United States be, and he is hereby, authorized to cause the navigation of the Ohio river to be improved over the following sand bars, or either of them, at his discretion, to wit: the sand bar which crosses said river, one mile and a quarter below Flint Island; the sand bar two miles above French Island; the bar just below Henderson; the bar below Straight Island; the bar below Willow Island, in the Mississippi bend; and the bar opposite to lower Smithland, below Cumberland Island; and, for the purpose of ascertaining and directing the best method of carrying the provisions of this act into effect, he may employ any of the engineers in the public service which he may deem proper: *Provided, nevertheless,* That two experiments shall first be made upon two of the said bars, and if in his judgment they shall be successful, then, and not otherwise, he is hereby authorized to cause improvements to be made upon the remaining bars.

cause the navigation of the Ohio river to be improved.

Proviso.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That, for the purpose of improving the navigation of the Mississippi river, from the mouth of the Missouri to New Orleans, and of the Ohio river from Pittsburg to its junction with the Mississippi, the President of the United States is hereby authorized to take prompt and effectual measures for the removal of all trees which may be fixed in the bed of said river; and, for this purpose, he is authorized to procure and provide, in that way which in his discretion may be most eligible, the requisite water craft, machinery, implements, and force, to raise all such trees, commonly called "planters, sawyers, or snags," as may be found in the current of the said rivers at the lowest stage of water, and to saw or cut them off, as near as practicable to the bottom of the stream; and where trees are found upon sand bars, upon the points of islands, or near the bank of the river, which may, at the lowest stage of the water, endanger the safety of navigating said rivers, they shall in like manner be cut, removed, or sawed off; and all roots or limbs, belonging to those parts of said trees, which are fastened in the earth, shall be carefully cut away.

The President of the United States to take effectual measures to render the navigation of the Mississippi and Ohio safe.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That, for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of this act, the sum of seventy-five thousand dollars be, and is hereby, appropriated. And the President of the United States is hereby authorized to draw, from time to time, on the treasury, for such parts, or at any one time for the whole, of said sum, as he shall judge the service requires; which said sum shall be paid out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

75,000 dollars appropriated.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That the President be, and he is hereby, requested to cause to be laid before Congress, as soon as convenience will permit after the commencement of each session, a statement of the proceedings under this act, that Congress may be enabled to adopt such further measures as may, from time to time, be necessary under existing circumstances.

The President to lay before Congress at the commencement of each session a statement of the proceedings.

Approved, May 24, 1824.

Statute I.

May 24, 1824.

[Obsolete.]

Chap. CXL.—*An Act to authorize the creation of a stock to an amount not exceeding five millions of dollars, to provide for the awards of the commissioners under the treaty with Spain, of the twenty-second of February, one thousand eight hundred and nineteen.*

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That, for the purpose of providing funds to discharge the awards of the commissioners under the treaty with Spain, of the twenty-second day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized, with the approbation of the President of the United States, to cause to be issued and sold to the Bank

The Secretary of the Treasury authorized to create a stock to an amount not exceeding 5,000,000 dollars, &c.

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of the United States, or others, at a sum not less than the par value thereof, certificates of stock of the United States, to any amount not exceeding the sum of five millions of dollars, and bearing an interest of not exceeding four and one half per centum per annum, from the period of the sale thereof; which stock, so created, shall be redeemable at the pleasure of the United States, at any time after the first day of January, in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two. And, upon the sale of such stock, in manner aforesaid, credit or credits to the proprietors thereof, shall thereupon be entered and given on the books of the treasury, in like manner as for the present funded debt; which said credits or stock shall thereafter be transferable as other public stock of the United States.

Moneys received from the sale of certificates of said stock, to be applied to the payment of the awards under the treaty with Spain.

Proviso.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the moneys which may be received from the issuing and sale of the aforesaid certificates of stock, shall [be,] and the same are hereby, directed to be applied to the payment and discharge of the awards of the commissioners under the treaty with Spain, of the twenty-second day of February, in the year eighteen hundred and nineteen. *Provided, also*, That in all cases where the person or persons, in whose name, or for whose benefit and interest, the aforesaid awards shall be made, shall be in debt and in arrears to the United States, the Secretary of the Treasury shall retain the same out of the amount of the aforesaid awards, in the first instance, and a warrant or certificate, as the case may be, shall only issue for the balance. (*a*)

Interest accruing on said stock to be paid out of the treasury.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That a sum, equal to what will be necessary to pay the interest which may accrue on the said stock, to the end of the present year, be, and the same is hereby, appropriated for that purpose, to be paid out of any moneys in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Approved, May 24, 1824.

Statute I.

May 24, 1824.

Chap. CXLI.—*An Act changing the mode of surveying the public lands, on any river, lake, bayou, or water-course.*

Course to be pursued in surveying lands.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That, whenever, in the opinion of the President of the United States, a departure from the ordinary mode of surveying land on any river, lake, bayou, or water-course, would promote the public interest, he may direct the surveyor general, in whose district such land is situated, and where the change is intended to be made, under such rules and regulations as the President may prescribe, to cause the lands thus situated, to be surveyed in tracts of two acres in width, fronting on any river, bayou, lake, or water-course, and running back the depth of forty acres; which tracts of land, so surveyed, shall be offered for sale entire, instead of in half-quarter sections, and in the usual manner, and on the same terms, in all respects, as the other public lands of the United States.

Approved, May 24, 1824.

Statute I.

May 25, 1824.

Chap. CXLV.—*An Act to alter the times of holding the circuit and district courts of the United States for the district of South Carolina.* (*b*)

The times for holding the cir-

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That instead of the times now

(*a*) If, under the act of May 24, 1824, ch. 140, sec. 2, the Secretary of the Treasury omit to retain the amount of debt due to the United States from a person entitled by an award under the Spanish treaty, from money provided for the payment of such award, it does not prejudice the United States to proceed for payment of such debts against the general assignee, who has received the money from the treasury. The United States *v.* William Hunter, 5 Mason, C. C. R. 62.

(*b*) Circuit and district courts in South Carolina.

Act of September 24, 1789, (obsolete,) ch. 20, sec. 3.

An act to alter the times for holding the circuit courts of the United States, in the district of South