

Time for filing certain affidavits extended to certain preëmptors.

1841, ch. 16,
§ 13.
Vol. v. p. 456.

Additional fees and allowances to certain registers and receivers.

Proviso.

taken the initiatory steps required by existing laws in regard to actual settlement, and is called away from such settlement by being actually engaged in the military or naval service of the United States, and by reason of such absence is unable to appear at the district land-office, to make, before the register or receiver, the affidavits required by the thirteenth section of the preëmption act of fourth September, eighteen hundred and forty-one, the time for filing such affidavit and making final proof and entry or location, shall be extended six months after the expiration of his term of service, upon satisfactory proof by affidavit, or the testimony of witnesses, that the said preëmptor is so in the service, being filed with the register of the land-office for the district in which his settlement is made.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That the registers and receivers in the state of California, in the state of Oregon, and in the territories of Washington, Nevada, Colorado, Idaho, New Mexico, and Arizona, shall be entitled to collect and receive, in addition to the fees and allowances provided by this act, fifty per centum of said fees and allowances as compensation for their services: *Provided*, That the salary and fees allowed any register or receiver shall not exceed in the aggregate the sum of three thousand dollars per annum.

APPROVED, March 21, 1864.

March 25, 1864.

CHAP. XL.—*An Act to provide for carrying the Mails from the United States to foreign Ports and for other Purposes.*

Vessels belonging to citizens of the United States to carry the mails.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all steamers and sailing vessels belonging to citizens of the United States, and bound from any port in the United States to any foreign port, or from any foreign port to any port in the United States, shall, before clearance, receive on board and securely convey all such mails as the post-office department of the United States, or any minister, consul, or commercial agent of the United States abroad shall offer, and promptly deliver the same to the proper authorities, on arriving at the port of destination, and shall receive for such service such reasonable compensation as may be allowed by law.

Master to make return under oath.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That upon the entry of every steamer or sailing vessel from any foreign port, the master or commander thereof shall make return, on oath or affirmation, showing that he has promptly delivered at such foreign port or ports all mails placed on board of the steamer or vessel under his command before clearance from the United States. And in case the master or commander shall fail to make oath or affirmation as aforesaid, showing that he has delivered the mails placed on board his steamer or vessel in good faith, the said steamer or vessel shall not be entitled to the privileges of a steamer or vessel of the United States.

Penalty for failure.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That the Postmaster-General be, and is hereby, authorized to make contracts, to continue not exceeding four years, for the transportation of all mailable matter other than letters, and of such letters as may be so directed, by the Isthmus of Panama or the Nicaragua route, or both of them: *Provided*, That the expenditure for the service shall not exceed one hundred and sixty thousand dollars per annum. And in case more than one company is engaged in rendering this service, the Postmaster-General shall determine the proportion which shall be paid to each.

Contracts for carrying mail matter by Panama or Nicaragua.

Cost not to exceed, &c.

If more than one company renders the service.

Postage on mail matter between Kansas and California.

Proviso.

Post, pp. 421, 422.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That all mailable matter which may be conveyed by mail westward beyond the western boundary of Kansas, and eastward from the eastern boundary of California shall be subject to prepaid letter postage rates: *Provided, however*, That this section shall not be held to extend to the transmission by mail of newspapers from a

known office of publication to bona fide subscribers, not exceeding one copy to each subscriber, nor to franked matter, to and from the intermediate points between the boundaries above named, at the usual rates: *Provided, further,* That such franked matter shall be subject to such regulations as to its transmission and delivery as the Postmaster-General shall prescribe.

Proviso.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That the Postmaster-General may, if he shall deem it for the public interests, enter into contracts for any period not exceeding one year, for the transportation of the mails in steamships, by sea, between any of the ports in the United States; and that the sea-service already performed by his order on the Atlantic coast and Gulf of Mexico be paid for out of any moneys appropriated for the service of the post-office department. Also for such service already performed upon the Pacific coast a sum not exceeding fifteen hundred dollars, to be paid for out of any moneys appropriated for the service of the post-office department.

Contracts for carrying the mails in steamships by sea between ports of the United States, &c.

Appropriation for Pacific coast.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted,* That if any person or persons shall paint, print, post, or in any other manner place upon, or attach to, any steamboat or other vessel, or any stage-coach or other vehicle, which steamboat or other vessel, or stage-coach or other vehicle, is not actually used in carrying the mails of the United States, the words "United States mail," or any other words, letters or characters of like import; or if any person or persons shall give notice, either by publishing in any newspaper or otherwise, that any steamboat or other vessel, or any stage-coach or other vehicle, is used in carrying the mails of the United States, when the same is not actually so used, every person so offending or willfully aiding or abetting therein, shall, on conviction thereof in any court of competent jurisdiction, be fined in any sum not less than one hundred nor more than five hundred dollars for every such offence; one half for the use of the United States and the other half to the use of the person informing and prosecuting for the same.

Penalty for placing words "United States mail," &c. on a coach or vessel not used to carry the mail;

for advertising such coach or vessel.

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted,* That the Postmaster-General be, and he is hereby, authorized and empowered to suspend the operation of so much of the eighth section of the act of the thirty-first of August, eighteen hundred and fifty-two, as authorizes the conveyance of letters otherwise than in the mails on any such mail routes as in his opinion the public interest may require.

Part of act of 1852, ch. 113, § 8, may be suspended.

Vol. x. p. 141.

APPROVED, March 25, 1864.

CHAP. XLI. — *An Act to authorize the President to negotiate a Treaty with the Klamath, Modoc, and other Indian tribes in Southeastern Oregon.*

March 25, 1864.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President be, and he hereby is, authorized to conclude a treaty with the Klamath, Modoc, and Snake Indians in southeastern Oregon for the purchase of the country occupied by them.

Treaties with Indians in southeastern Oregon.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this act the sum of twenty thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby, appropriated from any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior.

Appropriation.

APPROVED, March 25, 1864.

CHAP. XLII. — *An Act to carry into Effect the Convention with Ecuador for the mutual Adjustment of Claims.*

March 28, 1864.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, for the purpose of carrying into effect the convention with Ecuador for the mutual adjust-

Pay of commissioner under convention with Ecuador.