ACTS OF THE EIGHTH CONGRESS

OF THE

UNITED STATES,

Passed at the first session, which was begun and held at the City of Washington, in the District of Columbia, on Monday, the seventeenth day of October, 1803, and ended on the twenty-seventh day of March, 1804.

THOMAS JEFFERSON, President; AARON BURR, Vice President of the United States and President of the Senate; JOHN BROWN, President of the Senate pro tempore, from the 31st of October to the 19th of December, 1803, and from the 26th of January to the 25th of February, 1804; JESSE FRANKLIN, President of the Senate pro tempore, from the 14th of March, 1804; NATHANIEL MACON, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

STATUTE I.

CHAPTER I.—*An Act to enable the President of the United States to take possession of the territories ceded by France to the United States, by the treaty concluded at Paris, on the thirtieth of April last; and for the temporary government thereof.*

Oct. 31, 1803.

Louisiana to be taken possession of by the President of the U. States.

Be it enacted 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 to take possession of, and occupy the territory ceded by France to the United States, by the treaty concluded at Paris, on the thirtieth day of April last, between the two nations; and that he may for that purpose, and in order to maintain in the said territories the authority of the United States, employ any part of the army and navy of the United States, and of the force authorized by an act passed the third day of March last, intituled "An act directing a detachment from the militia of the United States, and for erecting certain arsenals," which he may deem necessary: and so much of the sum appropriated by the said act as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated for the purpose of carrying this act into effect; to be applied under the direction of the President of the United States.

Authority of the U. States in Louisiana established.

Act of March 3, 1803, ch. 32.

Appropriations.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That until the expiration of the present session of Congress, unless provision for the temporary government of the said territories be sooner made by Congress, all the military, civil and judicial powers, exercised by the officers of the existing government of the same, shall be vested in such person and persons, and shall be exercised in such manner, as the President of the United States shall direct for maintaining and protecting the inhabitants of Louisiana in the free enjoyment of their liberty, property and religion.

All the military, civil and judicial powers exercised by the officers of the existing government to be exercised as the President may direct for the protection of the inhabitants.

Act of March 26, 1804, ch. 38.

Act of February 15, 1811, ch. 14.

Act of April 8, 1812, ch. 50.

APPROVED, October 31, 1803.

STATUTE I.

Nov. 10, 1803.

[Obsolete.]

CHAP. II.—*An Act authorizing the creation of a stock, to the amount of eleven millions two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, for the purpose of carrying into effect the convention of the thirtieth of April, one thousand eight hundred and three, between the United States of America and the French Republic; and making provision for the payment of the same.*

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That for the purpose of carry-

AUTHENTICATED U.S. GOVERNMENT INFORMATION GPO

The Secretary of the Treasury authorized to cause to be constituted stock for eleven million two hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

Terms of creation and delivery.

ing into effect the convention of the thirtieth day of April, one thousand eight hundred and three, between the United States of America and the French Republic, the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby authorized, to cause to be constituted, certificates of stock, signed by the register of the treasury, in favour of the French Republic, or of its assignees, for the sum of eleven millions two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, bearing an interest of six per centum per annum, from the time when possession of Louisiana shall have been obtained, in conformity with the treaty of the thirtieth day of April, one thousand eight hundred and three, between the United States of America and the French Republic, and in other respects conformable with the tenor of the convention aforesaid; and the President of the United States is authorized to cause the said certificates of stock to be delivered to the government of France, or to such person or persons as shall be authorized to receive them, in three months at most, after the exchange of the ratifications of the treaty aforesaid, and after Louisiana shall be taken possession of in the name of the government of the United States; and credit, or credits, to the proprietors thereof, shall thereupon be entered and given on the books of the treasury, in like manner as for the present domestic funded debt, which said credits or stock shall thereafter be transferable only on the books of the treasury of the United States, by the proprietor or proprietors of such stock, his, her or their attorney: and the faith of the United States is hereby pledged for the payment of the interest, and for the reimbursement of the principal of the said stock, in conformity with the provisions of the said convention: *Provided however*, that the Secretary of the Treasury may, with the approbation of the President of the United States, consent to discharge the said stock in four equal annual instalments, and also shorten the periods fixed by the convention for its reimbursement: *And provided also*, that every proprietor of the said stock may, until otherwise directed by law, on surrendering his certificate of such stock, receive another to the same amount, and bearing an interest of six per centum per annum, payable quarter-yearly at the treasury of the United States.

The certificates of stock to be delivered to the government of France.

Credits of stock to be transferable on the books of the treasury.

Period of redemption may be shortened.

