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CHAP. 292.—An act to provide for the publication of the report of the impeachment trial of William W. Belknap. Aug. 15, 1876.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That five thousand additional copies of the report of the impeachment trial of William W. Belknap be printed, of which fifteen hundred copies shall be for the use of the Senate, three thousand copies for the use of the House of Representatives, three hundred and fifty copies for the use of the managers, and two hundred copies for the use of the respondent's counsel; and the sum of five thousand and thirty dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated for the execution of the work, to be paid out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Report of impeachment trial of W. W. Belknap.

Distribution.

Appropriation.

Approved, August 15, 1876.

CHAP. 293.—An act to encourage and promote telegraphic communication between America and Asia. Aug. 15, 1876.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Celso Cæsar Moreno, Alvinza Hayward, John F. Miller, Leland Stanford, Mark Hopkins, James C. Flood, William Irwin, James McM. Shafter, O. H. La Grange, Isaac Friedlander, William Alvord, Eugene L. Sullivan, John P. Jackson, Andrew J. Bryant, John B. Felton, Louis Sloss, Philip A. Roach, Nathaniel W. Spaulding, William Norris, Frank M. Pixley, and J. Craig, of the State of California; Henry Failing and Julius Friedman, of the State of Oregon, Henry O'Rielly, and William Barnet Phillips, of the State of New York; Dudley S. Gregory, of the State of New Jersey, shall have the right to construct, lay, land, and maintain a line or lines of telegraph or submarine cable or cables on the Pacific coast of the United States of America, to connect the American and Asiatic coasts by telegraph lines, wires or submarine cables: *Provided*, That said company shall begin to lay said cable or cables within three years from the passage of this act.

Telegraph cable in Pacific Ocean. Corporators.

Proviso.

SEC. 2. That any telegraph-line or cable laid by said company shall be subject to the following conditions, stipulations, and reservations, to wit: The Government of the United States shall be entitled to exercise and enjoy the same or similar privileges with regard to the control and use of such line or lines or cable or cables that may, by law, agreement, or otherwise, be exercised and enjoyed by any foreign government whatever; secondly, citizens of the United States shall enjoy the same privileges as to the payment of rates for the transmission of messages as are enjoyed by the citizens of the most favored nations; thirdly, the transmission of despatches shall be made in the following order: first, despatches of state, under such regulations as may be agreed upon by the governments interested; secondly, despatches on telegraphic service; and, thirdly, private despatches; fourthly, the lines of any such cables shall be kept open to the public for the daily transmission of market and commercial reports and intelligence, and all messages, despatches, and communications, shall be forwarded in the order in which they are received, except as hereinafter provided; fifthly, before extending and establishing any such line or lines or cable or cables in or over any waters, reefs, islands, shores, and lands within the jurisdiction of the United States, a written acceptance of the terms and conditions imposed by this act shall be filed in the office of the Secretary of State by the said company.

Conditions and reservations.

SEC. 3. But nothing in this act shall be construed to limit the United States in granting to other persons or companies similar privileges herein contained.

Grants of similar privileges.

SEC. 4. That the right to alter, amend or repeal this act, at any time, is hereby reserved to Congress.

Right to amend.

Approved, August 15, 1876.