

This money to arrive. And the moneys arising therefrom shall be held and are hereby constitute a fund pledged by the government of the Confederate States as a fund for the support of the widows and orphans of persons may be slain, and for the support and maintenance of such persons as killed, and other persons may be wounded and disabled on board of the private armed vessels commissioned as aforesaid, in any engagement with the enemy, to be assigned and distributed in such manner as shall hereafter be provided by law.

APPROVED May 6, 1861.

May 7, 1861. CHAP. IV.—*An Act to admit the Commonwealth of Virginia as a member of the Confederate States of America.*

Admission of Virginia. The Commonwealth of Virginia having, in a convention of her people, ratified and adopted the Constitution for the Provisional Government of the Confederate States of America; Therefore—

*The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That the Commonwealth of Virginia be and is hereby admitted as a member of the said Confederate States, upon an equal footing with the other Confederate States, under the Constitution for the Provisional Government of the same.

APPROVED May 7, 1861.

May 8, 1861. CHAP. V.—*An Act to raise an additional military force to serve during the war.*

President authorized to accept the services of volunteers without regard to the place of enlistment. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That in addition to the volunteer force authorized to be raised under existing laws, the President be and he is hereby authorized to accept the services of volunteers who may offer their services, without regard to the place of enlistment, either as cavalry, mounted riflemen, artillery, or infantry, in such proportion of these several arms as he may deem expedient, to serve for and during the existing war, unless sooner discharged.

May be accepted in companies and organized into squadrons, etc. SEC. 2. That the volunteers so offering their services may be accepted by the President in companies, to be organized by him into squadrons, battalions or regiments. The President shall appoint all field and staff officers, but the company officers shall be elected by the men composing the company; and if accepted, the officers so elected shall be commissioned by the President.

President to appoint field and staff officers. Company officers elected by the company, and commissioned by the President. SEC. 3. That any vacancies occurring in the ranks of the several companies mustered into service under the provisions of this act, may be filled by volunteers accepted under the rules of such companies; and any vacancies occurring in the officers of such companies shall be filled by elections in accordance with the same rules.

Vacancies; how filled. SEC. 4. Except as herein differently provided, the volunteer forces hereby authorized to be raised, shall in all regards be subject to and organized in accordance with the provisions of "An act to provide for the public defence," and all other acts for the government of the armies of the Confederate States.

APPROVED May 8, 1861.