until it shall be assented to by an act of the legislature of the State of Texas, and a copy of the act of said State, duly authenticated, deposited in the Treasury Department at Washington, nor until the legislature of the State of Texas shall pass an act withdrawing and abandoning all claims and demands against the United States, growing out of Indian depredations or otherwise.

Assent of Texas to be first given to this act.

Approved, February 28, 1855.

Chap. CXXXIII. — *An Act to Remodel the Diplomatic and Consular Systems of the United States.*

March 1, 1855.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That from and after the thirtieth day of June next, the President of the United States shall, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint representatives of the grade of envoys extraordinary and ministers plenipotentiary to the following countries, who shall receive an annual compensation for their services not exceeding the amount specified herein for each: —

Provision for appointment of envoys extraordinary and ministers plenipotentiary to certain countries.

Salaries.

Great Britain, seventeen thousand five hundred dollars.
France, fifteen thousand dollars.
Spain, twelve thousand dollars.
Russia, twelve thousand dollars.
Austria, twelve thousand dollars.
Prussia, twelve thousand dollars.
Switzerland, seven thousand five hundred dollars.
Rome, seven thousand five hundred dollars.
Naples, seven thousand five hundred dollars.
Sardinia, seven thousand five hundred dollars.
Belgium, seven thousand five hundred dollars.
Holland, seven thousand five hundred dollars.
Portugal, seven thousand five hundred dollars.
Denmark, seven thousand five hundred dollars.
Sweden, seven thousand five hundred dollars.
Turkey, nine thousand dollars.
China, fifteen thousand dollars.
Brazil, twelve thousand dollars.
Peru, ten thousand dollars.
Chili, nine thousand dollars.
Argentine Republic, seven thousand five hundred dollars.
New Granada, seven thousand five hundred dollars.
Bolivia, seven thousand five hundred dollars.
Ecuador, seven thousand five hundred dollars.
Venezuela, seven thousand five hundred dollars.
Guatemala, seven thousand five hundred dollars,
Nicaragua, seven thousand five hundred dollars.
Mexico, twelve thousand dollars.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That from and after the thirtieth day of June next, the President of the United States shall, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint secretaries of legation to the following countries, who shall receive an annual compensation for their services not exceeding the amount specified herein for each: —

Provision for appointment of secretaries of legation.

Salaries.

Great Britain, twenty-five hundred dollars.
France, twenty-two hundred and fifty dollars.
Spain, twenty-two hundred and fifty dollars.
Russia, two thousand dollars.
Austria, two thousand dollars.
Prussia, two thousand dollars.
Switzerland, fifteen hundred dollars.
Rome, fifteen hundred dollars.

AUTHENTICATED U.S. GOVERNMENT INFORMATION GPO

Naples, fifteen hundred dollars.
Sardinia, fifteen hundred dollars.
Belgium, fifteen hundred dollars.
Holland, fifteen hundred dollars.
Portugal, fifteen hundred dollars.
Denmark, fifteen hundred dollars.
Sweden, fifteen hundred dollars.
Brazil, two thousand dollars.
Peru, two thousand dollars.
Chili, fifteen hundred dollars.
Argentine Republic, fifteen hundred dollars.
New Granada, fifteen hundred dollars.
Bolivia, fifteen hundred dollars.
Ecuador, fifteen hundred dollars.
Venezuela, fifteen hundred dollars
Guatemala, fifteen hundred dollars.
Nicaragua, fifteen hundred dollars.
Mexico, two thousand dollars.

Commissioner to the Sandwich Islands.

Interpreter in China.

Dragoman in Turkey.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That from and after the thirtieth day of June next, the President of the United States shall, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint a commissioner to the Sandwich Islands, who shall receive an annual compensation for his services of six thousand dollars; an interpreter to the mission to China, who shall receive for his services two thousand five hundred dollars per annum; and a dragoman to the mission to Turkey, who shall receive for his services twenty-five hundred dollars per annum.

Provision for appointment of consuls at certain places.

Post, pp. 659, 673.

Provision against their doing other business.

