

Commissions to be awarded in cases above 200 dolls., &c.

Proviso; as to new commission where facts may not be sufficiently disclosed, &c.

Compensation for horses, mules, wagons, &c.

Provisions of this and former act extended to property lost, &c. in war with Indian tribes, &c.

Claims of 200 dolls. and upwards to be revised by the Secretary of War, &c.

all cases in which the claim to compensation or indemnity shall exceed the sum of two hundred dollars, award a commission to some one or more discreet commissioners, near the places where the witnesses reside, who shall, before they proceed to act, take an oath, or affirmation, before some officer authorized by law to administer the same, that they will faithfully and impartially execute the duties assigned to them in said commission, to the best of their judgment; and the said commissioner shall accompany said commission with directions as to the examination of witnesses, on oath or affirmation, which the said commissioner, or commissioners, so acting, are hereby authorized to administer; which said commission, when executed, together with the examinations taken in pursuance thereof, shall be enclosed, sealed, and returned by mail, to the office of the said commissioner: *Provided, however,* That in acting on examinations, taken by virtue of the act to which this is an amendment, the said commissioner shall be authorized, in all cases where he shall adjudge the facts not to be sufficiently disclosed to allow a just decision between the claimants and the United States, to award a new commission as aforesaid, and, also, in all cases in which the said commissioner shall deem it proper to appoint an agent to act in behalf of the United States, in executing said commissions; and it shall be the duty of the commissioner, or commissioners, taking evidence in any case, to make inquiry whether any evidence may be had which may be favourable to the interest of the United States, and to take such evidence, and transmit the same to the said commissioner in like manner.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That any person, in the late war aforesaid, who has sustained damage by the loss of any horse, mule, ox, wagon, cart, boat, sleigh, or harness, while such property was in the military service of the United States, either by impressment or contract, except in cases where the risk to which the property would be exposed was agreed to be incurred by the owner, if it shall appear that such loss was without any fault or negligence on the part of the owner, shall be allowed and paid the value thereof.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That the provisions of this act, and the act to which it is an amendment, shall be, and are hereby, extended to cases of property lost, captured, or destroyed, in the wars with the Indian tribes, subsequent to the eighteenth day of February, and prior to the first day of September, one thousand eight hundred and fifteen, in the same manner as if lost, captured, or destroyed, in the late war with Great Britain.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That all claims allowed by said commissioner, of two hundred dollars or upwards, shall be revised by the Secretary of War, on a statement of the facts made to him by the aforesaid commissioner, and may be confirmed or rejected: and the amount of all claims allowed by the aforesaid commissioner less than two hundred dollars, and those of two hundred dollars and upwards, if confirmed by the Secretary of War, shall be paid in the manner prescribed in the tenth and fourteenth sections of the act to which this act is an amendment.

APPROVED, March 3, 1817.

STATUTE II.

March 3, 1817.

CHAP. CXI.—*An Act authorizing a subscription for the printing of the tenth volume of public documents.*

500 copies of the 10th volume of public documents to be subscribed for.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of State be, and he is hereby, authorized to subscribe for, and receive, for the use and disposal of Congress, five hundred copies of the tenth volume of public documents, proposed to be printed by Thomas B. Wait and Sons. The aforesaid volume to be delivered in strong leather binding, at the Depart-

ment of state, at the rate of two dollars and a quarter for each five hundred pages contained in the same.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the sum of one thousand five hundred dollars is hereby appropriated for the purpose aforesaid, to be paid out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

APPROVED, March 3, 1817.

Two dollars
twenty-five
cents for each
500 pages.
1500 dollars
appropriated.

CHAP. CXII.—*An Act for the relief of certain officers.*

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the paymaster general be authorized, and is hereby required, to pay the general staff (the volunteer aids excepted) of the governor of the Illinois territory, while in service in the year one thousand eight hundred and twelve; and that to each one be allowed the pay and emoluments of a major of infantry.

APPROVED, March 3, 1817.

STATUTE II.

March 3, 1817.

Relief of officers of Illinois territory.

CHAP. CXIV.—*An Act supplementary to "An act for the relief of persons imprisoned for debts due the United States."*

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That any person imprisoned upon execution for a debt due to the United States, which he shall be unable to pay, if his case shall be such as does not authorize his discharge by the Secretary of the Treasury, under the powers given him by the act, entitled "An act providing for the relief of persons imprisoned for debts due to the United States," may make application to the President of the United States, and upon proof being made to his satisfaction that such debtor is unable to pay the debt, and upon a compliance by the debtor with such terms and conditions as the President shall deem proper, he may order the discharge of such debtor from his imprisonment, and he shall be accordingly discharged, and shall not be liable to be imprisoned again for the same debt; but the judgment shall remain good and sufficient in law, and may be satisfied out of any estate which may then, or at any time afterwards, belong to the debtor.

APPROVED, March 3, 1817.

STATUTE II.

March 3, 1817.

Act of June 6, 1798, ch. 49.
Relief of persons imprisoned for debts due United States.
On conditions such as the President may deem proper.

RESOLUTIONS.

I. RESOLUTION for admitting the state of Indiana into the Union.

WHEREAS in pursuance of an act of Congress, passed on the nineteenth day of April, one thousand eight hundred and sixteen, entitled "An act to enable the people of Indiana territory to form a constitution and state government, and for the admission of that state into the union," the people of the said territory did, on the twenty-ninth day of June, in the present year, by a convention called for that purpose, form for themselves a constitution and state government, which constitution and state government, so formed, is republican, and in conformity with the principles of the articles of compact between the original states and the people and states in the territory north-west of the river Ohio, passed on the thirteenth day of July, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the state of Indiana shall be one, and is hereby declared to be one, of the United States of

Dec. 11, 1816.

Indiana admitted into the union as a state.

Act of April 19, 1816, ch. 57.