

# ACTS OF THE FOURTEENTH CONGRESS

OF THE

## UNITED STATES,

*Passed at the first session, which was begun and held at the City of Washington, in the District of Columbia, on Monday the fourth day of December, 1815, and ended on the thirtieth day of April, 1816.*

JAMES MADISON, President of the United States; JOHN GAILLARD, President of the Senate, pro tempore; HENRY CLAY, Speaker of the House of Representatives. (a)

### STATUTE I.

CHAP. I.—*An Act to authorize the President of the United States, to lease for the term therein mentioned, the new building on Capitol hill, with the appurtenances, for the better accommodation of Congress.*

Dec. 8, 1815.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled,* That the President of the United States be, and he hereby is authorized to lease in behalf of the United States, from the owners thereof, the new building on Capitol Hill, on square seven hundred and twenty-eight, with the adjoining buildings and appurtenances, for the term of one year next after the passing of this act, and from thence until the capitol is in a state of readiness for the reception of Congress, at a rent not exceeding sixteen hundred and fifty dollars per annum, to be paid half yearly by the United States: *Provided always,* That any lease to be executed by virtue of this act shall and may be determinable, at any time after the expiration of the first year, at the pleasure of Congress.

President authorized to lease a house on Capitol hill, for the use of Congress.

Proviso.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That so soon as the lease aforesaid shall have been duly executed, it shall and may be lawful for the President of the United States, to pay to the owners aforesaid, the sum of five thousand dollars, for fixtures, and other extraordinary expenses, incurred in fitting up the said buildings, and otherwise preparing them for the better accommodation of Congress; and that for this purpose the sum of five thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated, to be paid out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

A sum to be paid for fixtures, &c.

Appropriation of \$5000.

APPROVED, December 8, 1815.

STATUTE I.

CHAP. II.—*An Act making additional appropriations to defray the expenses of the army and militia, during the late war with Great Britain.*

Dec. 21, 1815.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled,* That for defraying the expenses of the military establishment, and those incurred by calling out the militia, during the late war with Great Britain, in addition to the

(a) The decease of the Honourable Elbridge Gerry, Vice President of the United States, took place before the meeting of Congress in December, 1815.

sums heretofore appropriated by law, to those objects, the following sums be, and they are hereby appropriated, viz.:

Specific appropriations.

For the quarter master's department, nine hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

For the pay of the army and militia, five million six hundred and seventeen thousand dollars.

For the subsistence of the army and militia, two millions three hundred and ten thousand three hundred and seventy-two dollars.

For forage, sixty thousand dollars.

For clothing, one hundred and eight thousand dollars.

For bounties and premiums, four hundred thousand dollars.

For the medical and hospital department, one hundred thousand dollars.

For fortifications, two hundred thousand dollars.

For the ordnance department, one hundred and forty thousand dollars.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the several appropriations herein before made, shall be paid out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

APPROVED, December 21, 1815.

STATUTE I.

Jan. 17, 1816.

CHAP. III.—*An Act to enlarge the time for ascertaining the annual transfers and changes of property subject to the direct tax, and for other purposes.*

Further time allowed to principal assessors for ascertaining transfers and changes of property.

Further time also allowed for notifying collectors to proceed to the collection, &c.

Change of times to be applicable to furniture tax, &c.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled*, That instead of the month of January, heretofore prescribed by law to the principal assessors, for inquiring and ascertaining annually, what transfers and changes of property have been made and effected in their respective districts, subsequent to the next preceding valuation, assessment, and apportionment of the direct tax, the month of April, annually, shall be, and the same is hereby substituted and prescribed for that purpose. And instead of the month of May, heretofore prescribed by law, for annually notifying the collectors of the several collection districts, to proceed to the collection of the direct tax, the Secretary of the Treasury may substitute the month of June, annually, if such enlargement of the time be, in his opinion, proper and necessary.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the change of times, by this act prescribed and authorized in relation to the direct tax, shall also be allowed and applied in relation to the duties on household furniture, and gold and silver watches.

APPROVED, January 17, 1816.

STATUTE I.

Feb. 1, 1816.

CHAP. VII.—*An Act to repeal so much of an act, passed on the twenty-third day of December, one thousand eight hundred and fourteen, as imposes additional duties on postage.*

Repeal of postage imposed by the act of Dec. 23, 1814, ch. 16, sect. 2.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled*, That from and after the thirty-first day of March next, so much of the act, entitled "An act to provide additional revenues for defraying the expenses of government and maintaining the public credit, by duties on sales at auction, and on licenses to retail wines, spirituous liquors, and foreign merchandise, and for increasing the rates of postage," passed the twenty-third day of December, one thousand eight hundred and fourteen, as imposes additional duties on postage, be, and the same is hereby repealed.

APPROVED, February 1, 1816.