Salaries.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That from and after the thirtieth day of June next, the President of the United States shall, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint consuls for the United States, to reside at the following places, who shall receive during their continuance in office an annual compensation for their services, not exceeding the amount specified herein for each, and who shall not be permitted to transact, under the penalty of being recalled and fined in a sum not less than two thousand dollars, business either in their own name or through the agency of others: —

Great Britain. — London, seven thousand five hundred dollars. Liverpool, seven thousand five hundred dollars. Glasgow, four thousand dollars. Dundee, two thousand dollars. Newcastle, fifteen hundred dollars. Leeds, fifteen hundred dollars. Belfast, two thousand dollars. Hong-Kong, three thousand dollars. Calcutta, three thousand five hundred dollars. Halifax, two thousand dollars. Melbourne, four thousand dollars. Nassau, two thousand dollars. Kingston, (Jamaica,) two thousand dollars.

Holland. — Rotterdam, two thousand dollars. Amsterdam, one thousand dollars.

Prussia. — Aix-la-Chapelle, twenty-five hundred dollars.

France. — Paris, five thousand dollars. Havre, five thousand dollars. Marseilles, two thousand five hundred dollars. Bordeaux, two thousand dollars. Lyons, one thousand dollars. La Rochelle, one thousand dollars. Nantes, one thousand dollars.

Spain. — Cadiz, fifteen hundred dollars. Malaga, fifteen hundred dollars. St. Jago de Cuba, two thousand dollars. Matanzas, three thousand dollars. St. John's, (P. R.,) two thousand dollars. Trinidad de Cuba, three thousand dollars. Ponce, (P. R.,) fifteen hundred dollars. Havana, six thousand dollars.

Portugal. — Lisbon, fifteen hundred dollars. Funchal, fifteen hundred dollars.

Belgium. — Antwerp, two thousand five hundred dollars.

Russia. — St. Petersburg, two thousand five hundred dollars.

Denmark. — St. Thomas, four thousand dollars. Elsineur, fifteen hundred dollars.

Austria. — Trieste, two thousand dollars. Vienna, one thousand dollars.

Saxony. — Leipsic, fifteen hundred dollars.

Bavaria. — Munich, one thousand dollars.

Hanseatic and Free Cities. — Bremen, two thousand dollars. Hamburg, two thousand dollars.

Frankfort-on-the-Maine. — Including the Grand Duchy of Hesse-Darmstadt, the Electorate of Hesse-Cassel, the Duchy of Nassau, and the Landgraviate of Hesse-Hombourg, two thousand dollars.

Wurtemburg. — Stuttgardt, one thousand dollars.

Baden. — Carlsrue, one thousand dollars.

Switzerland. — Basle, fifteen hundred dollars. Zurich, fifteen hundred dollars. Geneva, fifteen hundred dollars.

Sardinia. — Genoa, one thousand five hundred dollars.

Tuscany. — Leghorn, fifteen hundred dollars.

Kingdom of the Two Sicilies. — Naples, fifteen hundred dollars. Palermo, fifteen hundred dollars. Messina, one thousand dollars.

Turkish Dominions. — Constantinople, two thousand five hundred dollars. Smyrna, two thousand dollars. Beirut, two thousand dollars. Jerusalem, one thousand dollars. Alexandria, three thousand five hundred dollars.

Barbary States. — Tangiers, two thousand five hundred dollars. Tripoli, two thousand five hundred dollars. Tunis, two thousand five hundred dollars.

China. — Canton, three thousand dollars. Shanghai, three thousand dollars. Amoy, twenty-five hundred dollars. Fouchow, two thousand five hundred dollars. Ningpo, two thousand five hundred dollars.

Japan. — Simoda. Hakodadi.

Borneo. — Bruni.

Sandwich Islands. — Honolulu, four thousand dollars.

Hayti. — Port-au-Prince, two thousand dollars. City of St. Domingo, fifteen hundred dollars.

Mexico. — Vera Cruz, three thousand five hundred dollars. Acapulco, two thousand dollars.

Central America. — San Juan del Norte, two thousand dollars. San Juan del Sur, two thousand dollars.

New Granada. — Panama, three thousand five hundred dollars. Aspinwall, two thousand five hundred dollars.

Venezuela. — Laguayra, fifteen hundred dollars.

Brazil. — Rio de Janeiro, six thousand dollars. Pernambuco, two thousand dollars.

Argentine Republic. — Buenos Ayres, two thousand dollars.

Peru. — Callao, three thousand five hundred dollars.

Chili. — Valparaiso, three thousand dollars.

Provision for appointment of consuls and commercial agents at certain places, who may transact other business.

Sec. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That from and after the thirtieth day of June next, the President of the United States shall, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint consuls and commercial agents for the United States to reside at the following places, who shall receive, during their continuance in office, an annual compensation for their services not exceeding the amount specified herein for each, and who shall be at liberty to transact business: —

Salaries.

