

CHAP. XXXI.—*An Act making Appropriations for the Service of the Post-Office Department for the Year ending Thirtieth June, eighteen hundred and forty-seven.*

June 19, 1846.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following sums of money be, and the same are hereby, appropriated for the service of the Post-Office Department, for the year ending the thirtieth of June, eighteen hundred and forty-seven, out of any moneys in the treasury arising from the revenues of the said department, in conformity to the act of the second of July, eighteen hundred and thirty-six, namely:

For transportation of the mails, two millions seven hundred thousand dollars; and the Postmaster-General is hereby authorized to apply twenty-five thousand dollars, of the money appropriated for mail transportation, for a line of mail steamers from the United States to Bremen; but no further sum shall be diverted to any other object than the transportation of the mail within the United States.

For compensation of postmasters, one million dollars.

For ship, steamboat, and way letters, twelve thousand dollars.

For wrapping paper, sixteen thousand dollars.

For office furniture, (for post-offices,) four thousand dollars.

For advertising, thirty thousand dollars.

For mail bags, twenty thousand dollars.

For blanks, seventeen thousand dollars.

For mail locks, keys, and stamps, four thousand dollars.

For mail depredations and special agents, thirteen thousand dollars.

For clerks for offices, (for offices of postmasters,) two hundred thousand dollars.

For miscellaneous, fifty thousand dollars.

For defraying the expenses of the magnetic telegraph from the city of Washington to Baltimore, four thousand dollars; this appropriation to be available, if need be, before the commencement of the next fiscal year: *Provided*, That the Postmaster-General be, and he is hereby, authorized to let, for a limited time, the aforesaid telegraph to any person who will keep it in operation for its earnings; or he may, under the direction of the President of the United States, sell the same.

For paying an ascertained balance due to Messrs. Hale and Coleman, under their contract of May thirty-first, eighteen hundred and thirty-seven, forty dollars and seventy-five cents.

For publishing a new edition, of eighteen thousand copies, of the Table of Post Offices in the United States, and the same number of the "Laws and Regulations for the Government of the Post-Office Department," eight thousand five hundred dollars: *Provided*, the work be let to contract to the lowest bidder, upon the terms indicated by the seventeenth section of the act approved twenty-sixth August, eighteen hundred and forty-two, "legalizing and making appropriations for such necessary objects as have been usually included in the general appropriation bills without authority of law, &c."

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That in case the revenues of the department, referred to in the first section of this act, shall prove insufficient to meet the foregoing appropriations, then any deficiency that may thus arise shall be paid out of any moneys in the treasury not otherwise appropriated,

APPROVED, June 19, 1846.

Appropriation.

Transportation.

Mail steamers
from U. S. to
Bremen.

Postmasters.

Letters.

Paper, furni-
ture, advertising,
mail bags, blanks,
locks, &c.

Depredations &
special agents.

Clerks.

Miscellaneous.
Magnetic tele-
graph.

May be leased

Balance due
Hale and Cole-
man.

New edition of
the Table of Post
Offices, and of
Laws and Regula-
tions of the P. O.
Department.

Contract, how
made.

1842, ch. 202,
§ 17.

Deficiency of
revenue provided
for.