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.

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