Great Britain. — Southampton, one thousand dollars. Bristol, one thousand dollars. Leith, one thousand dollars. Dublin, one thousand dollars. Cork, one thousand dollars. Galway, one thousand dollars. Bombay, one thousand dollars. Singapore, one thousand dollars. Gibraltar, seven hundred and fifty dollars. Island of Malta, one thousand dollars. Cape Town, one thousand dollars. Port Louis, one thousand dollars. St. John's, (N. B.,) one thousand dollars. Pictou,

one thousand dollars. Demarara, one thousand dollars. Sidney, one thousand dollars. Falkland Islands, one thousand dollars. Hobart Town, one thousand dollars. Bermuda, one thousand dollars. Turk's Island, one thousand dollars. Barbadoes, one thousand dollars. Island of Trinidad, one thousand dollars. St. Helena, one thousand dollars. St. Christopher, one thousand dollars. Antigua, one thousand dollars. Ceylon, one thousand dollars.

Russia.—Odessa, fifteen hundred dollars. Galatza, one thousand dollars.

France.—Martinique, seven hundred and fifty dollars. Miquelon, seven hundred and fifty dollars.

Spain.—Barcelona, seven hundred and fifty dollars. Manilla, seven hundred and fifty dollars.

Portugal.—Macao, one thousand dollars. Mozambique, seven hundred and fifty dollars. Fayal, seven hundred and fifty dollars. St. Jago Cape Verd, seven hundred and fifty dollars.

Hanover and Brunswick.—Hanover, five hundred dollars.

Mecklenberg-Schwerin and Mecklenberg-Strelitz.—Schwerin, five hundred dollars.

Oldenburg.—Oldenburg, five hundred dollars.

Danish Dominions.—Santa Cruz, seven hundred and fifty dollars.

Sweden and Norway.—Gothenburg, seven hundred and fifty dollars.

Austria.—Venice, seven hundred and fifty dollars.

Sardinia.—Spezzia, seven hundred and fifty dollars.

Greece.—Athens, one thousand dollars.

Turkey.—Candia, one thousand dollars. Cyprus, one thousand dollars.

Ionian Islands.—Zante, one thousand dollars.

Africa.—Monrovia, one thousand dollars. Zanzibar, one thousand dollars.

New Zealand.—Bay Islands, one thousand dollars.

Hayti.—Cape Haytien, one thousand dollars. Aux Cayes, five hundred dollars.

Mexico.—Mexico, one thousand dollars. Paso del Norte, five hundred dollars. Tampico, one thousand dollars. Matamoras, one thousand dollars. Tabasco, five hundred dollars. Mazatlan, five hundred dollars. Tehuantepec, one thousand dollars. Manatitlan, one thousand dollars.

Central America.—Omoa and Truxillo, one thousand dollars. San Jose, five hundred dollars.

New Granada.—Cartagena, five hundred dollars. Sabanillo, five hundred dollars.

Venezuela.—Ciudad Bolivar, seven hundred and fifty dollars. Puerto Cabello, seven hundred and fifty dollars. Maracaibo, seven hundred and fifty dollars.

Ecuador.—Guayaquil, seven hundred and fifty dollars.

Brazil.—Maranham Island, seven hundred and fifty dollars. Rio Grande, one thousand dollars. Bahia, one thousand dollars. Para, one thousand dollars.

Uruguay.—Montevideo, one thousand dollars.

Chili.—Talcahuano, one thousand dollars.

Peru.—Paita, five hundred dollars. Tumbez, five hundred dollars.

Sandwich Islands.—Lahaina, one thousand dollars. Hilo, one thousand dollars.

Navigator's Islands.—Apia, one thousand dollars.

Society Islands.—Tahiti, one thousand dollars.

Fejee Islands.—Lanthala, one thousand dollars.

Holland.—Batavia, one thousand dollars. (Commercial agent.) Paramaribo, five hundred dollars. (Commercial agent.) Padang, five hun-

dred dollars. (Commercial agent.) St. Martin, five hundred dollars. (Commercial agent.) Curacoa, five hundred dollars. (Commercial agent.)

None of the above officers to draw pay till he has reached his post and entered on his duties.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That no envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary, commissioner, secretary of legation, dragoman, interpreter, consul, or commercial agent, who shall after the thirtieth day of June next be appointed to any of the countries or places herein named, be entitled to compensation until he shall have reached his post and entered upon his official duties.

