March 3, 1859.

CHAP. LXXVII.—*An Act to carry into Effect the Convention between the United States and China, concluded on the eighth of November, eighteen hundred and fifty-eight at Shanghai.*

Depositary of debentures, or duty receipts to be appointed.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the minister or chief diplomatic officer of the United States in China, shall, so soon as the Chinese revenue officers issue the debentures, or duty receipts, provided for in the convention, select some proper depositary of the same in China, making such compensation as he shall think right, the said debentures, or their proceeds, being subject to the appropriation hereinafter provided.

Pay.

Debentures subject to appropriation.

Board of Commissioners appointed in China. Duties, &c.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint two commissioners who shall form a Board in China, to receive and examine all claims which may be presented to them, under the said convention, according to the provisions of the same, the principles of justice, and international law.

Time and place of meeting.

To expire in one year therefrom.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That the Board so constituted shall meet at such time and place as shall be designated by the chief diplomatic officer in China, and within one year from the time of said meeting shall terminate their duties.

Compensation of commissioners.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That the compensation of the said commissioners shall be three thousand dollars per annum, and the President of the United States is authorized to make such provision for the contingent expenses of the commission, as shall appear to him necessary and proper, and the said salaries and expenses shall be paid out of any moneys in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Contingencies.

Duty of commissioners as to awards made by them.

Debentures to be distributed ratably.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That the said commissioners shall report to the chief diplomatic officer in China, the several awards made by them, to be approved by him, a copy of which shall be by him transmitted to the depositary of the debentures, or the proceeds as herein before provided, who shall thereupon distribute, in rateable proportion, the said debentures, or their proceeds according to the direction of the said diplomatic officer.

Records, &c. of commission to be deposited with Secretary of State.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That so soon as the said commission shall be executed and completed, the records and documents, and all other papers in the possession of the commissioners, relating to the same, shall be deposited in the office of the Secretary of State.

APPROVED, March 3, 1859.

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March 3, 1859.

CHAP. LXXVIII.—*An Act to protect the Timber growing upon Lands of the United States reserved for Military and other Purposes.*

The unlawful cutting, &c., or wanton destruction, &c. of timber standing on certain lands of the United States punishable by fine and imprisonment.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That if any person or persons shall unlawfully cut, or aid, assist, or be employed in unlawfully cutting, or shall wantonly destroy, or procure to be wantonly destroyed, any timber standing, growing, or being upon any lands of the United States, which in pursuance of any law passed, or hereafter to be passed, have been, or shall be, reserved or purchased by the United States, for military or other purposes, every such person or persons so offending, on conviction thereof before a court having competent jurisdiction, shall, for every such offence, pay a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, and shall be imprisoned not exceeding twelve months.

APPROVED, March 3, 1859.

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