

bands of Indians and Mexicans who crossed the Rio Grande river into the State of Texas, murdering the inhabitants or carrying them into captivity, and destroying or carrying away the property of the citizens of said State; as also that bands of Indians have committed and continue to commit like depredations on the property, lives, and liberty of the citizens along the northern and northwestern frontiers of said State: Therefore,

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized and empowered to appoint three persons to act as commissioners to inquire into the extent and character of said depredations, by whom committed, their residence, or country inhabited by them, the persons murdered or carried into captivity, the character and value of the property destroyed or carried away, from what portions of said State, and to whom the same belonged.

SEC. 2. That it shall be the duty of said commissioners, or a majority of them, as soon as practicable, to proceed to the frontiers of said State, and take the testimony, under oath, of such witnesses as may appear before them, after having given notice for ten days previous, by publication in the nearest newspaper, of the time and place of their meeting, of all such depredations, when, where, by, and upon whom committed, and shall make up and transmit to the President full reports of their said investigations.

SEC. 3. That said commissioners shall be entitled to and receive as compensation for their services, the sum of ten dollars per day each, and their travelling expenses to each, for and during the time they shall be engaged in said service; and the sum of six thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, be, and the same is hereby, appropriated, to pay the expenses of said investigation and said commissioners.

APPROVED, May 7, 1872.

June 6, 1872.

[No. 6.] *Joint Resolution providing for a more effective System of Quarantine on the Southern and Gulf Coasts.*

Preamble.

WHEREAS experience has proved that the present system of quarantine on the southern and gulf coasts is inefficient to prevent the ravages of yellow fever in the cities and towns of that section: Therefore,

*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 detail one or more medical officers of the regular army, who shall, during the coming season, visit each town or port on the coast of the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic coast, which is subject or liable to invasions of yellow fever, and shall confer with the authorities of such port or town, with reference to the establishment of a more uniform and effective system of quarantine, and who shall ascertain all facts having reference to the outbreaks of this disease in such ports or towns, and whether any system of quarantine is likely to be effective in preventing invasions of yellow fever, and, if so, what system will least interfere with the interests of commerce at said ports; and shall make, also, a detailed report on this subject to the Secretary of War, through the surgeon-general, on or before the assembling of the third session of the Forty-second Congress, in December, eighteen hundred and seventy-two.

APPROVED, June 6, 1872.