Pay of said officers to cease on the day their successors enter on their office.

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That the compensation of every envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary, commissioner, secretary of legation, dragoman, interpreter, consul, and commercial agent, who shall, after the thirtieth day of June next, be appointed to any of the countries or places herein named, shall cease on the day that his successor shall enter upon the duties of his office.

Provision respecting their absence from their posts.

SEC. 8. *And be it further enacted*, That no envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary, commissioner, secretary of legation, dragoman, interpreter, consul, or commercial agent, shall absent himself from the country to which he is accredited, or from his consular district, for a longer period than ten days without having previously obtained leave from the President of the United States, and that during his absence for any period longer than that time, either with or without leave, his salary shall not be allowed him.

Resident citizens only to be appointed, except in certain cases.

SEC. 9. *And be it further enacted*, That the President shall appoint no other than citizens of the United States, who are residents thereof, or who shall be abroad in the employment of the government at the time of their appointment, as envoys extraordinary and ministers plenipotentiary, commissioners, secretaries of legation, dragomans, interpreters, consuls, or commercial agents, nor shall other than citizens of the United States be employed either as vice-consuls or consular agents, or as clerks in the offices of either, and have access to the archives therein deposited.

Location of offices and office hours.

SEC. 10. *And be it further enacted*, That envoys extraordinary and ministers plenipotentiary, and consuls, shall be required to locate their legations and consulates, in the places in which they are established, in as central a position as can be conveniently procured, and keep them open daily from ten o'clock in the morning until four o'clock in the afternoon; Sundays, other holidays, and anniversaries excepted.

Bonds of consuls and commercial agents.

SEC. 11. *And be it further enacted*, That as soon as a consul or commercial agent shall be officially notified of his appointment, he shall execute a bond with two sureties, in a sum of not less than one thousand nor more than ten thousand dollars, for the faithful discharge of every duty relating to his office; which bond shall be satisfactory to the United States district attorney for the district in which the appointed consul resides, and be transmitted to the Secretary of State for his approval. If the consul is not in the United States at the time he is commissioned, as soon as he is apprized of the fact he shall sign, and transmit by the most expeditious conveyance, a bond like the aforesaid, which shall afterwards be undersigned by two sureties who are permanent residents of the United States, and approved by the State Department. Where there is a United States legation in a country to which a consul shall be appointed, application shall be made through it to the government for an exequatur; but where there is none, the application shall be made direct to the proper department.

Applications for an exequatur.

Fees of consuls and commercial agents.

Such fees to be accounted for every three months, and to be subject to draft.

SEC. 12. *And be it further enacted*, That it shall be the duty of consuls and commercial agents to charge the following fees for performing the services specified, for which, under the penalty of being removed from office, they shall account to the government at the expiration of every three months, and hold the proceeds subject to its drafts:—

For receiving and delivering ships' papers.

For receiving and delivering ships' papers, half cent on every ton, registered measurement, of the vessel for which the service is performed.

For seamen shipped or discharged.

For every seaman who may be discharged or shipped at the consulate or commercial agency, or in the port in which they are located, one dollar; which shall be paid by the master of the vessel.

Certificates. Passports to be free.

For every other certificate, except passports — the signing and verification of which shall be free — two dollars.

Power of consuls and agents to grant passports where there is a legation.

SEC. 13. *And be it further enacted*, That in capitals where a legation of the United States is established, consuls and commercial agents shall only be permitted to grant and verify passports in the absence of the United States diplomatic representative.

No commission to be charged on wages or extra wages or relief money.

SEC. 14. *And be it further enacted*, That no commission shall in future be charged by consuls or commercial agents for receiving or disbursing the wages or extra wages to which seamen may be entitled who are discharged by the masters of vessels in foreign countries, or for moneys advanced to such as may be found in distress, seeking relief from the consulate or commercial agency; nor shall any consul or commercial agent be directly or indirectly interested in any profits derived from clothing, boarding, or sending home such seamen.

No consul or agent to be interested in profits of clothing, boarding, or sending home seamen.

Provision respecting discharge of seamen.

Two months wages.

1803, ch. 9.

