

statement and report so filed with him, together with his own statement and report aforesaid, to the Attorney-General of the United States.

Penalty for violating provisions of this section.

Any person who shall violate the provisions of this section shall, on motion made, under the direction of the Attorney-General, be by the district court dismissed from his office, and shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction thereof, be punished by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars, or by imprisonment not exceeding one year.

Notaries public authorized to take proof of debts.

SEC. 20. That in addition to the officers now authorized to take proof of debts against the estate of a bankrupt, notaries public are hereby authorized to take such proof, in the manner and under the regulations provided by law; such proof to be certified by the notary and attested by his signature and official seal.

Inconsistent acts repealed.

SEC. 21. That all acts and parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

Approved, June 22, 1874.

June 22, 1874.

**CHAP. 391.**—An act to amend the customs-revenue laws and to repeal moieties.

Repeal of 1866, ch. 201, § 39, vol. xiv, p. 187, and 1867, ch. 188, § 2, vol. xiv, p. 547.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress-assembled,* That the thirty-ninth section of the act entitled "An act further to prevent smuggling, and for other purposes," approved July eighteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-six; and the second section of the act entitled "An act to regulate the disposition of the proceeds of fines, penalties, and forfeitures incurred under the laws relating to the customs, and for other purposes," approved March second, eighteen hundred and sixty-seven, be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

Moieties to informers and officers abolished.

SEC. 2. That all provisions of law under which moieties of any fines, penalties, or forfeitures, under the customs-revenue laws, or any share therein, or commission thereon, are paid to informers, or officers of customs, or other officers of the United States, are hereby repealed; and from and after the date of the passage of this act the proceeds of all such fines, penalties, and forfeitures shall be paid into the Treasury of the United States.

Fines, &c., to be paid into Treasury.

Secretary of Treasury to make suitable compensation in certain cases.

SEC. 3. That it shall hereafter be the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury, out of any money specifically appropriated by Congress, to make suitable compensation in certain cases under the customs-revenue laws, as hereinafter provided, and not otherwise; and for the purpose of making such compensation for the next fiscal year, the sum of one hundred thousand dollars is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated; and he shall annually report to Congress, in detail, all payments by him for such purpose.

Appropriation for fiscal year.

Detailed annual report to Congress.

Compensation to officer or person seizing smuggled goods.

SEC. 4. That whenever any officer of the customs or other person shall detect and seize goods, wares, or merchandise, in the act of being smuggled, or which have been smuggled, he shall be entitled to such compensation therefor as the Secretary of the Treasury shall award, not exceeding in amount one-half of the net proceeds, if any, resulting from such seizure, after deducting all duties, costs, and charges connected therewith: *Provided,* That for the purposes of this act smuggling shall

Smuggling defined.

be construed to mean the act, with intent to defraud, of bringing into the United States, or, with like intent, attempting to bring into the United States, dutiable articles without passing the same, or the package containing the same, through the custom-house, or submitting them to the officers of the revenue for examination. And whenever any person not an officer of the United States shall furnish to a district attorney, or to any chief officer of the customs, original information concerning any fraud upon the customs-revenue, perpetrated or contemplated, which shall lead to the recovery of any duties withheld, or of any fine, penalty, or forfeiture incurred, whether by importers or their agents, or

Compensation to informer not an officer of United States.

by any officer or person employed in the customs-service, such compensation may, on such recovery, be paid to such person so furnishing information as shall be just and reasonable, not exceeding in any case the sum of five thousand dollars; which compensation shall be paid, under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, out of any money appropriated for that purpose.

Not to exceed \$5,000.  
How paid.

SEC. 5. That in all suits and proceedings other than criminal arising under any of the revenue-laws of the United States, the attorney representing the Government, whenever, in his belief, any business-book, invoice, or paper, belonging to or under the control of the defendant or claimant, will tend to prove any allegation made by the United States, may make a written motion, particularly describing such book, invoice, or paper, and setting forth the allegation which he expects to prove; and thereupon the court in which suit or proceeding is pending may, at its discretion, issue a notice to the defendant or claimant to produce such book, invoice, or paper in court, at a day and hour to be specified in said notice, which, together with a copy of said motion, shall be served formally on the defendant or claimant by the United States marshal by delivering to him a certified copy thereof, or otherwise serving the same as original notices of suit in the same court are served; and if the defendant or claimant shall fail or refuse to produce such book, invoice, or paper in obedience to such notice, the allegations stated in the said motion shall be taken as confessed unless his failure or refusal to produce the same shall be explained to the satisfaction of the court. And if produced, the said attorney shall be permitted, under the direction of the court, to make examination (at which examination the defendant or claimant, or his agent, may be present) of such entries in said book, invoice, or paper as relate to or tend to prove the allegation aforesaid, and may offer the same in evidence on behalf of the United States. But the owner of said books and papers, his agent or attorney, shall have, subject to the order of the court, the custody of them, except pending their examination in court as aforesaid.

