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*Proviso.*
Maximum allowance.

of forty-eight months from the date of original gauge: *Provided, however*, That the allowance for loss herein authorized shall not exceed nine and one-half gallons for forty-nine, fifty, fifty-one, and fifty-two months; ten gallons for fifty-three, fifty-four, fifty-five, and fifty-six months; ten and one-half gallons for fifty-seven, fifty-eight, fifty-nine, and sixty months; eleven gallons for sixty one, sixty-two, sixty-three, and sixty-four months; eleven and one-half gallons for sixty-five, sixty-six, sixty-seven, and sixty-eight months; twelve gallons for sixty-nine, seventy, seventy-one, and seventy-two months; twelve and one-half gallons for seventy-three, seventy-four, seventy-five, and seventy-six months; thirteen gallons for seventy seven, seventy-eight, seventy-nine, and eighty months; and thirteen and one-half gallons for eighty-one, eighty-two, eighty-three, and eighty-four months, and no further allowance shall be made.

Regaging at warehouse within eighty-four months from original gauge.

SEC. 2. That the allowance for loss herein provided shall be ascertained by regauge on request of distiller before the expiration of eighty-four months from date of original gauge, and shall apply to spirits remaining in any internal-revenue bonded warehouse which shall have been regauged heretofore under the provisions of section fifty of the said Act of August twenty-eighth, eighteen hundred and ninety-four:

*Proviso.*
Spirits originally gauged March 1, 1882, etc.

*Provided*, That for the regauge of spirits originally gauged for deposit on or before the first day of March, eighteen hundred and ninety-two, the request of the distiller for a regauge under the provisions of this Act may be made at any time before the first day of May, eighteen hundred and ninety-nine.

Approved, March 3, 1899.

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March 3, 1899.

**CHAP. 436.**—An Act To amend an Act entitled "An Act to suspend the operation of certain provisions of law relating to the War Department, and for other purposes."

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That an Act entitled "An Act to suspend the operation of certain provisions of law relating to the War Department, and for other purposes," approved June seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

Army.
Suspension of certain provisions of law.
*Ante*, p. 433.

"That the operation of the following provisions of law be, and is hereby, continued suspended for such further time as, in the discretion of the Secretary of War, may be found necessary, or until otherwise provided by Congress, not longer, however, than March first, nineteen hundred, namely:

"First. The provision of the first section of the Act entitled 'An Act making appropriations for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and eighty-nine, and for other purposes,' in the following words:

*Provisos.*
Limit of draft animals.
Vol. 25, p. 486.

"'*Provided*, That hereafter no part of this appropriation shall be expended in the purchase for the Army of draft animals until the number on hand shall be reduced to five thousand, and thereafter shall only be expended for the purchase of a number sufficient to keep the supply up to five thousand.'

*Ante*, p. 323.

"Second. The provisions of the first section of the Act entitled 'An Act making appropriations for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, and for other purposes,' in the following words:

Quartermaster's Department.
—printing for, etc.

"'*Provided*, That hereafter no part of the appropriations for the Quartermaster's Department shall be expended on printing unless the same shall be done by contract, after due notice and competition, except in such cases as the emergency will not admit of the giving notice for competition: *Provided further*, That after advertisement all the supplies for the use of the various departments and posts of the Army and of the branches of the army service shall hereafter be purchased where

—purchases where cheapest, etc.
*Ante*, p. 322.

the same can be purchased the cheapest in the markets of the United States, quality and cost of transportation and the interest of the Government considered, except that purchases may be made in open market, in the manner common among business men, when the aggregate amount required does not exceed two hundred dollars, but every such purchase shall be immediately reported to the Secretary of War.'

"And the words:

"'*Provided*, That the number of horses purchased under this appropriation, added to the number on hand, shall not at any time exceed the number of enlisted men and Indian scouts in the mounted service, and that no part of this appropriation shall be paid out for horses not purchased by contract, after competition duly invited by the Quartermaster's Department, and an inspection by such department, all under the direction and authority of the Secretary of War.'

—purchase of horses; limit, etc. *Ante*, p. 323.

"And the words:

"'*Provided*, That no more than one million dollars of the sums appropriated by this Act shall be paid out for the services of civilian employees in the Quartermaster's Department, including those heretofore paid out of the funds appropriated for regular supplies, incidental expenses, barracks and quarters, army transportation, clothing, camp and garrison equipage; that no employee paid therefrom shall receive a salary more than one hundred and fifty dollars per month unless the same be specially fixed by law.'

—civilian employees; limit.

"Third. So much of the Act approved March fifteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, entitled 'An Act making appropriations for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-nine,' under the heading "Ordnance Department," as provides that not more than sixty-five thousand dollars of the money appropriated for the Ordnance Department in all its branches shall be applied to the payment of civilian clerks in said department."

Ordnance Department. *Ante*, p. 326. Civilian clerks; limit.

SEC. 2. That during the time the operation of the foregoing provisions of law shall remain so suspended pursuant to this Act materials required by the War Department may, in the discretion of the Secretary of War, be purchased abroad, and shall be admitted free of duty.

Admission free of war materials.

SEC. 3. That during the same time the Bureau of Ordnance of the War Department is authorized to purchase without advertisement such ordnance and ordnance stores as are needed for immediate use; and when such ordnance and ordnance stores are to be manufactured, then to make contracts without advertisement for such stores, to be delivered as rapidly as manufactured.

Purchases without advertisement.

Approved, March 3, 1899.

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**CHAP. 437.**—An Act Granting to the Muscle Shoals Power Company right to erect and construct canal and power stations at Muscle Shoals, Alabama.

March 3, 1899.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the consent of Congress is hereby given to the Muscle Shoals Power Company, a corporation created and organized under a charter granted by the legislature of the State of Alabama, its successors or assigns, to erect, construct, operate, and maintain inlet and outlet races or canals and a power station or stations at a point or points at or near the Muscle Shoals in Tennessee River, and to make such other improvements as may be necessary within said limits for the development of water power and transmission of the same: *Provided*, That the constructions hereby authorized do not in any way interfere with the Muscle Shoals Canal, or with navigation of said river: *Provided further*, That until the plans and location of the works herein authorized, so far as they affect the interests of navigation, have been approved by the Secretary of War, the improvements shall not be commenced or built, and the Sec-

Muscle Shoals Power Company may construct canal, etc., at Muscle Shoals, Ala.

*Provisos.*
No interference with Muscle Shoals Canal, etc.
Approval of Secretary of War.