Interest payable in Europe.

Rate of exchange, dollars at 4*s*. 6*d*. and 2½ guilders.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the annual interest accruing on the said stock, which may, in conformity with the convention aforesaid, be payable in Europe, shall be paid at the rate of four shillings and sixpence sterling for each dollar, if payable in London, and at the rate of two guilders and one half of a guilder, current money of Holland, for each dollar, if payable in Amsterdam.

Interest provided for out of monies in the treasury.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That a sum equal to what will be necessary to pay the interest which may accrue on the said stock to the end of the present year, be, and the same is hereby appropriated for that purpose, to be paid out of any monies in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Act of April 29, 1802, ch. 32. Seven hundred thousand dollars to be added to the sinking fund.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That from and after the end of the present year, (in addition to the annual sum of seven millions three hundred thousand dollars yearly appropriated to the sinking fund, by virtue of the act, intituled "An act making provision for the redemption of the whole of the public debt of the United States,") a further annual sum of seven hundred thousand dollars, to be paid out of the duties on merchandise and tonnage, be, and the same hereby is, yearly appropriated to the said fund, making in the whole, an annual sum of eight millions of dollars, which shall be vested in the commissioners of the sinking fund in the same manner, shall be applied by them for the same purposes, and shall be, and continue appropriated, until the whole of the present debt of the United States, inclusively of the stock created by virtue of this act, shall be reimbursed and redeemed, under the same limitations as have been provided by the first section of the above-mentioned act, respecting the annual appropriation of seven millions three hundred thousand dollars, made by the same.

Commissioners of the sinking fund to redeem the stock.

Secretary of the Treasury to pay to commissioners, who shall apply the money to discharge of debt.

Sec. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That the Secretary of the Treasury shall cause the said further sum of seven hundred thousand dollars to be paid to the commissioners of the sinking fund, in the same manner as was directed by the above-mentioned act respecting the annual appropriation of seven millions three hundred thousand dollars; and it shall be the duty of the commissioners of the sinking fund to cause to be applied and paid out of the said fund, yearly, and every year, at the treasury of the United States, such sum and sums as may be annually wanted to discharge the annual interest and charges accruing on the stock created by virtue of this act, and the several instalments, or parts of principal of the said stock, as the same shall become due and may be discharged, in conformity to the terms of the convention aforesaid, and of this act.

Approved, November 10, 1803.

Statute I.

Nov. 10, 1803.

[Obsolete.]

Chap. III.—*An Act making provision for the payment of claims of citizens of the United States on the government of France, the payment of which has been assumed by the United States, by virtue of the convention of the thirtieth of April, one thousand eight hundred and three, between the United States and the French Republic.*

Three millions seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars appropriated to pay citizens of the U. States.

Act of February 26, 1803, ch. 8.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That a sum, not exceeding three millions seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars, (inclusive of a sum of two millions of dollars, appropriated by the act of the twenty-sixth day of February, one thousand eight hundred and three, intituled "An act making further provision for the expenses attending the intercourse between the United States and foreign nations,") to be paid out of any monies in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, be, and the same hereby is appropriated, for the purpose of discharging the claims of citizens of the United States against the government of France, the payment of which has been assumed by the government of the United States, by virtue of a convention made the thirtieth day of April, one thousand eight hundred and three, between the United States of America and the French Republic, respecting the said claims.

Treaty with France for the cession of Louisiana.

Claims to be paid at the treasury of the U. States.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the Secretary of the Treasury shall cause to be paid, at the treasury of the United States, in conformity to the convention aforesaid, the amount of such claims, abovementioned, as, under the provisions of the said convention, shall be awarded to the respective claimants; which payments shall be made on the orders of the minister plenipotentiary of the United States for the time being, to the French Republic, in conformity with the convention aforesaid, and the said minister shall be charged on the treasury books with the whole amount of such payments, until he shall have exhibited satisfactory proof to the accounting officers of the treasury, that his orders, thus paid, have been issued in conformity with the provisions of the said convention.

President of the U. States to borrow not exceeding one million seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That the President of the United States be, and he hereby is authorized to borrow, on the credit of the United States, to be applied to the purposes authorized by this act, a sum not exceeding one million seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars, at a rate of interest, not exceeding six per centum per annum; reimbursable out of the appropriation made by virtue of the first section of this act, at the pleasure of the United States, or at such period, not exceeding five years from the time of obtaining the loan, as may be stipulated by contract; and it shall be lawful for the Bank of the United States to lend the same.

One million seven hundred

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That so much of the duties on merchandise and tonnage as may be necessary, be, and the same hereby