

1866, res. 74,
14 Stat., 364.
1867, ch. 145,
14 Stat., 423.

Report of bal-
ances carried to
surplus fund abol-
ished.

1874, ch. 328,
18 Stat., 110.

Accounts to be
examined and set-
tled.

Proviso.

sixty-four), and March second, eighteen hundred and sixty-seven (Stat-
utes at Large, volume fourteen, page four hundred and twenty-three,
section three), as follows:

Amounts certified to be due by the accounting-officers of the Treasury
Department for commutation of rations to prisoners of war in rebel
States, one thousand three hundred and forty-eight dollars and seventy-
five cents.

SEC. 4. That so much of section five of the act approved June twen-
tieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-four, as directs the Secretary of
the Treasury at the beginning of each session to report to Congress with
his annual estimates any balances of appropriations for specific objects
affected by said section that may need to be reappropriated, be, and
hereby is, repealed. And it shall be the duty of the several accounting-
officers of the Treasury to continue to receive, examine, and consider
the justice and validity of all claims under appropriations the balances
of which have been exhausted or carried to the surplus fund under the
provisions of said section that may be brought before them within a
period of five years. And the Secretary of the Treasury shall report
the amount due each claimant, at the commencement of each session, to
the Speaker of the House of Representatives, who shall lay the same
before Congress for consideration: *Provided*, That nothing in this act
shall be construed to authorize the re-examination and payment of any
claim or account which has been once examined and rejected, unless
reopened in accordance with existing law.

Approved, June 14, 1878.

June 14, 1878.

CHAP. 192.—An act authorizing the Solicitor of the Treasury by and with the con-
sent of the Secretary of War, to cancel certain contracts for the sale of lots of land
made at Harper's Ferry in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-nine by the United
States, to resell the same, and sell or lease all other real estate and riparian rights
now owned by the United States at Harper's Ferry, West Virginia.

Purchasers at
Harper's Ferry to
be released, on
quitting claim.

Proviso.

Release of pur-
chaser.

Lots may be of-
fered again.

Solicitor of the
Treasury may sell
or lease.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United
States of America in Congress assembled*, That the Solicitor of the Treas-
ury, by and with the consent of the Secretary of War, be, and he is here-
by, authorized to cancel contracts with and release each and all pur-
chasers of lots of land from their purchases made on the thirtieth day
of November, eighteen hundred and sixty-nine, at and near Harper's
Ferry, West Virginia, whenever such purchaser or purchasers shall quit-
claim and release said lots or parcels of land to the Government of the
United States by deed in such form as may be required by the Solicitor
of the Treasury: *Provided*, That such quit claim and release shall be
executed and tendered to the Secretary of War within four months from
the passage of this act.

SEC. 2. That whenever any of the said lots and parcels of land shall
be quit-claimed and released in pursuance of section one of this act, the
Solicitor of the Treasury shall, by and with the consent of the Sec-
retary of War, cancel the obligation of the purchaser or purchasers
thereof and release the same from all liability to the Government of the
United States for the purchase money of such lot or lots of land. And
the Solicitor of the Treasury shall, when he deems it expedient to sub-
serve the interests of the government, have the power, and he is hereby
authorized to offer for sale said lots or parcels of land, so quit-claimed
and released by auction, after first giving notice of the time, terms, and
place of sale in pursuance of existing law, upon such terms as in his
judgment he may deem expedient.

SEC. 3. That the Solicitor of the Treasury is further authorized to
make sale, in pursuance of law, of the whole or any part of said prop-
erty, or, if he deem it expedient and better for the public welfare, lease
for any term of years and part or all other real estate and riparian rights
now owned by the Government of the United States at or near Harper's
Ferry, Jefferson County, West Virginia.

SEC. 4. That the Solicitor of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized to abate part of the purchase-money due from purchasers who have made improvements upon lots of land purchased as aforesaid at Harper's Ferry: *Provided*, That in his judgment such purchasers are legally or equitably entitled to such abatement: *And provided further*, That such purchasers shall application to the Solicitor for abatement within two months from the passage of this act, and, in case an abatement is made, shall pay the balance of the purchase money due after deducting the amount abated within sixty days thereafter; otherwise, the debt to remain as if no abatement had been made.

Abatement of purchase-money.

Praviso.

Conditions of abatement.

SEC. 5. This act shall be in force from its passage.

Date of effect.

Approved, June 14, 1878.

CHAP. 193.—An act to amend section forty-one hundred and twenty-seven of the Revised Statutes, of the United States, in relation to the judicial powers and functions of consuls.

June 14, 1878.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section forty-one hundred and twenty-seven of the Revised Statutes of the United States be, and the same is hereby, amended so that it shall hereafter read as follows:

R. S. 4127, p. 799, Amended.

SEC 4127. The provisions of this title, so far as the same are in conformity with the stipulations in the existing treaties between the United States and Tripoli, Tunis, Morocco, Muscat, and the Samoan or Navigator Islands, respectively, shall extend to those countries, and shall be executed in conformity with the provisions of the treaties and of the provisions of this title by the consuls appointed by the United States to reside therein, who are hereby ex officio invested with the powers herein delegated to the ministers and consuls of the United States appointed to reside in the countries named in section four thousand and eighty-three, so far as the same can be exercised under the provisions of treaties between the United States and the several countries mentioned in this section, and in accordance with the usages of the countries in their intercourse with the Franks or other foreign Christian nations. And whenever the United States shall negotiate a treaty with any foreign government, in which the American consul-general or consul shall be clothed with judicial authority, and securing the right of trial to American citizens residing therein before such consul-general or consul, and containing provisions similar to or like those contained in the treaties with the governments named in this act, then said title, so far as the same may be applicable, shall have full force in reference to said treaty, and shall extend to the country of the government negotiating the same.

Judicial powers of consuls in certain foreign countries.

R. S. Title 47, "Foreign Relations," extended to.

Approved, June 14, 1878.

CHAP. 194.—An act to authorize the Commissioners of the District of Columbia to make and enforce regulations relative to the sale of coal, and also building regulations.

June 14, 1878.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Commissioners of the District of Columbia be, and they hereby are, authorized and directed to make and enforce such rules and regulations relative to the sale of coal in the District of Columbia as shall insure full weight to purchasers of coal; also, such building regulations for the said District as they may deem advisable.

Sale of coal in District of Columbia.

SEC. 2. That such rules and regulations made as above provided shall have the same force and effect within the District of Columbia as if enacted by Congress.

Effect of regulations.

Approved, June 14, 1878.