SEC. 15. *And be it further enacted*, That no consul or commercial agent of the United States shall discharge any mariner, being a citizen of the United States, in a foreign port, without requiring the payment of the two months' wages to which said mariner is entitled under the provisions of the act of February twenty-eight, eighteen hundred and three, unless, upon due investigation into the circumstances under which the master and mariner have jointly applied for such discharge, and on a private examination of such mariner by the consul or commercial agent, separate and apart from all officers of the vessel, the consul or commercial agent shall be satisfied that it is for the interest and welfare of such mariner to be so discharged; nor shall any consul or commercial agent discharge any mariner as aforesaid without requiring the full amount of three months' wages, as provided by the above-named act, unless under such circumstances as will, in his judgment, secure the United States from all liability to expense on account of such mariner: *Provided*, That in the cases of stranded vessels, or vessels condemned as unfit for service, no payment of extra wages shall be required; and where any mariner, after his discharge, shall have incurred expense at the port of discharge before shipping again, such expense shall be paid out of the two months' wages aforesaid, and the balance only delivered to him.

Three months' pay.

Proviso as to stranded and condemned vessels, and as to subsequent expenses of any mariner.

List of discharges to be kept and returned.

SEC. 16. *And be it further enacted*, That every consul and commercial agent of the United States shall keep a detailed list of all mariners discharged by them, respectively, specifying their names and the names of the vessels from which they were discharged, and the payments, if any, afterwards made on account of each, and shall make official returns of said lists half-yearly to the Treasury Department.

Entry of discharges on shipping articles and list of crew.

SEC. 17. *And be it further enacted*, That every consul and commercial agent of the United States shall make an official entry of every discharge which they may grant, respectively, on the list of the crew and shipping articles of the vessel from which such discharge shall be made, specifying the payment, if any, which has been required in each case; and if they shall have remitted the payment of the two months' wages to which the mariner is entitled, they shall also certify on said shipping list and articles that they have allowed the remission, upon the joint application of the master and mariner therefor, after a separate examination of the mariner, after a due investigation of all the circumstances, and after being satisfied that the discharge so allowed, without said payment, is for the interest and welfare of the mariner; and if they shall have remitted the payment of the one month's wages to which the United States is entitled, they shall certify that they have allowed the remission, after a due investigation of

all the circumstances, and after being satisfied that they are such as will, in their judgment, secure the United States from all liability to expense on account of such mariner; and a copy of all such entries and certificates shall be annually transmitted to the Treasury Department by the proper officers of the customs in the several ports of the United States.

Copy of such entries to be reported annually.

SEC. 18. *And be it further enacted*, That if any consul or commercial agent of the United States, upon discharging a mariner without requiring the payment of the one month's wages to which the United States is entitled, shall neglect to certify in the manner required in such case by the preceding section of this act, he shall be accountable to the Treasury Department for the sum so remitted. And in any action brought by a mariner to recover the extra wages to which he is entitled under the act of February twenty-eighth, eighteen hundred and three, the defence that the payment of such wages was duly remitted shall not be sustained without the production of the certificate in such case required by this act, or, when its non-production is accounted for, by the production of a certified copy thereof; and the truth of the facts certified to, and the propriety of the remission, shall be still open to investigation.

Consul liable for extra pay if he fails to certify.

Discharged mariner may recover his extra wages, if certificate is not produced or its nonproduction accounted for.

1803, ch. 9.

SEC. 19. *And be it further enacted*, That if, upon the application of any mariner, it shall appear to the consul or commercial agent that he is entitled to his discharge under any act of Congress, or according to the general principles of the maritime law as recognized in the United States, he shall discharge such mariner, and shall require of the master the payment of three months' wages, as provided in the act of February twenty-eighth, eighteen hundred and three, and shall not remit the same, or any part thereof, except in the cases mentioned in the proviso of the ninth clause of the first section of the act of July twentieth, eighteen hundred and forty, to the following effect: "If the consul or other commercial agent shall be satisfied the contract has expired, or the voyage been protracted by circumstances beyond the control of the master, and without any design on his part to violate the articles of shipment, then he may, if he deems it just, discharge the mariner without exacting the three months' additional pay."

Application by seamen for their discharge and provision for such case.

1803, ch. 9.

1840, ch. 48.

SEC. 20. *And be it further enacted*, That every consul and commercial agent, for any neglect to perform the duties enjoined upon him by this act, shall be liable to any injured person for all damages occasioned thereby; and, for any violation of the provisions of the fifteenth and nineteenth sections of this act, shall also be liable to indictment, and to a penalty in the manner provided by the eighteenth clause of the first section of the act of July twentieth, eighteen hundred and forty.

Consuls and agents liable in damages and to certain penalties.

