

June 6, 1898.

**CHAP. 388.**—An Act To authorize the establishment of post-offices at military posts or camps.Army.  
Post-offices at camps,  
etc.Detail of officer as  
postmaster.

—bond of.

Clerks.

—oath.

Civilian postmaster.

—compensation of.

R. S., sec. 3863, p.  
754.  
Money orders.

Post-office supplies.

Regulations.

Branch post-offices.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That during the continuance of the existing war the Postmaster-General may, in his discretion, establish a temporary post-office at any military post or camp for the purpose of supplying the officers and troops there encamped with mails, the location of which post-office may at any time be changed to any other post or camp. On the establishment of such post-office he shall cooperate with the Secretary of War or officer commanding such post or camp for the purpose of securing the detail of an officer of the Regular or Volunteer Army of suitable rank to act as postmaster, who shall, when the exigency will permit, execute a bond to the United States as such, and of a sufficient number of noncommissioned officers and privates to act as clerks in said post-office, who shall serve as such without additional salary, pay, or compensation other than that attaching to their rank and position in the Army. Each of said persons shall, before entering upon the discharge of his duties, take the oath prescribed for persons employed in the postal service. In any case where it is deemed impracticable by the military authorities to detail persons from the Army to act as postmaster or clerks the Postmaster-General is authorized to appoint a civilian as postmaster, and also to make a special order allowing to him reasonable compensation for clerical services and to meet the necessary expenses of said office, as well as a proportionate increase of salary to the postmaster during the period of such extraordinary business as may attach to his office, under the provisions of section thirty-eight hundred and sixty-three, Revised Statutes, payable out of the appropriations for the postal service. He may also provide for the issue and payment of money orders at any post-office established under the provisions of this Act, after the postmaster shall have given bond as required by law.

**SEC. 2.** That the Postmaster-General shall supply to post-offices referred to in the preceding section all necessary postage stamps, stamped envelopes, postal cards, and other supplies of whatever description. He may also prescribe regulations for the conduct of the business at such post-offices in conformity, so far as the same may be applicable, to the regulations relating to the ordinary postal service.

**SEC. 3.** That in any case where, in the judgment of the Postmaster-General, any military post or camp can be better and more economically supplied by a branch post-office, he may, without reference to its distance from the main office, establish the same, and meet the expenses thereof by special order, as in the case of post-offices referred to in the preceding section.

Approved, June 6, 1898.

June 6, 1898.

**CHAP. 389.**—An Act To remove the disability imposed by section three of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.Removal of disabilities  
of persons who  
have engaged in in-  
surrection against the  
United States.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the disability imposed by section three of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States heretofore incurred is hereby removed.

Approved, June 6, 1898.

June 7, 1898.

**CHAP. 390.**—An Act To provide an American register for the steamship China.Steamship China.  
—granted American  
register.

*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 is hereby authorized and directed to cause the foreign-built steamship China, owned by the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, to be registered as a vessel of the United States.

Approved, June 7, 1898.

**CHAP. 391.**—An Act To amend section eight of the Act of Congress approved March second, eighteen hundred and ninety-six, granting a right of way to the Fort Smith and Western Coal Railroad Company through the Indian Territory, and for other purposes.

June 7. 1898.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That section eight of the Act of Congress approved March second, eighteen hundred and ninety-six, granting a right of way to the Fort Smith and Western Coal Railroad Company through the Indian Territory, and for other purposes, be, and the same is hereby, amended so as to read as follows:

Fort Smith and Western Coal Railroad. Vol. 29, p. 42.

“SEC. 8. That said railway company shall build and complete its said railway on or before December thirty-first, nineteen hundred, or this grant shall be forfeited; that said railway company shall construct and maintain, continually, all road and highway crossings and necessary bridges over said railway whenever said roads and highways do now or may hereafter cross said railway’s right of way, or may be by the proper authorities laid out across the same.

Time extended to complete railway.

Approved, June 7, 1898.

**CHAP. 392.**—An Act To suspend the operation of certain provisions of law relating to the War Department, and for other purposes.

June 7. 1898.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the operation of the following provisions of law be, and is hereby, suspended in the discretion of the Secretary of War during the existing war, namely:

Army. Suspension of certain provisions of law. Amended. *post*, p. 1350. Limit of draught animals. Vol. 25, p. 486.

First. The provision of the first section of the Act entitled “An Act making appropriations for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and eighty-nine, and for other purposes,” in the following words:

“*Provided,* That hereafter no part of this appropriation shall be expended in the purchase for the Army of draught animals until the number on hand shall be reduced to five thousand, and thereafter shall only be expended for the purchase of a number sufficient to keep the supply up to five thousand.”

Second. The provisions of the first section of the Act entitled “An Act making appropriations for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, and for other purposes,” in the following words:

“*Provided,* That hereafter no part of the appropriations for the Quartermaster’s Department shall be expended on printing, unless the same shall be done by contract, after due notice and competition, except in such cases as the emergency will not admit of the giving notice for competition: *Provided further,* That after advertisement all the supplies for the use of the various departments and posts of the Army, and of the branches of the Army service, shall hereafter be purchased where the same can be purchased the cheapest, in the markets of the United States, quality and cost of transportation and the interest of the Government considered, except that purchases may be made in open market, in the manner common among business men, when the aggregate amount required does not exceed two hundred dollars, but every such purchase shall be immediately reported to the Secretary of War.”

*Ante*, p. 322. Quartermaster’s Department. —printing for, etc. —purchases where cheapest, etc.

And the words:

“*Provided,* That the number of horses purchased under this appropriation, added to the number on hand, shall not at any time exceed the number of enlisted men and Indian scouts in the mounted service, and that no part of this appropriation shall be paid out for horses not purchased by contract after competition duly invited by the Quartermaster’s Department, and an inspection by such Department, all under the direction and authority of the Secretary of War.”

*Ante*, p. 323. —purchase of horses; limit, etc.