

United States; but may nevertheless be exercised in cases where the fine, penalty, or forfeiture may have been incurred, or the cause of action or complaint have arisen, at a less as well as a greater distance than fifty miles from the nearest place by law established for the holding of a district court of the United States. But in all suits or prosecutions instituted by or on behalf of the United States in any state or county court, the process, proceedings, judgment and execution therein shall not be delayed, suspended or in any way barred or defeated by reason of any law of any state authorizing or directing a stay or suspension of process, proceedings, judgment or execution: *Provided*, That final decrees and judgments in civil actions, passed or rendered in any state court by virtue hereof, may be re-examined in the circuit court of the United States, in the same manner and under the same limitations as are prescribed by the twenty-second section of the act to establish the judicial courts of the United States, passed the twenty-fourth of September, seventeen hundred and eighty-nine.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That the state or county courts aforesaid, and the principal or presiding judge of any such court, shall be, and are hereby authorized to exercise all and every power in cases cognisable before them by virtue of this act for the purpose of obtaining a mitigation, or remission of any fine, penalty, or forfeiture, which may be exercised by the judges of the district courts of the United States in cases brought before them by virtue of the law of the United States, passed on the third of March, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven, entitled "An act to provide for mitigating or remitting the forfeitures, penalties and disabilities accruing in certain cases therein mentioned," and in the exercise of the authority by this section given to the said state or county courts, or the principal or presiding judge as aforesaid, they shall be governed in every respect by the provisions of the law last mentioned, with this difference only, that instead of notifying the district attorneys of the United States, the said courts, or the presiding judges aforesaid, shall, before exercising said authorities, cause reasonable notice to be given to the substitute or deputy, who may have been appointed to sue or prosecute for the United States, as aforesaid, that he may have an opportunity of showing cause against the mitigation or remission of such fine, penalty or forfeiture.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That the district court of the United States shall have cognisance concurrent with the courts and magistrates of the several states, and the circuit courts of the United States, of all suits at common law, where the United States, or any officer thereof, under the authority of any act of Congress, shall sue, although the debt, claim, or other matter in dispute, shall not amount to one hundred dollars.

APPROVED, March 3, 1815.

Proviso.

Act of Sep. 24, 1789, ch. 20, sec. 26, vol. i. p. 83.

State or county courts and principal judge authorized to exercise their full powers for obtaining mitigation of any fines, as might be exercised by the United States' judges in similar cases.

Act of March 3, 1797, ch. 13.

District court of the United States to have cognisance, in conjunction with the state courts, and circuit courts of the United States.

RESOLUTIONS.

- I. RESOLUTIONS, expressive of the sense of Congress of the gallant conduct of Captain Thomas Macdonough, the officers, seamen, marines, and infantry serving as marines, on board the United States' squadron on Lake Champlain.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the thanks of Congress be, and the same are hereby presented to Captain Thomas Macdonough, and, through him, to the officers, petty officers, seamen, marines, and infantry serving as marines, attached to the squadron under his command, for the decisive and splendid victory gained on Lake Champlain, on the eleventh of September, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fourteen, over a British squadron of superior force.

Thanks of Congress to Captain Macdonough, his officers, &c.

Medals to be presented.

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to cause gold medals to be struck, emblematical of the action between the two squadrons, and to present them to Captain Macdonough and Captain Robert Henly, and also to Lieutenant Stephen Cassin, in such manner as may be most honourable to them; and that the President be further requested to present a silver medal, with suitable emblems and devices, to each of the commissioned officers of the navy and army serving on board, and a sword to each of the midshipmen and sailing masters, who so nobly distinguished themselves in that memorable conflict.

A silver medal to the representatives of Lieutenants Gamble and Stansbury.

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to present a silver medal, with like emblems and devices, to the nearest male relative of Lieutenant Peter Gamble, and of Lieutenant John Stansbury, and to communicate to them the deep regret which Congress feels for the loss of those gallant men, whose names ought to live in the recollection and affection of a grateful country.

Resolved, That three months' pay be allowed, exclusively of the common allowance, to all the petty officers, seamen, marines, and infantry serving as marines, who so gloriously supported the honour of the American flag on that memorable day.

APPROVED, October 20, 1814.

II. RESOLUTION, expressive of the sense of Congress relative to the victory of the *Peacock* over the *Epervier*.

A gold medal to Captain Warrington, &c.

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 requested to present to Captain Lewis Warrington, of the sloop of war *Peacock*, a gold medal, with suitable emblems and devices, and a silver medal, with like emblems and devices, to each of the commissioned officers, and a sword to each of the midshipmen, and to the sailing master of the said vessel, in testimony of the high sense entertained by Congress of the gallantry and good conduct of the officers and crew, in the action with the British brig *Epervier*, on the twenty-ninth day of April, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fourteen, in which action the decisive effect and great superiority of the American gunnery were so signally displayed.

APPROVED, October 21, 1814.

III. RESOLUTION, empowering the joint library committee of Congress to contract for the purchase of Mr. Jefferson's library.

Purchase of the library of Mr. Jefferson.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the joint library committee of the two houses of Congress be, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to contract on their part for the purchase of the library of Mr. Jefferson, late President of the United States, for the use of both houses of Congress; and that the committee lay the terms of said contract before Congress, for their ratification.

APPROVED, October 21, 1814.

IV. RESOLUTION, expressive of the sense of Congress relative to the capture of the British sloop *Reindeer*, by the American sloop *Wasp*.

Captain Blakeley and others.

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 requested to present to Captain Johnston Blakely, of the