SHIPS UNDER STEAM TO SLACKEN SPEED.

ARTICLE 16. Every steamship, when approaching another ship, so as to involve risk of collision, shall slacken her speed, or, if necessary, stop and reverse; and every steamship shall, when in a fog, go at a moderate speed.

Ships under steam to slacken speed.

VESSELS OVERTAKING OTHER VESSELS.

ARTICLE 17. Every vessel overtaking any other vessel shall keep out of way of the said last-mentioned vessel.

Vessels overtaking other vessels.

CONSTRUCTION OF ARTICLES 12, 14, 15, AND 17.

ARTICLE 18. Where, by the above rules, one of two ships is to keep out of the way, the other shall keep her course subject to the qualifications contained in the following article: —

Construction of articles 12, 14 15, and 17.

PROVISO TO SAVE SPECIAL CASES.

ARTICLE 19. In obeying and construing these rules due regard must be had to all dangers of navigation, and due regard must also be had to any special circumstances which may exist in any particular case rendering a departure from the above rules necessary in order to avoid immediate danger.

Special cases.

NO SHIP UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES TO NEGLECT PROPER PRECAUTIONS.

ARTICLE 20. Nothing in these rules shall exonerate any ship, or the owner, or master, or crew thereof, from the consequences of any neglect to carry lights or signals, or of any neglect to keep a proper lookout, or of the neglect of any precaution which may be required by the ordinary practice of seamen, or by the special circumstances of the case.

Proper precautions to be always observed.

APPROVED, April 29, 1864.

CHAP. LXX. — *An Act to provide for the Collection of Hospital Dues from Vessels of the United States sold or transferred in foreign Ports or Waters.* April 29, 1864.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in case of the sale or transfer of any vessel of the United States in a foreign port or water, the consul, vice-consul, commercial agent, or vice-commercial agent of the United States within whose consulate or district such sale or transfer shall have been made, or in whose hands the papers of such vessel shall be, be and he is hereby authorized and required to collect of the master or agent of such vessel, all moneys that shall have become due to the United States under and by virtue of the act entitled "An act for the relief of sick and disabled seamen," approved July sixteenth, seventeen hundred and ninety-eight, and shall remain unpaid at the time of such sale or transfer; and that the said consul, vice-consul, commercial agent, or vice-commercial agent, (as the case may be,) be, and he is hereby, instructed and required to retain possession of the papers of such vessel until such money shall have been paid as herein provided; and in default of which, such sale or transfer shall be void, excepting as against the vendor: *Provided,* That this act shall not take effect until the expiration of sixty days from and after its passage.

Hospital dues to be collected from United States vessels sold in foreign ports.

1798, ch. 77. Vol. i. p. 605.

When act takes effect.

APPROVED, April 29, 1864.

CHAP. LXXI. — *An Act to increase the Compensation of Inspectors of Customs in certain Ports.* April 29, 1864.

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

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Pay of inspectors of customs in certain ports may be increased until July 1, 1865. [Extended to July 1, 1866. *Post*, p. 460.]

Treasury be, and he hereby is, authorized to increase the compensation of inspectors of customs in such ports as he may think it advisable so to do, and may designate, by adding to the present compensation of said officers a sum not exceeding one dollar per day. But the increase hereby authorized shall not extend beyond July first, eighteen hundred and sixty-five.

Approved, April 29, 1864.

April 29, 1864.

Chap. LXXII. — *An Act in Reference to Donation Claims in Oregon and Washington.*

Subdivision of donation claims in Oregon and Washington.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That whenever it shall appear that two donation settlers in the state of Oregon or Washington territory shall hold their conterminous improvements in such a manner as may require a half quarter section to be divided into two equal parts by a line north and south or east and west, it shall and may be lawful for the commissioner of the general land-office to issue patents recognizing for each claimant such subdivisions; this enactment to include cases existing at the date of this act, where the claim may be proved and established according to law.

Approved, April 29, 1864.

April 29, 1864.

Chap. LXXIII. — *An Act for the Relief of Postmasters who have been robbed by confederate Forces or Rebel Guerrillas.*

Postmasters without fault robbed by guerrillas, &c., of stamps, &c., to be credited with the amount.

1865, ch. 89, § 2.

Post, p. 505.

When money is to be refunded.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in all cases where loyal postmasters have been robbed by confederate forces or rebel guerrillas, of post-office stamps, stamped envelopes, or of money received and collected for, belonging to, and held for the government of the United States, and where such robbery has not been caused by the default or negligence of the postmaster, the Postmaster-General shall be, and he is hereby, authorized to credit such postmaster, in the settlement of his accounts, with the amount of which he may have been so robbed. And in cases where no such credit has been allowed, and the postmaster has been required to and has accounted for and paid over to the Post-Office Department the sum or sums of which he may have been so robbed, as aforesaid, the Postmaster-General is authorized to refund the same to such postmaster.

Approved, April 29, 1864.

May 3, 1864.

Chap. LXXIV. — *An Act to aid the Indian Refugees to return to their Homes in the Indian Territory.*

Appropriation for refugee and destitute Indians in the southern superintendency.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there be, and is hereby, appropriated, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the removal and temporary relief of the refugee and destitute Indians in the southern superintendency, viz: for expenses of transportation and subsistence by the way to the Indian territory, fifty-two thousand dollars; for temporary subsistence in the Indian country of refugee and destitute Indians, to the close of the present fiscal year, one hundred and fifty-three thousand dollars; for seeds, ploughs, and necessary agricultural implements, to enable them to raise a crop the present season, eighteen thousand dollars.

Approved, May 3, 1864.