

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the surgeon general to be appointed under this act shall have the rank, pay, and emoluments of a brigadier general. There shall be one assistant surgeon general and one medical inspector general of hospitals, each with the rank, pay, and emoluments of a colonel of cavalry, and the medical inspector general shall have, under the direction of the surgeon general, the supervision of all that relates to the sanitary condition of the army, whether in transports, quarters, or camps, and of the hygiene, police, discipline, and efficiency of field and general hospitals, under such regulations as may hereafter be established.

Rank and pay of surgeon general, of assistant surgeon general, &c.

Medical inspector general, his power and duty.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That there shall be eight medical inspectors, with the rank, pay, and emoluments each of a lieutenant colonel of cavalry, and who shall be charged with the duty of inspecting the sanitary condition of transports, quarters, and camps, of field and general hospitals, and who shall report to the medical inspector general, under such regulations as may be hereafter established, all circumstances relating to the sanitary condition and wants of troops and of hospitals, and to the skill, efficiency, and good conduct of the officers and attendants connected with the medical department.

Medical inspectors, rank, pay, duty, &c.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That the surgeon general, the assistant surgeon general, medical inspector general, and medical inspectors, shall immediately after the passage of this act be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, by selection from the medical corps of the army, or from the surgeons in the volunteer service, without regard to their rank when so selected, but with sole regard to qualifications.

Mode of appointment.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That medical purveyors shall be charged, under the direction of the surgeon general, with the selection and purchase of all medical supplies, including new standard preparations, and of all books, instruments, hospital stores, furniture, and other articles required for the sick and wounded of the army. In all cases of emergency they may provide such additional accommodations for the sick and wounded of the army, and may transport such medical supplies as circumstances may render necessary, under such regulations as may hereafter be established, and shall make prompt and immediate issues upon all special requisitions made upon them under such circumstances by medical officers; and the special requisitions shall consist simply of a list of the articles required, the quantities required, dated and signed by the medical officers requiring them.

Medical purveyors to purchase medical supplies, &c.

Their power in emergencies.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That whenever the inspector general, or any one of the medical inspectors, shall report an officer of the medical corps as disqualified, by age or otherwise, for promotion to a higher grade, or unfitted for the performance of his professional duties, he shall be reported by the surgeon general for examination to a medical board, as provided by the seventeenth section of the act approved August third, eighteen hundred and sixty-one.

Proceedings when any officer of the medical corps is disqualified for promotion.

1861, ch. 42. *Ante*, p. 289.

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That the provisions of this act shall continue and be in force during the existence of the present rebellion and no longer: *Provided, however*, That, when this act shall expire, all officers who shall have been promoted from the medical staff of the army under this act shall retain their respective rank in the army, with such promotion as they would have been entitled to.

This act to last during this rebellion.

Proviso as to officers promoted from medical staff.

APPROVED, April 16, 1862.

CHAP. LVI. — *An Act to authorize the Postmaster General to establish Branch Post Offices in Cities.*

April 16, 1862.

1863, ch. 71. § 13. *Post*, p. 703.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Postmaster Gen-

Branch post offices may be established in cities, &c.

Postmaster General to establish rules and regulations.

One cent additional postage on each letter deposited and delivered — prepayment required.

Proviso.

Branch service to pay for itself.

Repeal of act of 1847, ch. 63, § 10.
Vol. ix. p. 201.

eral be authorized and directed, when in his judgment the public interest or convenience may require it, to establish one or more branch post offices, to facilitate the operation of the post office in any city or place which, in the opinion of the Postmaster General, may require such additional accommodations for the convenience of the inhabitants; and it shall be the duty of the Postmaster General to prescribe the rules and regulations for the branch post office which may be established by virtue of this act. And the Postmaster General is hereby authorized to charge one cent, in addition to the regular postage, for every letter deposited in any branch post office to be forwarded by mail from the principal office, and which shall be prepaid by stamp, and one cent for every letter delivered at such branch office, to be paid on delivery: *Provided*, That no letter shall be sent from the principal office to such branch office for delivery contrary to the request of the party to whom the same may be addressed: *And provided*, The expense of such branch service shall not exceed the receipts on account thereof.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the tenth section of an act entitled "An act to establish certain post-routes, and for other purposes," approved March third, eighteen hundred and forty-seven, be and hereby is repealed.

APPROVED, April 16, 1862.

April 17, 1862. CHAP. LVII. — *An Act making additional Appropriations for the Naval Service for the Year ending June thirty, eighteen hundred and sixty-two.*

Additional naval appropriations.

Purchase and alteration of vessels.

Nautical instruments, &c.

Observatory.

Ordnance foundry at Washington.

Ordnance.

Stevens' battery.

Proviso.

Proviso.

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 they are hereby appropriated, to be paid out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the service of the year eighteen hundred and sixty-two:

For the purchase of vessels and necessary alterations incurred in fitting them for service, two million five hundred and thirty thousand dollars.

For the purchase of additional vessels, two millions of dollars.

For the purchase of nautical instruments, books, maps, and charts, twenty thousand dollars.

For repairs at Observatory, freight, and transportation, three thousand dollars.

For the ordnance foundry at the Washington navy yard, fifty thousand dollars.

For ordnance, one million dollars.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the sum of seven hundred and eighty-three thousand two hundred and ninety-four dollars, being the amount necessary to be provided, as estimated by a board appointed for that purpose, to pay for and finish the Stevens' battery now partially constructed at Hoboken, New Jersey, be and the same is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated for the immediate completion of said battery: *Provided*, That in the contract for the completion of said vessel it shall be stipulated that no part of the money claimed by Edwin A. Stevens to have been heretofore expended by him upon said vessel shall be refunded until the amount of said claim shall be established to the satisfaction of the Secretary of the Navy, and the payment of said sum shall be contingent upon the success of said vessel as an iron-clad, sea-going, war steamer, to be determined by the President, and such contract shall stipulate the time within which the vessel shall be completed: *Provided nevertheless*, That said money shall not be expended unless the Secretary of the Navy is of opinion that the same will secure to the public service an efficient steam battery

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That the sum of thirteen millions of