

**CHAP. 18.**—An act making an appropriation for the purchase of a law-library for the use of the courts and the United States officers in the Territory of Wyoming.

Feb. 25, 1878.

*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, the sum of two thousand five hundred dollars for the purchase of a law-library for the use of the courts and the United States officers in the Territory of Wyoming, and the further sum of two hundred dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the transportation of said law-library, when purchased, to Cheyenne City, the capital of said Territory, the whole to be expended under the direction of the Attorney-General of the United States.

Appropriations.

Law library for Wyoming.

Approved, February 25, 1878.

**CHAP. 20.**—An act to authorize the coinage of the standard silver dollar, and to restore its legal-tender character.

Feb. 28, 1878.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That there shall be coined, at the several mints of the United States, silver dollars of the weight of four hundred and twelve and a half grains Troy of standard silver, as provided in the act of January eighteenth, eighteen hundred thirty-seven, on which shall be the devices and superscriptions provided by said act; which coins together with all silver dollars heretofore coined by the United States, of like weight and fineness, shall be a legal tender, at their nominal value, for all debts and dues public and private, except where otherwise expressly stipulated in the contract. And the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to purchase, from time to time, silver bullion, at the market price thereof, not less than two million dollars worth per month, nor more than four million dollars worth per month, and cause the same to be coined monthly, as fast as so purchased, into such dollars; and a sum sufficient to carry out the foregoing provision of this act is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated. And any gain or seigniorage arising from this coinage shall be accounted for and paid into the Treasury, as provided under existing laws relative to the subsidiary coinage: *Provided,* That the amount of money at any one time invested in such silver bullion, exclusive of such resulting coin, shall not exceed five million dollars: *And provided further,* That nothing in this act shall be construed to authorize the payment in silver of certificates of deposit issued under the provisions of section two hundred and fifty-four of the Revised Statutes.

Silver dollars to be coined.

1837, ch. 3,  
5 Stat., 136.

Legal tender.

Purchase of bullion.

Appropriation.  
Seigniorage.

Investment in bullion.

Gold certificates.  
R. S., 254, p. 41.

International conference.

**SEC. 2.** That immediately after the passage of this act, the President shall invite the governments of the countries composing the Latin Union, so-called, and of such other European nations as he may deem advisable, to join the United States in a conference to adopt a common ratio between gold and silver, for the purpose of establishing, internationally, the use of bi-metallic money, and securing fixity of relative value between those metals; such conference to be held at such place, in Europe or in the United States, at such time within six months, as may be mutually agreed upon by the executives of the governments joining in the same, whenever the governments so invited, or any three of them, shall have signified their willingness to unite in the same.

The President shall, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint three commissioners, who shall attend such conference on behalf of the United States, and shall report the doings thereof to the President, who shall transmit the same to Congress.

Commissioners

Said commissioners shall each receive the sum of two thousand five hundred dollars and their reasonable expenses, to be approved by the Secretary of State; and the amount necessary to pay such compensation and expenses is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Appropriation.  
Allowance to commissioners.

Silver certifi-  
cates.

SEC. 3. That any holder of the coin authorized by this act may deposit the same with the Treasurer or any assistant treasurer of the United States, in sums not less than ten dollars, and receive therefor certificates of not less than ten dollars each, corresponding with the denominations of the United States notes. The coin deposited for or representing the certificates shall be retained in the Treasury for the payment of the same on demand. Said certificates shall be receivable for customs, taxes, and all public dues, and, when so received, may be reissued.

For what receiv-  
able.

SEC. 4. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

SAM. J. RANDALL

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

W. A. WHEELER

*Vice-President of the United States and President of the Senate*

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES U. S.

*February 28, 1878.*

The President of the United States having returned to the House of Representatives, in which it originated the bill, entitled "An act to authorize the coinage of the standard silver dollar, and to restore its legal-tender character," with his objections thereto; the House of Representatives proceeded in pursuance of the Constitution to reconsider the same; and

*Resolved*, That the said bill pass, two thirds of the House of Representatives agreeing to pass the same.

Attest:

GEO. M ADAMS *Clerk*

By GREEN ADAMS

*Chief Clerk*

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

*February 28, 1878.*

The Senate having proceeded, in pursuance of the Constitution, to reconsider the bill entitled "An act to authorize the coinage of the standard silver dollar, and to restore its legal-tender character," returned to the House of Representatives by the President of the United States, with his objections, and sent by the House of Representatives to the Senate with the message of the President returning the bill;

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass, two-thirds of the Senate agreeing to pass the same.

Attest:

GEO C GORHAM

*Secretary of the Senate*

March 4, 1878.

CHAP. 22.—An act to change the name of the steam-tug C. M. Whittaker to Caroline

Steam-tug C. M.  
Whittaker.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the name of the steam-tug C. M. Whittaker, of Baltimore, be, and is hereby, changed to Caroline, by which name said steam-tug shall be hereafter licensed and known.

Approved, March 4, 1878.

March 8, 1878.

CHAP. 25.—An act to amend section four thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight of the Revised Statutes

R. S. 4778, p. 936.  
Pension agents.  
Filling tempo-  
rary vacancies.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That whenever during a session of the Senate a vacancy shall occur in the office of Pension Agent, by reason of resignation, death, removal or expiration of the term of office, or where any such agent lawfully appointed shall have failed to qualify