SEC. 21. *And be it further enacted*, That the act of April fourteenth, seventeen hundred and ninety-two, concerning consuls, &c., is hereby so amended that if any American citizen dying abroad shall, by will or any other writing, leave special directions for the management and settlement by the consul of the personal or other property which he may die possessed of in the country where he may die, it shall be the duty of the consul, where the laws of the country permit, strictly to observe the directions so given by the deceased. Or, if such citizen so dying shall, by will or any other writing, have appointed any other person than the consul to take charge of and settle his affairs, in that case it shall be the duty of the consul, when, and so often as required by the so-appointed agent or trustee of the deceased, to give his official aid in whatever way may be necessary to facilitate the operations of such trustee or agent, and, where the laws of the country permit, to protect the property of the deceased from any interference of the local authorities of the country in which he may have died; and to this end it shall also be the duty of the consul to place his official seal on all or any portions of the property of the deceased as may be required by the said agent or trustee, and to break and remove the same seal when required by the agent or trustee, and

Provisions as to duties of consuls and agents, when citizens die abroad.

1792, ch. 24.

not otherwise; he, the said consul or commercial agent, receiving therefor two dollars for each seal, which, like all other fees for consular service, including all charges for extension of protest, as also such commissions as are allowed by existing laws on settlement of estates of American citizens by consuls and commercial agents, shall be reported to the Treasury Department, and held subject to its order.

Provisions for keeping record-books in each consulate and commercial agency.

SEC. 22. *And be it further enacted*, That the following record-books shall be provided for and kept in each consulate and commercial agency: A letter-book, into which shall be copied, in the English language, all official letters and notes in the order of their dates, which are written by the consul or commercial agent; a book for the entry of protests, and in which all other official consular acts likewise shall be recorded; and at seaports, a book wherein shall be recorded the list of crew, and the age, tonnage, owner or owners, name and place to which she belongs, of every American vessel which arrives. Consuls and commercial agents shall

Returns.

make quarterly returns to their government, specifying the amount of fees received, the number of vessels, and the amount of their tonnage, which have arrived and departed; the number of seamen, and what portion of them are protected; and, as nearly as possible, the nature and value of their cargoes, and where produced.

Archives.

SEC. 23. *And be it further enacted*, That as soon as a consul or commercial agent shall have received his exequatur, or been provisionally recognized, he shall apply to his predecessor for the archives of the consulate or commercial agency, and make an inventory of the papers, and such other articles as they may contain, for which he shall pass a receipt and transmit a copy thereof to the State Department.

Rules and regulations authorized.

SEC. 24. *And be it further enacted*, That the Secretary of State be, and he is hereby, authorized to prescribe such additional regulations for the keeping of the consular books and records, and insuring proper returns, as the public interest may require.

Title of consul-general may be bestowed by the President on any consul in Asia or Africa.

SEC. 25. *And be it further enacted*, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized to bestow the title of consul-general upon any United States consul in Asia or Africa, when in his opinion such title will promote the public interest.

All acts allowing attachés or outfits, infits, clerk-hire, or office rent repealed.

SEC. 26. *And be it further enacted*, That all acts and parts of acts, authorizing attachés to any of our legations, or the payment to ministers and consuls of the United States of outfits or infits, or salaries for clerk-hire and office rent, be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

This act to take effect from June 30, 1855.

SEC. 27. *And be it further enacted*, The provisions of this act to take effect from and after the thirtieth of June next; any law or laws of the United States to the contrary notwithstanding.

APPROVED, March 1, 1855.

March 2, 1855.

CHAP. CXXXIV.—*An Act extending, in certain Cases, the Provisions of the Act entitled "An Act to extend Preëmption Rights to certain Land therein mentioned," Approved March third, eighteen hundred and fifty-three.*

Preëmption rights in Maison Rouge grant and De Bastrop grant.
1853, ch. 143.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the right of preëmption granted by the act of third March, eighteen hundred and fifty-three, entitled "An act to extend preëmption rights to certain lands therein mentioned," shall be, and the same is hereby extended so that the settler, or occupant on the Maison Rouge grant and the De Bastrop grant, entitled to the benefits of said act, shall be entitled to enter, at the minimum price, every quarter quarter subdivision, on which he has made improvements: *Provided, however*, That where any part of the improvements of two or more settlers or occupants is on the same quarter quarter section, the same shall be entered in their joint names, and their rights shall be proportionate to the extent and value of their improvements thereon.

APPROVED, March 2, 1855.