may take, receive, purchase, and hold estate, real, personal, and mixed, not exceeding in value one hundred thousand dollars at any one time, and may manage and dispose of the same at pleasure, and apply the same, or the proceeds of the sales thereof, to the uses and purposes of the said corporation, according to the rules and regulations which now are or may hereafter be established.

This act may be amended, &c.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That Congress may at any time hereafter alter, amend, or repeal the foregoing act.

Banking powers not given.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That nothing in this act shall be so construed as to authorize the said corporation to issue any note, token, device, scrip, or other evidence of debt, to be used as a currency.

Trustees liable for debts.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That each of the trustees in the said corporation shall be held liable in his or her individual capacity for all the debts and liabilities of the said company, however contracted or incurred, to be recovered by suit, as other debts or liabilities, before any court of competent jurisdiction.

APPROVED, February 6, 1855.

CHAP. LVIII. — *An Act for the Relief of Thomas Marston Taylor.*

Feb. 6, 1855.

Settlement of accounts of Thomas M. Taylor.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the proper accounting officers of the Treasury Department be, and they are hereby, directed to allow to Thomas Marston Taylor, a purser in the United States navy, in the settlement of his accounts, for such deficiency as he shall show to exist by reason of his making deposits of treasury notes in the Phœnix Bank, at Charlestown, Massachusetts, subsequent to the month of April, eighteen hundred and forty-two: *Provided*, That the said sum shall be received in full of all demands against the government on this account.

Proviso.

APPROVED, February 6, 1855.

CHAP. LIX. — *An Act to increase the Pension of Patrick C. Miles.*

Feb. 10, 1855.

Pension of Patrick C. Miles increased to $13 per month for life, from Jan. 1, 1854.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Interior be, and he is hereby, directed to increase the pension of Patrick C. Miles, (late a sergeant of Company K, first regiment of infantry, United States army, and who lost a leg and was otherwise injured, while gallantly leading to the assault at the storming of Monterey,) to the rate of thirteen dollars per month, the amount of his duty pay; this increase to take effect from the first day of January, eighteen hundred and fifty-four, and continue during his natural life.

APPROVED, February 10, 1855.

CHAP. LX. — *An Act for the Relief of Samuel A. Belden and Company.*

Feb. 10, 1855.

Settlement of account of and claim of S. A. Belden and Co.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to audit and settle an account of the duties paid by Samuel A. Belden and Company, to the officers of the United States charged with their collection, in the city of Matamoras, in the Republic of Mexico, whilst that city was in the military possession of the United States, upon merchandise, except tobacco, imported by them into Matamoras during that period, which, after the restoration of peace between the two countries, they were deprived of, either in the form in which imported, or in the proceeds of sales, by illegal seizure, confiscation, sequestration, or their forced abandonment of the same by the judicial authorities of the Mexican government, and pay the

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