

CHAP. LIII. — *An Act to amend an Act entitled "An Act to carry into Effect the Convention between the United States and the Emperor of Brazil, of the twenty-seventh Day of January, in the Year eighteen hundred and forty-nine," approved March twenty-ninth, eighteen hundred and fifty.*

July 3, 1852.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury, in discharging the awards made by the commissioner under the act "to carry into effect the Convention between the United States and the Emperor of Brazil, of the twenty-seventh day of January, in the year eighteen hundred and forty-nine," approved March twenty-ninth, eighteen hundred and fifty, which is hereby amended, shall, in all cases to which the same shall apply, be governed by the provisions of the eighth section of the act entitled "An act to carry into effect certain stipulations of the treaty between the United States of America and the Republic of Mexico, of the second day of February, eighteen hundred and forty-eight," approved March third, eighteen hundred and forty-nine, in the same manner and to the same extent as if said eighth section had been originally a part of said act hereby amended: *Provided, however,* That any party who shall desire to avail himself of the provisions of the said eighth section shall notify the Secretary of the Treasury thereof, within five days from the passage of this act, or from the date of said award of the commissioner to adjust the claims against Brazil.

In carrying in-
to effect the act
of 1850, ch. 6,
the Secretary of
the Treasury is
to be governed
by act of 1849,
ch. 107, § 8, re-
specting con-
flicting claims
to the amount
awarded.

Proviso.

APPROVED, July 3, 1852.

CHAP. LIV. — *An Act to establish a Branch of the Mint of the United States in California.*

July 3, 1852.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That a branch of the mint of the United States be established in California, to be located by the Secretary of the Treasury, for the coinage of gold and silver.

Branch mint
in California.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That suitable buildings shall be procured or erected, for carrying on the business of said branch mint, and the following officers shall be appointed so soon as the public interests may require their services, upon the nomination of the President, [by] and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to wit: one superintendent, one treasurer, one assayer, one melter and refiner, and one coiner. And the said superintendent shall engage and employ as many clerks, and as many subordinate workmen and servants, as shall be provided for by law; and until the thirtieth of June, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five, the salaries of said officers and clerks shall be as follows: to the superintendent and to the treasurer, the sum of four thousand five hundred dollars each; to the assayer, to the melter and refiner, and to the coiner, the sum of three thousand dollars each; to the clerks, the sum of two thousand dollars each; to the subordinate workmen, such wages and allowances as are customary and reasonable, according to their respective stations and occupations.

Buildings for
the mint.
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Officers and
workmen to be
appointed.

Salaries and
pay.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That the officers and clerks to be appointed under this act, before entering upon the duties thereof, shall take an oath or affirmation before some judge of the United States, or the Supreme Court of the State of California, faithfully and diligently to perform the duties thereof, and shall each become bound to the United States of America, with one or more sureties, to the satisfaction of the Director of the Mint and the Secretary of the Treasury, or the District Attorney of the United States for the State of California, with condition for the faithful and diligent performance of their offices.

Officers and
clerks to make
oath and give
bonds.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That the general direction of the business of said branch of the mint of the United States shall be under

Director of the
mint at Phila-
delphia to have

general control over the branch in California, and to prescribe regulations. the control and regulation of the Director of the Mint at Philadelphia, subject to the approbation of the Secretary of the Treasury; and, for that purpose, it shall be the duty of the said director to prescribe such regulations, and require such returns periodically and occasionally, as shall appear to him to be necessary for the purpose of carrying into effect the intention of this act in establishing the said branch; also, for the purpose of discriminating the coin which shall be stamped at said branch and at the mint itself; and also for the purpose of preserving uniformity of weight, form, and fineness, in the coins stamped at said branch; and for that purpose, to require the transmission and delivery to him at the mint, from time to time, of such parcels of the coinage of said branch as he shall think proper, to be subjected to such assays and tests as he shall direct.

Laws respecting the mint and coinage extended to this branch. SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That all the laws and parts of laws now in force for the regulation of the mint of the United States, and for the government of the officers and persons employed therein, and for the punishment of all offences connected with the mint or coinage of the United States, shall be, and they are hereby declared to be in full force in relation to the branch of the mint by this act established, so far as the same may be applicable thereto.

No permanent location to be made or buildings erected till California has agreed not to tax it. SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That no permanent location of said mint shall be made, or buildings erected therefor, until the State of California shall, by some law or other public act, pledge the faith of the State that no tax shall at any time be laid, assessed, or collected by the said State, or under the authority of the said State, on the said branch mint, or on the buildings which may be erected therefor, or on the fixtures and machinery which may be used therein, or on the lands on which the same may be placed; but nothing in this section contained, shall be understood as implying an admission that any such power of taxation rightfully exists.

Proviso.