Motion of attorney for production of books, papers, &c., in suits other than criminal.

Notice of court for production of books, papers, &c.

Service of notice.

Failure or refusal to produce books to be taken as confession of allegations, unless, &c.

Attorney permitted to examine, &c.

Owner or agent to have custody of books.

SEC. 6. That no payment shall be made to any person furnishing information in any case wherein judicial proceedings shall have been instituted, unless his claim to compensation shall have been established to the satisfaction of the court or judge having cognizance of such proceedings, and the value of his services duly certified by said court or judge for the information of the Secretary of the Treasury; but no certificate of the value of such services shall be conclusive of the amount thereof. And when any fine, penalty, or forfeiture shall be collected without judicial proceedings, the Secretary of the Treasury shall, before directing payment to any person claiming such compensation, require satisfactory proof that such person is justly entitled thereto.

Claim of informer where judicial proceedings instituted to be certified by court.

Certificate not conclusive.

Proof of claim where forfeiture collected without judicial proceedings.

SEC. 7. That except in cases of smuggling as aforesaid, it shall not be lawful for any officer of the United States, under any pretense whatever, directly or indirectly, to receive, accept, or contract for any portion of the money which may, under any of the provisions of this or any other act, accrue to any such person furnishing information; and any such officer who shall so receive, accept, or contract for any portion of the money that may accrue as aforesaid shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction thereof, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding five thousand dollars, or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both, in the discretion of the court, and shall not be thereafter eligible to any office of honor, trust, or emolument. And any such person so furnishing information as aforesaid, who shall pay to any such officer of the United States, or to any person for his use, directly or indirectly, any portion of said money, or any other valuable thing, on account of or because of such money, shall have a right of action against such officer or other person, and his legal representatives, to recover back the same, or the value thereof.

Punishment of officer receiving part of informer's fees, except in cases of smuggling.

Informer to have right of action to recover moneys, &c., paid to officer.

Officers and persons claiming compensation may be witnesses.

Defendant may appear and testify.

Invoice or affidavit to accompany all importations, except, &c.

Affidavit in absence of certified invoice to have statement showing cost or value.

Statement to be verified.

Oath as to knowledge of value.

Production of letters, &c.

In default of production, owner, &c., debarred from there after producing to avoid penalties, &c.

Fraudulent or false invoices, &c.

Penalty.

Merchandise to be forfeited.

Forfeiture to apply only to package containing merchandise to which fraud relates.

Repeal of laws forfeiting entire invoice.

Merchandise entered by persons violating preceding section may be seized and held to double amount.

SEC. 8. That no officer, or other person entitled to or claiming compensation under any provision of this act, shall be thereby disqualified from becoming a witness in any action, suit, or proceeding for the recovery, mitigation, or remission thereof, but shall be subject to examination and cross-examination in like manner with other witnesses, without being thereby deprived of any right, title, share, or interest in any fine, penalty, or forfeiture to which such examination may relate; and in every such case the defendant or defendants may appear and testify and be examined and cross-examined in like manner.

SEC. 9. That except in the case of personal effects accompanying the passenger, no importation exceeding one hundred dollars in dutiable value shall be admitted to entry without the production of a duly-certified invoice thereof as required by law, or of an affidavit made by the owner, importer, or consignee, before any officer authorized to administer oaths, showing why it is impracticable to produce such invoice.

SEC. 10. That no entry shall be made in the absence of a certified invoice, upon affidavit as aforesaid, unless such affidavit be accompanied by a statement, in the form of an invoice or otherwise, showing either the actual cost of the merchandise included in such importation, or, to the best of the knowledge, information, and belief of the deponent, the foreign market-value thereof; which statement shall be verified by the owner, importer, consignee, or agent desiring to make entry of the merchandise, and which oath shall be administered by the collector or his deputy.

