

Feb 10, 1863. CHAP. XXVII.—*An Act to authorize the appointment of an agent of the Post-Office Department, and such clerks as may be necessary to carry on the postal service in the States west of the Mississippi river.*

Appointment of agent of the Post-Office Department. Where to keep his office.

*The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That there shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, an agent of the Post-Office Department, who shall keep his office at such place in the States west of the Mississippi river as shall be designated by the Postmaster General, who shall receive for his services a salary of four thousand dollars per annum.*

Salary.

His powers and duties.

SEC. 2. That said agent of the Post-Office Department shall be vested by the Postmaster General, and if necessary, by the President, from time to time, with such powers, and charged with such duties, as will enable him to suspend postmasters and agents of the department, and employ others to serve for the time being, and to instruct them; make new contracts, or annul existing contracts, for carrying the mails as authorized by law; receive the returns of postmasters and contractors, and the reports of agents; make preliminary settlements with contractors and others in the postal service, and make to them partial or full payments, according to his instructions; and to draw collection orders or drafts on postmasters for this purpose; distribute postage stamps, post-office blanks, wrapping paper, &c, and to perform generally all such duties as may be required of him in conformity with law to keep up the postal service in that portion of the Confederacy which lies west of the Mississippi river; and the

Transfer of funds from the office of the agent of Treas. Dept. west of Miss. river, to postmasters.

Funds transferred subject to draft of agent of Post-Office Department.

Proviso.

P. M. Gen'l may appoint additional clerks.

Their compensation.

To make rules to carry this act into effect.

When this act to expire.

Postmaster General is hereby authorized to order the transfer from the office of the agent of the Treasury Department west of said river, with whom funds belonging to the Post-Office Department may be deposited, to such postmasters as he may designate, and the funds so transferred shall be subject to the draft of the agent of the Post-Office Department for the payment of the liability of the Department: *Provided*, That all his acts shall be subject to the final revision and approval of the Postmaster General, and of the proper accounting officers of the Treasury, and, when necessary, to the approval of the President.

SEC. 3. That the Postmaster General be authorized to assign or appoint such number of clerks as be necessary to enable him to perform these duties, whose compensation shall not exceed that of the other clerks of a similar grade employed in the Post-Office Department.

SEC. 4. That the Postmaster General be, and he is hereby authorized, to make all needful rules and regulations to carry into effect the provisions of this act.

SEC. 5. That this act shall expire on the day of a ratification of a treaty of peace between the Confederate States and the United States of America.

APPROVED February 10, 1864.

Feb. 11, 1864. CHAP. XXVIII.—*An Act to amend "An Act to authorize the appointment of an agent of the Treasury Department west of the Mississippi," approved January 27, 1864.*

See ante ch. 14. Salary of agent of Treasury Dept. west of the Miss.

*The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That the salary of said agent of the Treasury Department shall be four thousand dollars per annum.*

APPROVED February 11, 1864.