

3d CONGRESS.]

No. 58.

[2d SESSION.]

CONCURRENT JURISDICTION GRANTED TO THOSE STATES THAT HAVE CEDED
LANDS FOR LIGHT-HOUSES WITHOUT RESERVATION.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, DECEMBER 17, 1794.

Mr. CORR, from the committee to whom it was referred to consider and report on the expediency of making any alterations in the laws relative to the cession of jurisdiction by particular States in lands where have been erected, or may by law be provided to be erected, *light-houses*, beacons, &c., made the following report:

That the States of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island, have, in their cessions of jurisdiction, made in pursuance of the law of the United States providing for the support of light-houses, beacons, &c., reserved a concurrent jurisdiction so far as that all civil and criminal process, issued under the authority of said States, respectively, may be executed within the ceded territory; the other States in which light-houses were situated before the passing the said law having ceded the jurisdiction without such reservation.

That, in pursuance of a law providing for the building a light-house on Montock Point, in the State of New York, wherein it is provided that the State of New York cede the jurisdiction of the place where, before it shall be built, the said State have made a cession of jurisdiction of the place designated by the President of the United States for the site of the light-house, with a proviso that such cession shall not extend or be construed to impede or prevent the execution of any process within the ceded territory, under the authority of that State, except so far as the said process may affect the real or personal property of the United States; but this not having been deemed by the President a cession comporting with the requisition of the act providing for the building of the said light-house, the same has not been built.

In the act providing for the erection of a light-house on the island of Seguin, in the State of Massachusetts, it is declared that the said State had ceded the land on which the same was to be erected, and no condition for cession of jurisdiction is provided; the cession of this land contains the same reservation of jurisdiction as is contained in the cession of that State, made in pursuance of the law providing for the support of light-houses, &c.

That the provision made by law for the supporting, by the United States, of light-houses, &c. without the cession of jurisdiction by the States in which the same may be, ceases on the first day of July next.

The committee are of opinion, that the reservation of concurrent jurisdiction by the States in their cessions, cannot in any degree obstruct the purposes for which cessions of jurisdiction are required; that it would be expedient to provide for the accepting of cessions containing such reservations; and as uniformity of proceeding would be desirable, and inconveniences may arise from the United States retaining an exclusive jurisdiction, that a concurrence of jurisdiction should be restored to those States who have made their cessions absolute; and thereupon submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill declaring that cessions of jurisdiction made by any State, in lands where have been erected, or may by law be provided to be erected and placed light-houses, beacons, buoys, and public piers, with a reservation of concurrent jurisdiction to such State, shall be deemed sufficient cessions of jurisdiction in pursuance of the laws providing for the maintenance and erection of light-houses, beacons, buoys, and public piers; and that where absolute cessions for such purposes have been made, the States which have made the same shall, notwithstanding, be entitled to exercise and retain a concurrent jurisdiction.

3d CONGRESS.]

No. 59.

[2d SESSION.]

PROMULGATION OF THE LAWS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, DECEMBER 23, 1794.

Mr. MOORE, from the committee appointed to report what further provisions are necessary for the more general promulgation of the laws, made the following report:

That the provision heretofore made has been entirely inadequate to the purpose of a due promulgation of the laws; that it is become expedient to extend the provision on this subject to the commencement of the Government under the present constitution. That for the accommodation of such Germans, citizens of the United States, as do not understand the English language, it will be necessary that the laws be translated, and printed in the German language. Your committee therefore submit the following resolutions:

Resolved, That three thousand complete sets of the laws of the Congress, to the close of the present session, be printed, and distributed among the different States, in proportion to their numbers. That the number of sets allotted to each State be distributed throughout the counties within the State in the same proportion, and be deposited in fixed and convenient places in each county, under the direction of the court of such county.

Resolved, That a like number of the laws passed at each succeeding session be printed and distributed as above directed.

Resolved, That such proportion of the above number of copies shall be printed in the German language as the representatives from the districts within which such German citizens reside, shall certify to the Secretary of State to be necessary.

Resolved, That each printer of a newspaper within the United States, who, as soon as may be, after the close of each session, shall print in his newspaper all the laws passed at each session, continuing them in each succeeding number, until the whole are finished, shall, on making it appear to the satisfaction of the Secretary of State, be entitled to receive _____ dollars: provided the same shall not be allowed to more than two printers in any one town.

[NOTE.—See No. 62.]