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duties, then from such time after the date of his commission as he may have actually entered upon such duties: *And provided further*, That any person held as a prisoner of war, or who may have been absent by reason of wounds or in hospital by reason of disability received in the service in the line of duty, at the date of his commission, if a vacancy existed for him in the grade to which so commissioned, shall be entitled to the same pay and emoluments as if actually performing the duties of the grade to which he was commissioned and actually mustered at such date: *And provided further*, That this act and the resolution hereby amended shall be construed to apply only in those cases where the commission bears date prior to June twentieth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, or after that date when their commands were not below the minimum number required by existing laws and regulations: *And provided further*, That the pay and allowances actually received shall be deducted from the sums to be paid under this act.

Prisoners of war or disabled officers.

Application.

Pay received to be deducted.

Approved, February 3, 1887.

Feb. 3, 1887.

CHAP. 93.—An act for the relief of Elon A. Marsh and Minard Lefever.

Preamble.

Whereas, heretofore, to wit, on the twenty-eighth day of December, anno Domini eighteen hundred and eighty, in due form of procedure and in all legal respects, letters patent numbered two hundred and thirty-six thousand and fifty-two of the United States of America were duly granted and issued to Elon A. Marsh and his assignee, Minard Lefever, of Battle Creek, in the county of Calhoun and State of Michigan, one of the United States, for a new and useful improvement in steam-engine valve-gear, save that the said letters patent were not, by accident or mistake, at the said time of issuing, to wit, on the twenty-eighth day of December, eighteen hundred and eighty, signed, as by law required, by the Secretary of the Interior; and

Whereas the said-named letters patent were afterward, to wit, on the twenty-fourth day of February, anno Domini eighteen hundred and eighty-two, but not before, duly signed by the then Acting Secretary of the Interior: Therefore,

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the letters patent named in the preamble of this act are hereby and by this act made legal, valid, complete, and operative, in law and equity, from the twenty-eighth day of December, eighteen hundred and eighty, to the same extent and for the same term that the same would have been legal, valid, complete, and operative if the signature of the Secretary of the Interior had, at the time of the supposed issue of said letters patent on the day aforesaid, been placed thereon, and the omission of said signature thereon had not occurred. *Provided, however*, That the provisions of this act shall not be held or construed to apply to or affect any suits now pending, nor any cause of action arising prior to its passage.

Elon A. Marsh and Minard Lefever.

Patent for steam-engine valve-gear to issue as from Dec. 28, 1880.

Proviso.
Pending suits not affected.

Approved, February 3, 1887.

Feb. 4, 1887.

CHAP. 103.—An act to provide for the erection of a public building at Wilmington, North Carolina.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to purchase a site for, and cause to be erected thereon, a suitable building, with a fire-proof vault extending to each story, for the accommodation of the post-office, custom-house, United States court-rooms, and other Government offices, at the city of Wilmington, in the State of North Carolina. The site, and building

Wilmington, N. C.

Public-building. Site.