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March 5, 1888.

[No. 5.] Joint resolution authorizing the Secretary of War to appoint a board of three engineers to examine and report in relation to the Delaware river between the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and Camden, New Jersey, and for other purposes.

Delaware River. Secretary of War to appoint board of engineers to examine, at Philadelphia, Pa., and Camden, N. J.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, authorized to immediately appoint a board of three engineers from the United States army whose duty it shall be to examine in all their relations to commerce the Islands known as Smith's Island, Windmill Island and Petty's Island in the Delaware River between the city of Philadelphia in the State of Pennsylvania and the city of Camden in the State of New Jersey, which board shall forthwith report to the Secretary of War as to whether said islands or any shoal in the said river between or adjacent to the said islands or any of them constitute an obstruction to the commerce of the Delaware river or to the passage of vessels between the said States and with a view to removing said islands and shoals to report a plan with the estimate of cost for their removal in whole or in part and for the improvement of the harbor of the port of Philadelphia including the probable cost to the Government of said islands so as to secure free and uninterrupted commerce upon the said Delaware river and the unobstructed passage of vessels to and from and between the said States; and the sum of five thousand dollars or so much thereof as shall be necessary is hereby appropriated to be paid out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated to defray the expense of such survey and report.

Appropriation.

Approved, March 5, 1888.

March 10, 1888.

[No. 6.] Joint resolution providing for the disposition of undistributed copies of the Rebellion Records and other public documents.

Public documents. Distribution of Rebellion Records, Tenth Census, and Land Laws.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all copies of the Records of the War of the Rebellion, reports of the Tenth Census, and report of the Public Lands Commission remaining undistributed, of the quota of ex-members of Congress, shall be put to the credit and distributed upon the orders of their successors, respectively, in the Fiftieth Congress, in accordance with existing provisions of law:

Provisos.

Provided, That copies of the above-named documents standing to the credit of ex-members who, in consequence of changes in the boundaries of Congressional districts, have no direct successors in the present Congress, shall be put to the credit pro rata of the several Representatives of the State in which such districts are located, who were not Representatives in the Forty-seventh Congress: *And provided further*, That this resolution shall not be construed as withholding, from parties already named to receive complete sets of said documents, the volumes yet to be issued.

Complete sets.

Approved, March 10, 1888.

March 20, 1888.

[No. 7.] Joint resolution directing the Secretary of the Interior by means of the Director of the Geological Survey to investigate the practicability of constructing reservoirs for the storage of water in the arid region of the United States, and to report to Congress.

Preamble.

Whereas a large portion of the unoccupied public lands of the United States is located within what is known as the arid region and now utilized only for grazing purposes, but much of which, by means of irrigation, may be rendered as fertile and productive as any land in the world, capable of supporting a large population thereby adding to the national wealth and prosperity;