

CHAP. VI.—*An Act to amend "An act vesting certain powers in the Postmaster General," approved March 15, 1861.* May 9, 1861.

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That the provisions of "An act vesting certain powers in the Postmaster General," approved March fifteenth, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, be so amended as that he be and hereby he is authorized, on and after a day to be named by him in a proclamation to be issued by him for that purpose, to take the entire charge and direction of the postal service of the Confederate States. Postmaster General to take entire charge of the postal service.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted, That* the Postmaster General be and he hereby is authorized and empowered to annul contracts, or to discontinue or curtail the service and pay on them, when he shall deem it advisable to dispense with the service, in whole or in part, or to place a higher or different grade of service on the route, or when the public interests shall require such discontinuance or curtailment for any other cause, he allowing one month's extra pay on the amount of service dispensed with, in full of all damages to the contractor. Empowered to annul contracts, or to discontinue or curtail the service, etc.
Extra pay allowed where service discontinued.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted, That* the railroads in the Confederate States be and they are hereby divided into three classes, on the following basis, viz: The great through lines connecting important points and conveying heavy mails, to be class number one; completed railroads connecting less important points, but carrying heavy mails for local distribution, to be class number two; and roads on which less important mails are conveyed, short branch roads, and such unfinished roads as do not carry great mails or connect important points, shall be class number three. Classification of railroads.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted, That* in contracts made with railroad companies for carrying the mail once a day, on schedules to be agreed on, the Postmaster General may allow them compensation not exceeding the following rates, viz: On first class roads, one hundred and fifty dollars per mile; on second class roads, one hundred dollars per mile; and on third class roads, fifty dollars per mile; the amount of compensation to be determined by the importance and value of the services to be performed: *Provided, That* if one-half of the services on any railroad is required to be performed in the night time, it shall be lawful for the Postmaster General to pay twenty-five per cent. in addition to the above named maximum rates of pay: *Provided, further, That* the agents, messengers, and other traveling employees of the postoffice department shall pass free of charge over such roads, respectively; and this act shall take effect and be of force from and after its passage. Compensation allowed railroad companies.
Additional pay for night service.
Employees of the Postoffice Department to pass free over the road.

APPROVED May 9, 1861.

CHAP. VII.—*An Act to amend "An act to provide for the public defence," approved March 6, 1861.* May 10, 1861.

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That the President may receive into the service of the Confederate States any company of light artillery, which by said act he is authorized to do, with such complement of officers and men, and with such equipments as to him shall seem proper; anything in said act of the sixth of March, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, to the contrary, notwithstanding. President may receive into service companies of light artillery.

APPROVED May 10, 1861.