March 2, 1867.

CHAP. CXLVI. — *An Act in Relation to Persons imprisoned under Sentence for Offences against the Laws of the United States.*

Convicts under any law of the United States confined in prison, conducting themselves well, to have deductions made from the term of their sentence.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all prisoners who have been, or shall hereafter be, convicted of any offence against the laws of the United States, and confined in any State prison or penitentiary in execution of the judgment or sentence upon such conviction, who so conduct themselves that no charge for misconduct shall be sustained against them, shall have a deduction of one month in each year made from the term of their sentence, and shall be entitled to their discharge so much the sooner, upon the certificate of the warden or keeper of such prison or penitentiary, with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

Approved, March 2, 1867.

March 2, 1867.

CHAP. CXLVII. — *An Act for the Relief of certain Contractors for the Construction of Vessels-of-War and Steam Machinery.*

Claims of contractors for building certain vessels of war and steam machinery to be investigated.

Basis of the investigation.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Navy is hereby authorized and directed to investigate the claims of all contractors for building vessels-of-war and steam machinery for the same under contracts made after the first day of May, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, and prior to the first day of January, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, and said investigation to be made upon the following basis: He shall ascertain the additional cost which was necessarily incurred by each contractor in the completion of his work by reason of any changes or alterations in the plans and specifications required, and delays in the prosecution of the work occasioned by the government, which were not provided for in the original contract; but no allowance for any advance in the price of labor or material shall be considered, unless such advance occurred during the prolonged time for completing the work rendered necessary by the delay resulting from the action of the government aforesaid, and then only when such advance could not have been avoided by the exercise of ordinary prudence and diligence on the part of the contractor, and from such additional cost, to be ascertained as aforesaid, there shall be deducted such sum as may have been paid each contractor for any reason heretofore over and above the contract price, and shall report to Congress a tabular statement of each case, which shall contain the name of the contractor, a description of the work, the contract price, the whole increased cost of the work over the contract price, and the amount of such increased cost caused by the delay and action of the government as aforesaid, and the amount already paid the contractor over and above the contract price: *Provided*, That the Secretary of the Navy, under the resolution, shall investigate the claim of W. H. Webb for constructing the steamer Dunderberg, applying the provisions of this resolution in such investigation, except that proper consideration shall be given to the increased cost incurred by said Webb by reason of any alteration in the plans and specifications for the Dunderberg made during the progress of the work, whether such alterations were provided for in the original contract or not, when payment for the same was not embraced in the contract price.

Tabular statement of each case to be reported to Congress, and to contain what.

Claim of W. H. Webb for constructing the Dunderberg.

Approved, March 2, 1867