SEC. 11. That before such oath is taken, it shall be lawful for the collector or deputy administering the same to question the deponent touching the sources of his knowledge, information, or belief in the premises, and to require him to make oath to the same, and to produce any letter or paper, in his possession or under his control, which may assist the officers of the customs in ascertaining the dutiable value of the importation, or any part thereof; and in default of such production, when so requested, such owner, importer, consignee, and agent shall be thereafter debarred from producing any such letter or paper for the purpose of avoiding any penalty or forfeiture incurred under this act, unless he shall show to the satisfaction of the court that it was not in his power to produce the same when so demanded.

SEC. 12. That any owner, importer, consignee, agent, or other person who shall, with intent to defraud the revenue, make, or attempt to make, any entry of imported merchandise, by means of any fraudulent or false invoice, affidavit, letter, or paper, or by means of any false statement, written or verbal, or who shall be guilty of any willful act or omission by means whereof the United States shall be deprived of the lawful duties, or any portion thereof, accruing upon the merchandise, or any portion thereof, embraced or referred to in such invoice, affidavit, letter, paper, or statement, or affected by such act or omission, shall, for each offense, be fined in any sum not exceeding five thousand dollars nor less than fifty dollars, or be imprisoned for any time not exceeding two years, or both; and, in addition to such fine, such merchandise shall be forfeited; which forfeiture shall only apply to the whole of the merchandise in the case or package containing the particular article or articles of merchandise to which such fraud or alleged fraud relates; and anything contained in any act which provides for the forfeiture or confiscation of an entire invoice in consequence of any item or items contained in the same being undervalued, be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

SEC. 13. That any merchandise entered by any person or persons violating any of the provisions of the preceding section, but not subject to forfeiture under the same section, may, while owned by him or them, or while in his or their possession, to double the amount claimed, be taken by the collector and held as security for the payment of any fine or fines incurred as aforesaid, or may be levied upon and sold on execution to

satisfy any judgment recovered for such fine or fines. But nothing herein contained shall prevent any owner or claimant from obtaining a release of such merchandise on giving a bond, with sureties satisfactory to the collector, or, in case of judicial proceedings, satisfactory to the court, or the judge thereof, for the payment of any fine or fines so incurred: *Provided, however,* That such merchandise shall in no case be released until all accrued duties thereon shall have been paid or secured.

Release of seized merchandise on giving bond.

Not to be released until duties paid or secured.

SEC. 14. That wherever any statute requires that, to the cost or market-value of any goods, wares, and merchandise imported into the United States, there shall be added to the invoice thereof, or, upon the entry of such goods, wares, and merchandise, charges for inland-transportation, commissions, port-duties, expenses of shipping, export-duties, cost of packages, boxes, or other articles containing such goods, wares, and merchandise, or any other incidental expenses attending the packing, shipping, or exportation thereof from the country or place where purchased or manufactured, the omission, without intent thereby to defraud the revenue, to add and state the same on such invoice or entry shall not be cause of a forfeiture of such goods, wares, and merchandise, or of the value thereof; but in all cases where the same, or any part thereof, are omitted, it shall be the duty of the collector or appraiser to add the same, for the purposes of duty, to such invoice or entry, either in items or in gross, at such price or amount as he shall deem just and reasonable, (which price or amount shall, in the absence of protest, be conclusive,) and to impose and add thereto the further sum of one hundred per centum of the price or amount so added; which addition shall constitute a part of the dutiable value of such goods, wares, and merchandise, and shall be collectible as provided by law in respect to duties on imports.

Omission to add to market-value cost of packing, shipping, &c., not to work forfeiture.

Collector or appraiser to add such cost and one hundred per centum of price so added.

Addition collected as other duties.

SEC. 15. That it shall be the duty of any officer or person employed in the customs-revenue service of the United States, upon detection of any violation of the customs-laws, forthwith to make complaint thereof to the collector of the district, whose duty it shall be promptly to report the same to the district attorney of the district in which such frauds shall be committed. Immediately upon the receipt of such complaint, if, in his judgment, it can be sustained, it shall be the duty of such district attorney to cause investigation into the facts to be made before a United States commissioner having jurisdiction thereof, and to initiate proper proceedings to recover the fines and penalties in the premises, and to prosecute the same with the utmost diligence to final judgment.

