have authority to appoint one shorthand reporter, to be paid monthly, at the rate of two thousand five hundred dollars per annum; and the said court shall be further allowed the necessary actual expenses of office rent, furniture, fuel, stationary and printing and other necessary incidental expenses, to be certified by the presiding judge of said court, and to be audited and paid on vouchers under the direction of the Secretary of State.

SEC. 5. That the President may designate a counselor at law, admitted to practice in the Supreme Court of the United States to appear as counsel on behalf of the United States, and represent the interest of the government in said suit, and in all claims filed for indemnity for losses, as provided by this act, subject to the supervision and control of the Attorney General. Such counsel shall receive for his services and expenses such reasonable allowance in each claim as may be approved by the court; to be apportioned in each claim adjudicated, and paid from said award upon the certificate of one of the judges.

SEC. 6. That the marshal of the United States for the District of Columbia, or his deputies, shall serve all process issued by said court, preserve order in the place of sitting, and execute the orders of the said court.

SEC. 7. That the said court shall proceed immediately after its first meeting in the city of Washington, with all convenient dispatch, to arrange and docket the several claims admissible under this act, and to consider the evidence which shall have been or which may be offered by the respective claimants, and in opposition thereto, allowing such further time for the production of such further evidence as may be required, and as it shall think reasonable and just, and shall thereupon proceed to determine and award upon each of said claims according to the provisions of this act.

SEC. 8. That the judges of the court created by this act shall convene in the city of Washington as soon as conveniently may be after their appointment; and the said court shall exist for one year from the date of its first convening and organizing; and should it be found impracticable to complete the work of the said court before the expiration of the said one year, the President may, by proclamation, extend the time of the duration thereof to a period not more than six months beyond the expiration of the said one year; and in such case all the provisions of this act shall be taken and held to be the same as though the continuance of the said court had been originally fixed by this act at the limit to which it may be thus extended.

SEC. 9. That all records, documents or other papers which now or hereafter, during the continuance of the court, may come into possession of the Department of State, in relation to such claims, and which shall be found necessary to the examination and adjudication of the same, shall, upon the order or requisition of said court, be delivered to the court for that purpose, and to be given such weight as evidence as the court may think just.

SEC. 10. That each of the said judges shall have authority to administer oaths and affirmations, and to take depositions of claimants, parties and witnesses in all matters pertaining to the presentation or examination of said claims; and if any person shall knowingly and willfully swear or affirm falsely in such examination or deposition to any matter or fact material to the investigation of the claim touching which such person is examined, or if any person, whether claimant or witness, shall so swear or affirm falsely to the contents of any memorial, petition, affidavit, deposition or other paper containing any matter or fact material in the examination of any claim pending before, or to be presented before said court, or shall, in giving testimony, or in swearing or affirming to any deposition, affidavit, or other paper, before any officer authorized to administer oaths or to take such testimony, so swear or affirm falsely to any matter or thing material in the examination of any claim pending or to be presented before said court, every such person so swearing or affirming falsely as aforesaid shall be deemed guilty of perjury, the same as if such false oath or affirmation had been taken in a judicial proceeding in any of the courts of the United States, and shall be liable to indictment and trial in the district or circuit court of the United States for the district in which such perjury shall have been committed, or in the proper courts of the United States for the Territory or District of Columbia in which such perjury shall have been committed, and shall, upon conviction, suffer such punishment as is provided by the laws of the United States for that offense.

SEC. 11. That it shall be the duty of said court to receive and examine all claims admissible under this act that may be presented to it, directly resulting from damage caused by the so-called insurgent cruisers Alabama, Florida, and their tenders, and also all claims admissible under this act directly resulting from damage caused by the so-called insurgent cruiser Shenandoah after her departure from Melbourne on the eighteenth day of February, eighteen hundred and sixty-five, and to decide upon the amount and validity of such claims, in conformity with the provisions hereinafter contained, and according to the principles of law and the merits of the several cases. All claims shall be verified by oath of the claimant, and filed in said court within six months next after the organization thereof, as provided in section eight of this act; and no claim shall be received, docketed or considered that shall have not been so filed within the time aforesaid; but every such unrepresented claim shall be deemed and held to be finally and conclusively waived and barred.

SEC. 12. That no claim shall be admissable or allowed by said court for any loss or damage for or in respect to which the party injured, his assignees or legal representatives, shall have received compensation or indemnity from any insurance company, insurer, or otherwise; but if such compensation or indemnity so received shall not have been equal to the loss or damage so actually suffered, allowance may be made for the difference. And in no case shall any claim be admitted or allowed for or in respect to unearned freights, gross freights, prospective profits, freights, gains, or advantages, or for wages of officers or seamen for a longer time than one year next after the breaking up of a voyage by the acts aforesaid. And no claim shall be admissible or allowed by said court by or in behalf of any insurance company or insurer, either in its or his own right, or as assignee, or otherwise, in the right of a person or party insured as aforesaid, unless such claimant shall show, to the satisfaction of said court that during the late rebellion the sum of its or his losses, in respect to its or his war risks, exceeded the sum of its or his premiums or other gains upon or in respect to such war risks; and in case of any such allowance, the same shall not be greater than such excess of loss. And no claim shall be admissible or allowed by said court arising in favor of any insurance company not lawfully existing at the time of the loss under the laws of some one of the United States. And no claim shall be admissible or allowed by said court arising in favor of any person not entitled, at the time of his loss, to the protection of the United States in the premises, nor arising in favor of any person who did not at all times during the late rebellion b