[No. 27.] *A Resolution to encourage the Employment of disabled and discharged Soldiers.* March 3, 1865.

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled*, That persons honorably discharged from the military or naval service by reason of disability resulting from wounds or sickness incurred in the line of duty, should be preferred for appointments to civil offices, provided they shall be found to possess the business capacity necessary for the proper discharge of the duties of such offices.

Preference in appointments to civil offices to be given to disabled and discharged soldiers.

SEC. 2. *And be it further resolved*, That, in grateful recognition of the services, sacrifices, and sufferings of persons honorably discharged from the military and naval service of the country, by reason of wounds, disease, or the expiration of terms of enlistment, it is respectfully recommended to bankers, merchants, manufacturers, mechanics, farmers, and persons engaged in industrial pursuits, to give them the preference for appointments to remunerative situation[s] and employments.

General preference recommended.

APPROVED, March 3, 1865.

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[No. 28.] *Joint Resolution of Thanks to Major-General George H. Thomas and the Army under his Command.* March 3, 1865.

*Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the thanks of congress are due, and are hereby tendered, to Major-General George H. Thomas and the officers and soldiers under his command for their skill and dauntless courage, by which the rebel army under General Hood was signally defeated and driven from the State of Tennessee.

Thanks of congress to Major-General Thomas, &c.

APPROVED, March 3, 1865.

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[No. 29.] *A Resolution to encourage Enlistments and to promote the Efficiency of the military Forces of the United States.* March 3, 1865.

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That, for the purpose of encouraging enlistments and promoting the efficiency of the military and naval forces of the United States, it is hereby enacted that the wife and children, if any he have, of any person that has been, or may be, mustered into the military or naval service of the United States, shall, from and after the passage of this act, be forever free, any law, usage, or custom whatsoever to the contrary notwithstanding; and in determining who is or was the wife and who are the children of the enlisted person herein mentioned, evidence that he and the woman claimed to be his wife have cohabited together, or associated as husband and wife, and so continued to cohabit or associate at the time of the enlistment, or evidence that a form or ceremony of marriage, whether such marriage was or was not authorized or recognized by law, has been entered into or celebrated by them, and that the parties thereto thereafter lived together, or associated or cohabited as husband and wife, and so continued to live, cohabit, or associate at the time of the enlistment, shall be deemed sufficient proof of marriage for the purposes of this act, and the children born of any such marriage shall be deemed and taken to be the children embraced within the provisions of this act, whether such marriage shall or shall not have been dissolved at the time of such enlistment.

Wife and children of persons enlisted into the military or naval service to be free.

Evidence of marriage, &c.

APPROVED, March 3, 1865.

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[No. 30.] *A Resolution to authorize and direct an Inventory of Articles in the Quartermaster's Depots of the United States, and in the Possession of the Naval Storekeepers of the United States.* March 3, 1865.

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the Secretary of War be, and is hereby, directed to cause a strict inspection to be made of the quartermaster's department, as soon as practicable after the passage of this

Inspection to be made of quartermaster's department.

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