

to include such mine or mines discovered and occupied as aforesaid, by them, by paying to the United States the same price, and at the same time, as required of those who hold under permits aforesaid, and all rents accruing from such lessees or occupants shall be paid and delivered to such officers of the government as the Secretary of the Treasury shall direct: *Provided*, That prior to any such purchase being made under the provisions of this section, proof of possession and occupancy, as aforesaid, of the mine or mines claimed, shall be made to the register and receiver of the land district, together with the evidence of the payment of all rents due the United States, agreeably to such rules as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury for that purpose, which register and receiver shall each be entitled to receive one dollar for his services therein: *Provided*, That an appeal from the decision of the register and receiver to the Secretary of the Treasury may be had, under such regulations as the said Secretary may prescribe. And if two or more persons are in possession of the same section, the first occupant shall be entitled to a preference, unless the same can be so divided by legal subdivisions as to give to each the discovery claimed by him.

Proof of possession and occupancy.

Appeal.

Joint occupancy.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That the said mineral lands shall be offered for sale in quarter-sections, and no bid shall be received at a less rate than five dollars per acre; and if such lands shall not be sold at public sale at such price, they shall thereafter be entered at private sale at that price: *Provided*, That no legal division or subdivision of any of said lands upon which there may be an outstanding lease or leases from the Secretary of War unexpired or undetermined, and which is actually occupied for mining purposes, and the occupants of which have complied with all the requisites of such lease or leases, and continue to perform the same, shall be sold until after the determination of such lease or leases by efflux of time, voluntary surrender, or other legal extinguishment thereof, except in such cases as are provided for in the third section of this act, and the lessees respectively shall be entitled to the privileges secured by said section upon the voluntary surrender of the lease or leases held by them.

Mineral lands offered for sale in quarter-sections.

No legal divisions or subdivisions of standing leases to be sold.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That the management and control of the mineral lands shall be transferred from the War Department, and placed under the jurisdiction and control of the Treasury Department; and all books, maps, papers, instruments, and other property procured, to be used and employed in the management, survey, exploring, or conducting of said mineral lands, by the War Department, shall be delivered over and made subject to the disposition of the Secretary of the Treasury.

Control and management of the mineral lands transferred from the War to the Treasury Department.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, so soon as a sufficient number of townships are surveyed, and returns thereof made to the General Land Office, to authorize the commencement of the sales in said district, shall appoint one register and one receiver for the land office in said district, who shall reside at the place designated by the President for the land office, receive such compensation, give security, and discharge all duties pertaining to such office as are prescribed by law.

President to appoint register and receiver

APPROVED, March 1, 1847.

CHAP. XXXIII. — *An Act to amend the Act entitled "An Act to reduce the Rates of Postage, to limit the Use and correct the Abuse of the franking Privilege, and for the Prevention of Frauds on the Revenues of the Post-Office Department," passed third of March, eighteen hundred and forty-five.*

March 1, 1847.

1845, ch. 43.

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

Rates of com-
mission.
1825, ch. 64.

Allowances,
commissions,
&c., subject to
provisions of for-
ty-first section of
act of 1845, ch.
43.

Compensation
to deputy-post-
masters.

Moneys recover-
ed from robbers
of the mail shall
be paid to the
order of Post-
master-General,
for use of owner.

Franking privi-
lege.

Same subject.

commissions allowed deputy-postmasters by the fourteenth section of the act of the third of March, eighteen hundred and twenty-five, the Postmaster-General may allow, on the proceeds of their respective offices, a commission not exceeding the following rates on the amount received in any one year, or a due proportion thereof for less than a year: On a sum not exceeding one hundred dollars, forty per cent; on a sum over the first hundred and not exceeding four hundred dollars, thirty-three and one third per cent.; on a sum over and above the first four hundred dollars and not exceeding twenty-four hundred dollars, thirty per cent.; on a sum over twenty-four hundred dollars, twelve and one half per cent.; on all sums arising from the postage on newspapers, magazines, and pamphlets, fifty per cent.; on the amount of postages on letters or packets received for distribution, seven per cent.: *Provided*, that all allowances, commissions, or other emoluments shall be subject to the provisions of the forty-first section of the act which this is intended to amend; and that the annual compensation therein limited shall be computed for the fiscal year commencing on the first of July and ending the thirtieth of June each year, and that for any period less than a year the restrictions contained in said section shall be held to apply in a due proportion for such fractional period: *And, provided further*, That the compensation to any deputy-postmaster under the foregoing provisions, to be computed upon the receipt at his office of a larger sum, shall in no case fall short of the amount to which he would be entitled under a smaller sum received at his office.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That all moneys taken from the mails of the United States by robbery, theft, or otherwise, which have come, or may hereafter come into the possession or custody of any of the agents of the Post-Office Department, or any other officers of the United States, or any other person or persons whatever, shall be paid to the order of the Postmaster-General, to be kept by him as other moneys of the Post-Office Department, to and for the use and benefit of the rightful owner, to be paid whenever satisfactory proof thereof shall be made, and upon the failure of any person in the employment of the United States to pay over such moneys when demanded, the person so refusing shall be subject to the penalties prescribed by law against defaulting officers.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That all members of Congress, delegates from Territories, the Vice-President of the United States, the Secretary of the Senate, and the Clerk of the House of Representatives, shall have the power to send and receive public documents free of postage during their term of office, and that the said members and delegates shall have the power to send and receive public documents free of postage up to the first Monday of December following the expiration of their term of office.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That the Secretary of the Senate and Clerk of the House of Representatives shall have the power to receive, as well as to send, all letters and packages, not weighing over two ounces, free of postage, during their term of office.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That members of Congress shall have the power to receive, as well as to send, all letters and packages, not weighing over two ounces, free of postage up to the first Monday in December following the expiration of their term of office.

APPROVED, March 1, 1847.