July 1, 1870.

CHAP. CLXXXVIII. — *An Act to change the Place of holding the Courts of the United States for the Albemarle District of North Carolina.*

Term of the district court of the United States to be held at Elizabeth City, North Carolina.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the district court of the United States for the Albemarle district of North Carolina, now required to be held in the town of Edenton, shall hereafter be held in the town of Elizabeth City, in said State; and no recognizance, writ, process, order, or notice now returnable in said court, at Edenton, shall be affected by said change, but shall be deemed returnable at Elizabeth City.

Approved, July 1, 1870.

July 1, 1870.

1871, ch. 114, § 7. *Post*, p. 514.

CHAP. CLXXXIX. — *An Act to prevent the Extermination of Fur-bearing Animals in Alaska.*

The killing of fur-seal upon the islands of Saint Paul, &c. declared unlawful except in certain months, and at any time by fire-arms.

Privileges of killing allowed to natives.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That it shall be unlawful to kill any fur-seal upon the islands of Saint Paul and Saint George, or in the waters adjacent thereto, except during the months of June, July, September, and October, in each year; and it shall be unlawful to kill such seals at any time by the use of fire-arms, or use other means tending to drive the seals away from said islands: *Provided*, That the natives of said islands shall have the privilege of killing such young seals as may be necessary for their own food and clothing during other months, and also such old seals as may be required for their own clothing and for the manufacture of boats for their own use, which killing shall be limited and controlled by such regulations as shall be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury.

The killing of any female seal, or any seal less than a year old, except, &c. or any seal in certain places declared unlawful.

Penalty.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That it shall be unlawful to kill any female seal, or any seal less than one year old, at any season of the year, except as above provided; and it shall also be unlawful to kill any seal in the waters adjacent to said islands, or on the beaches, cliffs, or rocks where they haul up from the sea to remain; and any person who shall violate either of the provisions of this or the first section of this act shall be punished, on conviction thereof, for each offence by a fine of not less than two hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars, or by imprisonment not exceeding six months, or by such fine and imprisonment both, at the discretion of the court having jurisdiction and taking cognizance of the offence; and all vessels, their tackle, apparel, and furniture, whose crew shall be found engaged in the violation of any of the provisions of this act shall be forfeited to the United States.

Limit to number of fur-seals that may be killed each year for their skins, upon the island of Saint Paul; of Saint George.

Further limit.

Penalty.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That for the period of twenty years from and after the passage of this act the number of fur-seals which may be killed for their skins upon the island of Saint Paul is hereby limited and restricted to seventy-five thousand per annum; and the number of fur-seals which may be killed for their skins upon the island of Saint George is hereby limited and restricted to twenty-five thousand per annum: *Provided*, That the Secretary of the Treasury may restrict and limit the right of killing if it shall become necessary for the preservation of such seals, with such proportionate reduction of the rents reserved to the government as shall be right and proper; and if any person shall knowingly violate either of the provisions of this section, he shall, upon due conviction thereof, be punished in the same way as provided herein for a violation of the provisions of the first and second sections of this act.

The right to take fur-seals on the islands of Saint Paul and Saint George and to send vessels, &c. may be leased.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That immediately after the passage of this act the Secretary of the Treasury shall lease, for the rental mentioned in section six of this act, to proper and responsible parties, to the best advantage of the United States, having due regard to the interests of the government, the native inhabitants, the parties heretofore engaged in trade, and the protection of the seal fisheries, for a term of twenty

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