Applications and permission to be entered on books, &c.
Fees, &c.

Limitation of this act to the 20th March, 1817.

CHAP. XXXIX.—An Act to limit the right of appeal from the Circuit Court of the United States for the District of Columbia. (a)

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That no cause shall hereafter be removed from the Circuit Court of the United States for the District of Columbia to the Supreme Court of the United States, by appeal or writ of error, unless the matter in dispute in such cause shall be of the value of one thousand dollars or upwards, exclusive of costs.

Sec. 2. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That when any person or persons, body politic or corporate, shall think him, her, or themselves, aggrieved by any final judgment, order, or decree, of the said Circuit Court, where the matter in dispute, in exclusive of costs, shall be of the value of one hundred dollars, and of less value than one thousand dollars, and shall have prayed an appeal, or shall desire to sue out a writ of error to the Supreme Court of the United States, such person or persons, body politic or corporate, may exhibit a petition, in writing, accompanied by a copy of the proceedings complained of, and an assignment of the errors relied on, to any judge of the said Supreme Court, who, if he should be of opinion that such errors, or any of them, involve questions of law of such extensive interest and operation as to render the final decision of them by the said Supreme Court desirable, may thereupon, at his discretion, and upon the terms and conditions prescribed by law, by his order, to be directed to the clerk of the county in which the proceedings shall have been had, direct such appeal to be allowed, or writ of error to be issued; which shall be done accordingly.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That when any appeal or writ of error shall have been directed in the manner prescribed by the second section of this act, and the order of the judge of the Supreme Court aforesaid thereon shall have been filed in the office of the clerk of the proper county, within thirty days after the end of the term at which the judgment, order, or decree, to be affected by such writ of error or appeal, shall have been rendered or made, such writ of error or appeal shall operate as a supersedeas of all proceedings under such judgment, order, or decree.

Approved, March 25, 1816.

CHAP. XL.—An Act to authorize the payment for property lost, captured, or destroyed by the enemy, while in the military service of the United States, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That any volunteer, or

Approved, April 2, 1816.

CHAP. XLI.—An Act to authorize the payment for property lost, captured, or destroyed by the enemy, while in the military service of the United States, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That any volunteer, or

Act of March 3, 1817, ch. 110.

(a) No appeal or writ of error lies, in a criminal case, from the judgment of the Circuit Court of the District of Columbia to the Supreme Court of the United States. The appellate jurisdiction given by the act of Congress, is confined to civil cases. United States v. Moore, 3 Cranch, 159; 1 Cond. Rep. 480.
Act of March 3, 1825, ch. 67.

Act of April 20, 1818, ch. 119.

Horses killed in battle, or dying from wounds, or from failure of forage, &c. to be paid for.

Horses lost by the owner being dismounted, or detached, &c. by order, &c. or by the rider's being killed, &c. to be paid for.

Horses, mules, oxen, wagons, carts, boats, sleighs, or harness, lost in military service, except, &c. to be paid for.

No compensation where the owner, &c., has received satisfaction, &c.

Persons claiming compensation to release all claims against the person who impressed, &c. Where the owner of the property has recovered from individuals, the latter to be entitled to the compensation.

At the rate of 40 cents per day for each horse furnished themselves by officers of volunteer cavalry, &c.
OFFERENTH CONGRESS. Sess. I. Ch. 40. 1810.

officer was entitled by law to keep in such service, agreeably to the rank of such officer.

SEC. 8. And be it further enacted, That when any officer, non-commissioned officer, or private, in the cavalry service, as aforesaid, having lost the horse or horses, which may have been taken by him into the said service, has received from the United States another horse or horses, in lieu, or in part payment, for the horse or horses so previously lost as aforesaid, such officer, non-commissioned officer, or private, shall be entitled to receive the allowance of forty cents per day, for the use and risk of the horse on which he may have been so remounted.

SEC. 9. And be it further enacted, That any person who, in the time aforesaid, has sustained damage by the destruction of his or her house or building by the enemy, while the same was occupied as a military deposite, under the authority of an officer or agent of the United States, shall be allowed and paid the amount of such damage: Provided, It shall appear that such occupation was the cause of its destruction.

SEC. 10. And be it further enacted, That the loss or destruction, as aforesaid, as well as the value, of such property shall be ascertained by the best evidence which the nature of the case will admit of, and which may be in the power of the party to produce; and the amount thereof, when established and ascertained, according to the provisions of this act, shall be paid to the sufferer or sufferers, out of any money in the treasury, not otherwise appropriated.