Officer or employé of customs-service detecting violations to report to collector.

Collector to promptly report to district attorney.

District attorney to prosecute.

SEC. 16. That in all actions, suits, and proceedings in any court of the United States now pending or hereafter commenced or prosecuted to enforce or declare the forfeiture of any goods, wares, or merchandise, or to recover the value thereof, or any other sum alleged to be forfeited by reason of any violation of the provisions of the customs-revenue laws, or any of such provisions, in which action, suit, or proceeding an issue or issues of fact shall have been joined, it shall be the duty of the court, on the trial thereof, to submit to the jury, as a distinct and separate proposition, whether the alleged acts were done with an actual intention to defraud the United States, and to require upon such proposition a special finding by such jury; or, if such issues be tried by the court without a jury, it shall be the duty of the court to pass upon and decide such proposition as a distinct and separate finding of fact; and in such cases, unless intent to defraud shall be so found, no fine, penalty, or forfeiture shall be imposed.

Court to submit to jury whether alleged acts were done with actual intent to defraud.

Special findings required.

Unless intent to defraud found, no penalty.

SEC. 17. That whenever, for an alleged violation of the customs-revenue laws, any person who shall be charged with having incurred any fine, penalty, forfeiture, or disability other than imprisonment, or shall be interested in any vessel or merchandise seized or subject to seizure, when the appraised value of such vessel or merchandise is not less than one thousand dollars, shall present his petition to the judge of the district in which the alleged violation occurred, or in which the property is

Petition for relief by persons charged with having incurred fines, &c., in certain cases.

Summary hearing by district judge. situated, setting forth, truly and particularly, the facts and circumstances of the case, and praying for relief, such judge shall, if the case, in his judgment, requires, proceed to inquire, in a summary manner into the circumstances of the case, at such reasonable time as may be fixed by him for that purpose, of which the district attorney and the collector shall be notified by the petitioner, in order that they may attend and show cause why the petition should be refused.

District attorney and collector to be notified of hearing. SEC. 18. That the summary investigation hereby provided for may be held before the judge to whom the petition is presented, or, if he shall so direct, before any United States commissioner for such district, and the facts appearing thereon shall be stated and annexed to the petition, and, together with a certified copy of the evidence, transmitted to the Secretary of the Treasury, who shall thereupon have power to mitigate or remit such fine, penalty, or forfeiture, or remove such disability, or any part thereof, if, in his opinion, the same shall have been incurred without willful negligence or any intention of fraud in the person or persons incurring the same, and to direct the prosecution, if any shall have been instituted for the recovery thereof, to cease and be discontinued upon such terms or conditions as he may deem reasonable and just.

Hearing before judge or commissioner. SEC. 19. That it shall not be lawful for any officer or officers of the United States to compromise or abate any claim of the United States arising under the customs laws, for any fine, penalty, or forfeiture incurred by a violation thereof; and any officer or person who shall so compromise or abate any such claim, or attempt to make such compromise or abatement, or in any manner relieve or attempt to relieve from such fine, penalty, or forfeiture, shall be deemed guilty of a felony, and, on conviction thereof, shall suffer imprisonment not exceeding ten years, and be fined not exceeding ten thousand dollars: *Provided, however,* That the Secretary of the Treasury shall have power to remit any fines, penalties, or forfeitures, or to compromise the same, in accordance with existing law.

Facts and certified copy of evidence to be annexed to petition. SEC. 20. That whenever any application shall be made to the Secretary of the Treasury for the mitigation or remission of any fine, penalty, or forfeiture, or the refund of any duties, in case the amount involved is not less than one thousand dollars, the applicant shall notify the district attorney and the collector of customs of the district in which the duties, fine, penalty, or forfeiture accrued; and it shall be the duty of such collector and district attorney to furnish to the Secretary of the Treasury all practicable information necessary to enable him to protect the interests of the United States.

Transmission to Secretary of Treasury. SEC. 21. That whenever any goods, wares, and merchandise shall have been entered and passed free of duty, and whenever duties upon any imported goods, wares, and merchandise shall have been liquidated and paid, and such goods, wares, and merchandise shall have been delivered to the owner, importer, agent, or consignee, such entry and passage free of duty and such settlement of duties shall, after the expiration of one year from the time of entry, in the absence of fraud and in the absence of protest by the owner, importer, agent, or consignee, be final and conclusive upon all parties.