Branch to be a place of deposit for public moneys. SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That the said branch mint shall be the place of deposit for the public moneys collected in the custom-houses in the State of California, and for such other public moneys as the Secretary of the Treasury may direct; and the treasurer of said branch mint shall have the custody of the same, and shall perform the duties of an assistant treasurer, and for that purpose shall be subject to all the provisions contained in an act entitled "An act to provide for the better organization of the Treasury, and for the collection, safekeeping, transfer, and disbursement of the public revenue," approved August the sixth, one thousand eight hundred and forty-six, which relates to the treasurer of the branch mint at New Orleans.

1846, ch. 90.

Gold to be assayed and cast into bars or ingots, and stamped at expense of depositor. SEC. 8. *And be it further enacted*, That, if required by the holder, gold in grain or lumps shall be refined, assayed, cast into bars or ingots, and stamped in said branch mint, or in the mint of the United States, or any of its branches, in such manner as may indicate the value and fineness of the bar or ingot, which shall be paid for by the owner or holder of said bullion, at such rates and charges, and under such regulations, as the Director of the Mint, under the control of the Secretary of the Treasury, may from time to time establish.

When mint is established, former provisions for an assayer in California repealed. SEC. 9. *And be it further enacted*, That so soon as the said branch mint is established in the State of California, and public notice shall be given thereof in the mode to be designated by the Secretary of the Treasury, then so much of the act making appropriations for the civil and diplomatic expenses of the government for the year ending thirtieth June, eighteen hundred and fifty-one, and for other purposes," as provides for the appointment of an United States Assayer, and the contracting for the assaying and fixing the value of gold in grain or lumps, and for forming the same into bars, be, and the whole of the clause containing said provisions shall be hereby repealed.

1851, ch. 90.

SEC. 10. *And be it further enacted*, That before the Secretary of the Treasury shall procure or erect the buildings provided for in the second section of this act, or commence operations under any of the provisions of the same, at San Francisco, State of California, it shall first be his duty to make a contract or contracts, for the erection of said buildings, and procuring the machinery necessary for the operations of said mint, at a sum or sums which shall not, in the whole, exceed the sum of three hundred thousand dollars, which said contract or contracts shall be secured by good and sufficient sureties, to the satisfaction of the said Secretary of the Treasury and the President of the United States.

APPROVED, July 3, 1852.

Nothing to be done hereunder till buildings and machinery contracted for, at not more than \$300,000.

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CHAP. LV.—*An Act to amend an Act entitled "An Act for the Punishment of Crimes in the District of Columbia."*

July 3, 1852.

Whereas, it has been represented that so much of the third section of the act to which this act is an amendment, as provides a punishment for the maliciously, wilful, or fraudulent burning of stores, barns, or out-houses not adjoining a dwelling-house, has been construed to apply to the cases of burning such houses only when they contain merchandise, tobacco, grain, or hay, whereby offenders have escaped punishment for burning buildings in which none of said articles were kept,

1831, ch. 37.
Preamble.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That from and after the passage of this act, if any person or persons shall maliciously, wilfully, or fraudulently, and with intent to injure or defraud any other person or persons, or body politic or corporate, burn, or set on fire with intent to burn, or attempt to set on fire or burn, any house or outhouse, in the District of Columbia, whether the same be finished or in process of erection, though the said house or outhouse shall not, at the time of such burning or setting on fire, or attempting to set on fire or burn, have any goods, tobacco, hay, or grain therein, nor be adjoining to any dwelling-house, nor be occupied or used for any purpose whatever; he, she, or they, on conviction thereof, shall be sentenced to suffer the same punishment and labor, as is provided in the said third section of the said act to which this is an amendment for the offences therein enumerated.

Penalty for burning or setting on fire with intent to burn or attempting to set on fire or burn any house or outhouse in the District of Colum. with intent to defraud.

1831, ch. 37.

APPROVED, July 3, 1852.

CHAP. LVII.—*An Act making Appropriations for the Payment of Invalid and other Pensions of the United States, for the Year ending the thirtieth of June, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three.*

July 12, 1852.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following sums be, and the same are hereby appropriated, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the payment of pensions, for the year ending the thirtieth of June, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three:—

Appropriations.

For invalid pensions, under various acts, four hundred thousand dollars.

For pensions for widows and orphans under the acts of July the fourth, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-six, and July the twenty-first, eighteen hundred and forty-eight, three hundred and seventy-seven thousand two hundred and forty dollars.

1836, ch. 362.

1848, ch. 108.

For pensions to widows, under the act of seventh July, eighteen hundred and thirty-eight, ninety thousand dollars.

1838, ch. 189.

For pensions to widows, under the act of third March, eighteen hundred and forty-three, thirty thousand dollars.

1843, ch. 102.

For pensions to widows, under the acts of the seventeenth of June, eighteen hundred and forty-four, second of February, eighteen hundred and

1844, ch. 102.