PUBLIC ACTS OF THE THIRTY-FOURTH CONGRESS

OF THE

UNITED STATES.

Passed at the third session, which was begun and holden at the City of Washington, in the District of Columbia, on Monday the second day of December, 1856, and ended Tuesday the third day of March, 1857.

FRANKLIN PIERCE, President. JESSE D. BRIGHT, President of the Senate, *pro tempore*, till January 5, 1857, and JAMES M. MASON from that time till the close of the Session. NATHANIEL P. BANKS, Jun., Speaker of the House of Representatives.

CHAP. II.—*An Act providing for the compulsory Prepayment of Postage on all transient printed Matter.* Jan. 2, 1857.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the provision in the act approved August thirty, eighteen hundred and fifty-two, entitled "An act to amend the act entitled an act to reduce and modify the rates of postage in the United States, and for other purposes, passed March three, eighteen hundred and fifty-one," permitting transient printed matter to be sent through the mail of the United States without prepayment of postage, be and the same is hereby repealed. And the postage on all such transient matter shall be prepaid by stamps or otherwise, as the Postmaster General may direct.

Postage of transient printed matter to be prepaid. 1852, ch. 98. Vol. x. p. 38.

APPROVED, Jan. 2, 1857.

CHAP. XII.—*An Act to amend an Act entitled "An Act to promote the Efficiency of the Navy."* Jan. 16, 1857.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, upon the written request, made within ninety days after the passage hereof, or within thirty days after the return of any officer absent from the United States at the time of the passage of this act, provided he shall return within one year after the passage of this act, by any officer of the navy who was dropped, furloughed, or retired, by the operation of the act of the twenty-eighth of February, eighteen hundred and fifty-five, entitled "An act to promote the efficiency of the navy," the Secretary of the Navy shall cause the physical, mental, professional, and moral fitness of such officer for the naval service to be investigated by a court of inquiry, which shall be governed by the laws and regulations which now govern courts of inquiry; and the said court shall in their finding report whether the said officer, if he has been dropped from the rolls of the navy, ought to be restored, and, if restored, whether to the active list or the reserved list, and if to the latter, whether on leave of absence or furlough pay; and in case the officer making the written request, as aforesaid, shall have been placed on the reserved list, then the court, in their finding, shall report whether the said officer ought to be restored to the active list, or, if not restored, whether he ought to remain on the retired list on leave of absence or

1855, ch. 127. See also *post*, pp. 367, 369.

Navy officers dropped, furloughed, or retired under act of 1855, ch. 127, may have a re-examination by a court of inquiry. Vol. x. p. 616.

Report by such court.

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