SEC. 11. And be it further enacted, That for the more speedy execution of the provisions of this act, the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, is hereby authorized to appoint one commissioner, whose duty it shall be to decide upon all claims to compensation for losses provided for by this act, as the claimants to compensation for losses provided for by this act, as the clerk; and shall proceed, with all practicable despatch, to establish, under the direction, or with the assent, of the President of the United States, such rules, as well in regard to the receipt of applications of claimants to compensation for losses provided for by this act, as the species and degree of evidence, the manner in which such evidence shall be taken and authenticated, as shall, in his opinion, be the best calculated to attain the objects of this act; paying a due regard, in the establishment of such regulations, to the interest of the United States, such rules, as well in regard to the receipt of applications of claimants to compensation for losses provided for by this act, as the species and degree of evidence, the manner in which such evidence shall be taken and authenticated, as shall, in his opinion, be the best calculated to attain the objects of this act; paying a due regard, in the establishment of such regulations, as well to the claims of individual justice as to the interest of the United States: which rules and regulations shall, upon his adoption, be published for eight weeks, successively, in the newspapers in the several states and territories in which the laws of the United States are published.

SEC. 12. And be it further enacted, That the said commissioner, so to be appointed, before he enters upon the duties of his office, shall take the following oath, to wit: "I, A B, do solemnly swear, that I will well and truly, according to the best of my abilities, discharge the duties of commissioner under an act of Congress, entitled "An act to authorize the payment for property lost, captured, or destroyed, by the enemy, while in the military service of the United States, such rules, as well in regard to the receipt of applications of claimants to compensation for losses provided for by this act, as the species and degree of evidence, the manner in which such evidence shall be taken and authenticated, as shall, in his opinion, be the best calculated to attain the objects of this act; paying a due regard, in the establishment of such regulations, as well to the claims of individual justice as to the interest of the United States: which rules and regulations shall, upon his adoption, be published for eight weeks, successively, in the newspapers in the several states and territories in which the laws of the United States are published.

SEC. 13. And be it further enacted, That the said commissioner shall, in all cases in which the claim to compensation or indemnity shall exceed the sum of two hundred dollars, award a commission to some one or more discreet commissioner in the vicinity of where the witnesses are
stated to reside, accompanied by interrogatories to be propounded to such
witnesses, which said commission, when executed, shall be returned, to-
gether with the examinations to be taken in virtue thereof, by mail, free
of postage, to the office of the said commissioner.

Sec. 14. And be it further enacted, That, in all adjudications of the
said commissioner upon the claims above-mentioned, whether such judg-
ment be in favour of, or adverse to, the claim of the applicant, the same
shall be entered by his clerk in a book to be provided for that purpose:
And when such judgment shall be in favour of such claim, shall entitle
the claimant, or his legal representative, upon the production of a copy
of such judgment, duly certified by the clerk of said commissioner, to
payment of the amount thereof at the treasury of the United States.

Sec. 15. And be it further enacted, That no claim authorized by
this act shall be allowed or paid, unless the same shall be exhibited within
two years from the passing hereof.

Approved, April 9, 1816.

STATUTE I.

April 9, 1816.

Chap. XLII.—An Act to repeal the act, entitled “An act to provide additional re-
venues for defraying the expenses of government and maintaining the public
credit, by laying duties on household furniture and on gold and silver watches.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the
United States of America, in Congress assembled, That so much of the
act, entitled “An act to provide additional revenue for defraying the ex-
penses of government and maintaining the public credit, by laying duties
on household furniture and on gold and silver watches,” as lays a duty
on household furniture, and on watches kept for use, in the year one
 thousand eight hundred and sixteen, and in succeeding years, shall be,
and the same is hereby, repealed.

Approved, April 9, 1816.

STATUTE I.

April 9, 1816.

[Repealed.]

1810, ch. 37.

Chap. XLIII.—An Act in addition to an act to regulate the Post-office establish-
ment.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United
States of America, in Congress assembled, That, from and after the first
day of May next, the following rates of postage be charged upon all let-
ters and packets, (excepting such as are now excepted by law,) conveyed
by the posts of the United States, viz:

For every letter composed of a single sheet of paper, conveyed not
exceeding thirty miles, six cents; over thirty and not exceeding eighty,
ten cents; over eighty and not exceeding one hundred and fifty, twelve
and a half cents; over one hundred and fifty and not exceeding four
hundred, eighteen and a half cents; over four hundred miles, twenty-five
cents; and for every double letter, or letter composed of two pieces of
paper, double those rates; and for every triple letter, or one composed of
three pieces of paper, triple those rates; and for every packet composed
of four or more pieces of paper, or one or more other articles, and weigh-
ing one ounce avoirdupois, quadruple those rates: and in that proportion
for all greater weights: Provided, That no packet of letters conveyed by
the water mails shall be charged with more than quadruple postage, un-
less the same shall contain more than four distinct letters.

No postmaster shall be obliged to receive, to be conveyed by the mail,
any packet which shall weigh more than three pounds; and the postage
marked on any letter or packet, and charged in the post bill which may
accompany the same, shall be conclusive evidence, in favour of the post-
master who delivers the same, of the lawful postage thereon, unless such