Secretary may mitigate or remit fines, &c., and discontinue prosecution. SEC. 22. That no suit or action to recover any pecuniary penalty or forfeiture of property accruing under the customs revenue laws of the United States shall be instituted unless such suit or action shall be commenced within three years after the time when such penalty or forfeiture shall have accrued: *Provided,* That the time of the absence from the United States of the person subject to such penalty or forfeiture, or of any concealment or absence of the property, shall not be reckoned within this period of limitation.

Officers compromising or abating claims deemed guilty of felony. SEC. 23. That in lieu of the salaries, moieties, and perquisites of whatever name or nature, and commissions on disbursements, now paid to and received by the collectors, naval officers, and surveyors connected with the customs service in the several collection districts of the United

*Post,* 303.

Penalty.

Secretary of Treasury may remit fines, or compromise, &c.

Applicants to Secretary of Treasury for remission of fines, &c., to notify district attorney and collector.

Collector and attorney to furnish Secretary information to protect United States.

Settlements, after one year, in absence of fraud or protest, to be conclusive.

Suits to be commenced within three years.

Time of absence from United States of person subject to penalty not counted.

Annual salaries to certain customs officers.

States hereinafter named, there shall be paid, from and after the first day of July, eighteen hundred and seventy-four, an annual salary as follows:

To the collector of the district of New York, twelve thousand dollars. Collectors.  
 To the collectors of the districts of Boston and Charlestown, Massachusetts; and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, each eight thousand dollars.

To the collectors of the district of San Francisco, California; Baltimore, Maryland; and New Orleans, Louisiana, each seven thousand dollars.

To the collector of the district of Portland and Falmouth, Maine, six thousand dollars.

To the naval officer for the district of New York, eight thousand dollars. Naval officers.

To the naval officers of the districts of Boston and Charlestown, Massachusetts; and San Francisco, California; and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, each five thousand dollars.

To the surveyor of the port of New York, eight thousand dollars. Surveyors.

To the surveyors of the ports of Boston, Massachusetts; and San Francisco, California; and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, each five thousand dollars.

SEC. 24. That the Secretary of the Treasury shall, from time to time, make such regulations as he may deem necessary for the conduct and management of the bonded warehouses, general order stores, and other depositories of the imported merchandise throughout the United States; all regulations or orders issued by collectors of customs in regard thereto shall be subject to revision, alteration, or revocation by him; and no warehouse shall be bonded and no general-order store established without his authority and approval. And it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury, in granting permits to establish general-order warehouses, to require such warehouse or warehouses to be located contiguous, or as near as may be, to the landing places of steamers and vessels from foreign ports; and that no officer of the customs shall have any personal ownership of, or interest in, any bonded warehouse or general-order store. Secretary of Treasury to control and regulate bonded warehouses, general-order stores, &c.

General-order warehouses to be near landings.

Customs officers not to be interested in warehouses, &c.

SEC. 25. That public cartage of merchandise in the custody of the Government shall be let after not less than thirty days' notice of such letting to the lowest responsible bidder giving sufficient security, and shall be subject to regulations approved by the Secretary of the Treasury. Cartage to be let to lowest bidder.

To be subject to regulation by Secretary.

SEC. 26. That all acts and parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed; that nothing herein contained shall affect existing rights of the United States; and in all cases in which prosecutions have been actually commenced for forfeitures incurred, the Secretary of the Treasury shall have power to make compensation, as provided in the fourth section of this act, to the persons who would, under former laws, have been entitled to share in the distribution of such forfeitures. Repeal of inconsistent acts.

Existing rights of United States not affected.

Compensation to persons where suits have been commenced.

Approved, June 22, 1874.

CHAP. 392.—An act for the better government of the Navy of the United States.

June 22, 1874.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That on and after the passage of this act, any officer of the Navy who may be promoted in course to fill a vacancy in the next higher grade shall be entitled to the pay of the grade to which promoted from the date he takes rank therein, if it be subsequent to the vacancy he is appointed to fill. Officers in Navy promoted to fill vacancies entitled to pay of grade from date of rank.