fifteen thousand dollars per annum; such rate to take effect in virtue of this
provision from July first, eighteen hundred and fifty-three;

SEC. 5. And be it further enacted, That from and after the passage of
this act, there shall be, in addition to the clerks authorized by the
third section of the act of March third, eighteen hundred and fifty-three,
etitled, “An act making appropriations for the civil and diplomatic ex-

Secs. 6. And be it further enacted, That the portion of the seventh
section of the act of twenty-sixth August, eighteen hundred and fifty-two,
repealed.

Commissions allowed to Deputy-Postmas-
ters instead of present compensation.

1853, ch. 146, § 6. Sixty per cent.

Seventy per cent.
Fifty percent.
Forty per cent.
Fifteen per cent.
Twelve and one half per cent.
One cent for free letters.

Exception.

Ten cents for return of regis-
ter.

Two mills for newspaper not chargeable with postage.

one and one-half per cent.

On any sum not exceeding one hundred dollars sixty per cent; but
any postmaster at whose office the mail is to arrive regularly, between
the hours of nine o’clock at night and five o’clock in the morning, may be
allowed seventy per cent. on the first hundred dollars;

On any sum over and above one hundred dollars, and not exceeding
four hundred dollars, fifty per cent.;

On any sum over and above four hundred dollars, but not exceeding
twenty-four hundred dollars, forty per cent.

And on all sums over twenty-four hundred dollars, fifteen per cent.

On the amount of postage on letters and packages received at a distrib-
buting office for distribution, twelve and one-half per cent. commission
may be allowed;

Every postmaster whose compensation shall not exceed five hundred
dollars in one quarter, shall be allowed one cent on every free letter
delivered out of his office, except such as are for the postmaster himself.
But the special allowance now made by law, to the postmasters at New
Orleans and Washington City, shall not otherwise be either increased or
diminished;

Each postmaster who shall be required to keep a register of the ar-
ival and departure of the mails, shall be allowed ten cents for each
monthly return which he makes to the Postmaster-General;

Each postmaster may be allowed two mills for the delivery from his
office to a subscriber of each newspaper not chargeable with postage:
Provided, That to any postmaster of a distributing office at which the commissions, allowances, and emoluments, since the thirty-first day of March, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three, have been insufficient to defray actual and necessary expenses, and afford the postmaster the annual compensation derived from commissions at the office before said thirty-first of March, the Postmaster-General may, in his discretion, allow quarterly, from the date aforesaid, out of the postages collected at any such office, an amount sufficient to supply such deficiency: Provided further, That to any postmaster of a separating office whose commissions, allowances and emoluments may be found insufficient to provide the extra labor necessary to a prompt and efficient performance of the duties of separating and despatching the mails passing through his office, the Postmaster-General may make such quarterly allowance, out of the postages collected at such office, as he may deem sufficient to compensate such extra labor: Provided further, That the commissions and allowances authorized by this act shall be subject to the provisions of the forty-first section of the act entitled "An act to reduce into one the several acts establishing and regulating the Post-Office Department;" And provided further, That the Postmaster-General may, in his discretion, dispose of any quarterly returns of mails sent or received, which were made up previous to the first day of July, eighteen hundred and fifty, preserving the accounts current, and all vouchers accompanying such accounts, and use such portion of the proceeds thereof as may be necessary to defray the cost of separating and disposing of the same. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after the commencement of the next fiscal quarter after its passage.

APPROVED, June 22, 1854.

CHAP. LXII. — An Act to authorize the Selection of School Districts in lieu of the Sixteenth Sections within the Twelve Miles Square Reservation, State of Alabama.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the school commissioners of township six south, range one east, townships five and six south, range two east, and townships five and six south, range three east, Huntsville District, Alabama, be, and the same are hereby, authorized to select, respectively, by legal subdivisions, from any of the surveyed public lands, the quantity as near as may be, contained in the sixteenth sections of said townships, within the Twelve Miles Square Reservation; which selections, upon being approved by the Secretary of the Interior, shall be held by the same tenure, and upon the same terms, for the support of schools in such townships, as the sections numbered sixteen, within the said reservation would have been, had not treaty stipulation made other disposition thereof.

APPROVED, June 22, 1854.

CHAP. LXVIII. — An Act confirming certain Land Claims in Louisiana, in the Bas-trop Grant.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That such of the claims entered in the report dated thirtieth of July, eighteen hundred and fifty-two, of the register and receiver at Monroe, Louisiana, as in their opinion ought to be confirmed, according to the principles recognized in the act of Congress of the third March, eighteen hundred and forty-one, pursuant to which the said report was made, be, and the same are hereby, confirmed for the extent and under the limitations referred to in the opinions of the said officers.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That the confirmation by this act