

For pay of agents and assistants to distribute stamps, and expenses of agency, nine thousand dollars.	Distribution.
For manufacture of stamped envelopes, newspaper wrappers, and letter sheets, nine hundred and thirty-three thousand dollars.	Stamped envelopes, etc.
For pay of agent and assistants to distribute stamped envelopes, newspaper wrappers, and letter sheets, and expense of agency, seventeen thousand eight hundred dollars.	Distribution.
For manufacture of postal-cards, two hundred and fourteen thousand dollars.	Postal-cards.
For pay of agent and assistants to distribute postal-cards, and expense of agency, seven thousand eight hundred dollars.	Distribution.
For registered package, tag, official, and dead-letter envelopes, one hundred and twenty-seven thousand dollars.	Official, etc., envelopes.
For ship, steamboat, and way letters, two thousand five hundred dollars.	Ship, etc., letters.
For engraving, printing, and binding drafts and warrants four thousand dollars. And the Postmaster-General may from time to time designate any officer of the Post Office Department, above the grade of fourth-class clerk, to sign warrants in his stead, and such warrants when so signed, shall be of the same validity as if they had been signed by the Postmaster General.	Printing, etc., drafts. Officer to sign warrants.
For miscellaneous items, one thousand dollars.	Miscellaneous.

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF FOREIGN MAILS.

For transportation of foreign mails, one million two hundred and fifty thousand dollars: <i>Provided</i> , That hereafter the Postmaster General shall be authorized to expend such sums as may be necessary, not exceeding fifty-five thousand dollars, to cover one-half of the cost of transportation, compensation, and expense of clerks to be employed in assorting and pouching mails in transit on steamships between the United States and other postal administrations in the International Postal Union.	Transportation. <i>Proviso.</i> Clerks on steamships.
For balance due foreign countries, one hundred and sixty thousand dollars.	Balance due foreign countries.
SEC. 2. That if the revenue of the Post-Office Department shall be insufficient to meet the appropriations made by this act a sum equal to such deficiency of the revenues of said Department is hereby appropriated, to be paid out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to supply said deficiencies in the revenue of the Post-Office Department for the year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-two.	Appropriation to meet deficiencies.
SEC. 3. That the members and members elect of Congress, shall have the privilege of sending free through the mails, and under their frank, letters to any officer of the Government when addressed officially.	Members of Congress may frank official letters to Government officers.

Approved, March 3, 1891.

CHAP. 548.—An act making appropriations for the payment of invalid and pensions of the United States, for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-two, and for other purposes.

March 3, 1891.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following sums be, and the same are hereby, appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the payment of pensions for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-two, and for other purposes, namely:

For Army and Navy pensions, as follows: For invalids, widows, minor children, and dependent relatives; survivors and widows of

Pensions appropriations.

Invalid, etc., pensions.

<i>Provisos.</i>	the war of eighteen hundred and twelve and with Mexico, one hundred and thirty-three million one hundred and seventy-three thousand and eighty-five dollars: <i>Provided</i> , That the appropriation aforesaid for Navy pensions shall be paid from the income of the Navy pension fund, so far as the same, may be sufficient for that purpose:
Navy pensions.	<i>And provided further</i> , That the amount expended under each of the above items shall be accounted for separately. <i>And provided further</i> ,
Accounts.	That hereafter no pension shall be allowed or paid to any officer, non commissioned officer, or private in the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps of the United States, either on the active or retired list. <i>Provided also</i> , That hereafter no agent or attorney shall demand, receive, or be allowed any compensation under existing law exceeding two dollars in any claim for increase of pension on account of the increase of the disability for which the pension has been allowed, or for services rendered in securing the passage of any special act of Congress granting a pension or an increase of pension in any case that has been presented at the Pension Office or is allowable under the general pension laws: <i>And provided further</i> , That any agent, attorney, or other person instrumental in prosecuting any claim for increase of pension on account of the increase of disability for which pension was allowed, or who has rendered services in procuring the passage of any special act of Congress granting a pension or an increase of pension in any case that has been presented at the Pension Office or is allowable under the general pension laws, who shall directly or indirectly contract for, demand, receive, or retain any compensation for such services, except as hereinbefore provided, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall, for each and every such offense, be fined not exceeding five hundred dollars or imprisoned, not exceeding two years or both, in the discretion of the court: <i>Provided, however</i> , That the foregoing provisions in relation to fees of agents or attorneys shall not apply to any case now pending where there is an existing lawful contract express or implied.
Pensions not allowed to persons in Army or Naval service.	
Fee for increase, etc., claims.	
Penalty for taking illegal fee.	
Pending contracts.	
Examining surgeons fees.	For fees and expenses of examining surgeons for services rendered within the fiscal year eighteen hundred and ninety-two, one million five hundred thousand dollars. And each member of each examining board shall, as now authorized by law, receive the sum of two dollars for the examination of each applicant whenever five or a less number shall be examined on any one day, and one dollar for the examination of each additional applicant on such day: <i>Provided</i> , That if twenty or more applicants appear on one day no fewer than twenty shall, if practicable, be examined on said day, and that if fewer examinations be then made, twenty or more having appeared then there shall be paid for the first examinations made on the next examination day the fee of one dollar only until twenty examinations shall have been made.
<i>Proviso.</i>	
Examinations.	
Agents salaries.	For salaries of eighteen agents for the payment of pensions, at four thousand dollars each, seventy-two thousand dollars.
Clerk hire.	For clerk hire, four hundred thousand dollars: <i>Provided</i> , That the amount of clerk hire for each agency shall be apportioned as nearly as practicable in proportion to the number of pensioners paid at each agency, and the salaries paid shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.
<i>Proviso.</i> Apportionment.	
Fuel.	For fuel, seven hundred and fifty dollars.
Lights.	For lights, seven hundred and fifty dollars.
Stationery.	For stationery and other necessary expenses, to be approved by the Secretary of the Interior, thirty-five thousand dollars.
Rent.	For rents, eighteen thousand two hundred dollars.
Agencies to be arranged in three groups.	SEC. 2. That the Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized and directed to arrange the various agencies for the payment of pensions in three groups as he may think proper, and may from time to time change any agency from one group to another as he may deem convenient for the transaction of the public business. The first

