

&c. of March 22, 1808, may be transported by mail free of postage.

By whom in that case to be sent.

the secretary of the Senate, and the clerk of the House of Representatives be, and they are hereby authorized to transmit free of postage, the message of the President of the United States, of the twenty-second day of March, one thousand eight hundred and eight, and the documents accompanying the same, and the documents accompanying the message of the President of the United States, of the thirtieth of March, printed by order of the Senate and House of Representatives, to any post-office within the United States, and territories thereof, to which they may respectively direct; and it shall be a duty of the secretary of the Senate, and of the clerk of the House of Representatives, to send by the mail, the printed copies of the same message and documents, or any part thereof that may remain after Congress shall adjourn, and the same shall be conveyed free of postage as aforesaid, conformably to the directions of the members of each house of Congress respectively: any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

APPROVED, April 13, 1808.

STATUTE I.

April 19, 1808.

[Expired.]

Act of March 3, 1805, ch. 41, continued in force for two years.

CHAP. XLVI.—*An Act to continue in force, for a further time, an act intituled "An act for the more effectual preservation of peace in the ports and harbors of the United States, and in the waters under their jurisdiction."*

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the act, intituled "An act for the more effectual preservation of peace in the ports and harbors of the United States, and in the waters under their jurisdiction," passed on the third day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and five, be, and the same hereby is continued in force for the term of two years, and from thence to the end of the next session of Congress, and no longer.*

APPROVED, April 19, 1808.

STATUTE I.

April 20, 1808.

[Expired.]

Act of March 17, 1800, ch. 15, revived and continued in force until March 3, 1814. 1800, ch. 15. 1814, ch. 60.

CHAP. XLVII.—*An Act to revive and continue in force "An act declaring the assent of Congress to certain acts of the states of Maryland and Georgia."*

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the act which passed the seventeenth day of March, in the year one thousand eight hundred, intituled "An act declaring the assent of Congress, to certain acts of the states of Maryland and Georgia," be, and the same is hereby revived and continued in force until the third day of March, one thousand eight hundred and fourteen.*

APPROVED, April 20, 1808.

STATUTE I.

April 21, 1808.

No member of Congress to have any public contract, under the authority of the U. States, directly or indirectly.

CHAP. XLVIII.—*An Act concerning public contracts.*

*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, no member of Congress shall, directly or indirectly, himself, or by any other person whatsoever, in trust for him, or for his use or benefit, or on his account, undertake, execute, hold or enjoy, in the whole or in part, any contract or agreement hereafter to be made or entered into with any officer of the United States, in their behalf, or with any person authorized to make contracts on the part of the United States; and if any member of Congress shall, directly or indirectly, himself, or by any other person whatsoever, in trust for him, or for his use or benefit, or on his account, enter into, accept of, agree for, undertake or execute any such contract or agreement, in the whole, or in part, every member so offending, shall, for every such offence, upon conviction*

thereof, before any court of the United States, or of the territories thereof, having cognizance of such offence, be adjudged guilty of a high misdemeanor, and shall be fined three thousand dollars; and every such contract or agreement as aforesaid shall moreover be absolutely void and of no effect: *Provided nevertheless*, that in all cases where any sum or sums of money shall have been advanced on the part of the United States, in consideration of any such contract or agreement, the same shall be forthwith repaid; and in case of refusal or delay to repay the same, when demanded, by the proper officer of the department under whose authority such contract or agreement shall have been made or entered into, every person so refusing or delaying, together with his surety or sureties, shall be forthwith prosecuted at law for the recovery of any such sum or sums of money advanced as aforesaid.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That nothing herein contained shall extend, or be construed to extend to any contract or agreement, made or entered into, or accepted, by any incorporated company, where such contract or agreement shall be made for the general benefit of such incorporation or company; nor to the purchase or sale of bills of exchange or other property by any member of Congress, where the same shall be ready for delivery, and for which payment shall be made at the time of making or entering into the contract or agreement.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That in every such contract or agreement to be made or entered into, or accepted as aforesaid, there shall be inserted an express condition that no member of Congress shall be admitted to any share or part of such contract or agreement, or to any benefit to arise thereupon.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That if any officer of the United States, on behalf of the United States, shall directly or indirectly make or enter into any contract, bargain, or agreement, in writing or otherwise, other than such as are herein excepted, with any member of Congress, such officer so offending, on conviction thereof before any court having jurisdiction thereof, shall be deemed and taken to be guilty of a high misdemeanor, and be fined in a sum of three thousand dollars.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That from and after the passing of this act it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury, Secretary of War, Secretary of the Navy, and the Postmaster-General annually, to lay before Congress, a statement of all the contracts which have been made in their respective departments, during the year preceding such report, exhibiting in such statement the name of the contractor, the article or thing contracted for, the place where the article was to be delivered, or the thing performed, the sum to be paid for its performance or delivery, the date and duration of the contract.

APPROVED, April 21, 1808.

Penalty of three thousand dollars.

Advances made by the U. States to be repaid.

Provisions of this act not to extend to incorporated companies, or to bills of exchange negotiated by members of Congress.

Members of Congress to be excepted by particular clauses from participation in public contracts, &c. &c. Penalties upon officers making public contracts with members of Congress.

Secretary of the Treasury, War, &c. to make to Congress, annual statements of contracts made by their departments.

STATUTE I.

CHAP. L.—*An Act for the establishment of a Turnpike Company in the county of Alexandria, in the District of Columbia.*

April 21, 1808.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That Jonah Thompson, Thomas Swann, Charles Alexander, Edmund I. Lee, Jacob Hoffman, Cuthbert Powel, and John Mandeville, or a majority of them, be, and they are hereby constituted a board of commissioners, with full power and authority to open, or cause to be opened, books for receiving and entering subscriptions for raising a capital stock, not exceeding twenty thousand dollars, in shares of fifty dollars each, for the purpose of opening, gravelling, and improving a road not exceeding one hundred, nor less than thirty feet wide, between the town of Alexandria and Bridgepoint, on Alexander's island, opposite the city of Washington, and of erecting

A board of commissioners for receiving subscriptions, appointed.