

TITLE XLIX.

REGULATION OF VESSELS IN FOREIGN COMMERCE.

Sec.

4306. Passports of United States vessels on departure to foreign country.

4307. Penalty for departing without passport.

Sec.

4308. Passports of unregistered vessels.

4309. Deposit of ship's papers with consul.

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SEC. 4306. Every vessel of the United States, going to any foreign country, shall, before she departs from the United States, at the request of the master, be furnished by the collector for the district where such vessel may be, with a passport, the form for which shall be prescribed by the Secretary of State. In order to be entitled to such passport, the master of every such vessel shall be bound, with sufficient sureties, to the Treasurer of the United States, in the penalty of two thousand dollars, conditioned that the passport shall not be applied to the use or protection of any other vessel than the one described in it; and that, in case of the loss or sale of any vessel having such passport, the same shall, within three months, be delivered up to the collector from whom it was received, if the loss or sale take place within the United States; or within six months, if the same shall happen at any place nearer than the Cape of Good Hope; and within eighteen months, if at a more distant place.

SEC. 4307. If any vessel of the United States shall depart therefrom, and shall be bound to any foreign country, other than to some port in America, without such passport, the master of such vessel shall be liable to a penalty of two hundred dollars for every such offense.

SEC. 4308. Every unregistered vessel owned by a citizen of the United States, and sailing with a sea-letter, going to any foreign country, shall, before she departs from the United States, at the request of the master, be furnished by the collector of the district where such vessel may be with a passport, for which the master shall be subject to the rules and conditions prescribed for vessels of the United States.

SEC. 4309. Every master of a vessel, belonging to citizens of the United States, who shall sail from any port of the United States, shall, on his arrival at a foreign port, deposit his register, sea-letter, and Mediterranean passport with the consul, vice-consul, commercial agent, or vice-commercial agent, if any there be at such port; and it shall be the duty of such consul, vice-consul, commercial agent, or vice-commercial agent, on such master or commander producing to him a clearance from the proper officer of the port where his vessel may be, to deliver to the master all of his papers, if such master or commander has complied with the provisions of law relating to the discharge of seamen in a foreign country, and to the payment of the fees of consular officers. [See § 1718.]

SEC. 4310. Every master of any such vessel who refuses or neglects to deposit the papers as required by the preceding section, shall be liable to a penalty of five hundred dollars, to be recovered by such consul, vice-consul, commercial agent, or vice-commercial agent, in his own name, for the benefit of the United States, in any court of competent jurisdiction.

Passports of United States vessels on departure to foreign country.

1 June, 1796, c. 45, ss. 1, 2, v. 1, p. 489.

12 Feb., 1831, c. 20, v. 4, p. 441.

Penalty for departing without passport.

1 June, 1796, c. 45, s. 4, v. 1, p. 490.

Passports of unregistered vessels.

2 March, 1803, c. 16, s. 1, v. 2, p. 208.

Deposit of ship's papers with consul.

28 Feb., 1803, c. 9, s. 2, v. 2, p. 203.

Penalty for failure to deposit papers with consul.

Ibid.