group shall make their quarterly payments of pensions on January fourth, April fourth, July fourth, and October fourth of each year; the second group shall make their quarterly payments of pensions on February fourth, May fourth, August fourth, and November fourth of each year; and the third group shall make their quarterly payments of pensions on March fourth, June fourth, September fourth, and December fourth of each year. The Secretary of the Interior is hereby fully authorized to cause payments of pensions to be made for the fractional parts of quarters created by such change, so as to properly adjust all payments as herein provided. Section forty-seven hundred and sixty-four of the Revised Statutes is hereby so amended as to conform to the changes in the time of payments provided herein, and is made applicable thereto.

Quarterly payments to groups.

R. S., sec. 4764, p. 926, amended.

The sum of fifteen thousand dollars is hereby appropriated to meet the expenses involved in carrying into effect the changes herein provided for.

Expenses of change.

SEC. 3. That the same power to administer oaths and take affidavits, which by virtue of section forty-seven hundred and forty-four of the Revised Statutes is conferred upon clerks detailed by the Commissioner of Pensions from his office to investigate suspected attempts at fraud on the Government through and by virtue of the pension laws, and to aid in prosecuting any person so offending, shall be, and is hereby, extended to all special examiners or additional special examiners employed under authority of Congress to aid in the same purpose.

Investigating officers may administer oaths, etc.

R. S., sec. 4744, p. 923.

Approved, March 3, 1891.

March 3, 1891.

CHAP. 549.—An act authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury, in his discretion, to suspend for a period of one year from March twenty-ninth, eighteen hundred and ninety-one, the provisions of an act approved March second, eighteen hundred and eighty-nine, entitled "An act to amend sections forty-four hundred and eighty-eight and forty-four hundred and eighty-nine of the Revised Statutes, requiring life-saving appliances on steamers," so far as they relate to steamers plying exclusively upon any of the lakes or bays of the United States;

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 be, and he is hereby, authorized, in his discretion, to suspend for a period of one year from the twenty ninth day of March, eighteen hundred and ninety-one, so far as they relate to steamers plying exclusively upon any of the lakes or bays of the United States, the provisions of an act to amend sections forty-four hundred and eighty eight and forty-four hundred and eighty nine of the Revised Statutes, of the United States, approved, March second, eighteen hundred and eighty-nine, requiring line-carrying projectiles and the means of propelling them to be carried on steamers, and the rules and regulations relating thereto adopted by the Board of Supervising Inspectors, approved by the Secretary of the Treasury March second eighteen hundred and ninety.

Suspension as to lakes, etc., of law requiring line-carrying projectiles on steamers.

R. S., secs. 4488, 4489 p. 808. Vol. 25, p. 1012.

Ante, p. 32.

The Secretary of the Treasury is hereby directed to make a series of experiments with such line carrying projectiles and the means of propelling them as may be submitted, and to report the same to Congress, at the beginning of the first session of the Fifty-second Congress, and also his opinion as to whether necessity exists for such life-saving appliances as are now required by the regulations of the Treasury Department under the aforesaid sections of the Revised Statutes, as amended, and as to what changes, if any, in such law or regulations may be deemed advisable by him to meet the interests of life-saving and the shipping interests alike.

Experiments, etc., of life-saving appliances.

Approved, March 3, 1891.