

a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars and not less than one hundred dollars, and suffer imprisonment in the common jail not less than one month nor more than twelve months.

No person to be held criminally for any matter respecting which he has been required to testify before either House of Congress or any committee.

Nothing disclosed by such witness to be evidence against him.

No such witness excused from answering on the ground that he will criminate himself.

Proviso for punishing perjury in such witness.

Witnesses failing to testify, how brought to trial.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That no person examined and testifying before either House of Congress, or any committee of either House, shall be held to answer criminally in any court of justice, or subject to any penalty or forfeiture for any fact or act touching which he shall be required to testify before either House of Congress or any committee of either House as to which he shall have testified whether before or after the date of this act, and that no statement made or paper produced by any witness before either House of Congress or before any committee of either House, shall be competent testimony in any criminal proceeding against such witness in any court of justice; and no witness shall hereafter be allowed to refuse to testify to any fact or to produce any paper touching which he shall be examined by either House of Congress, or any committee of either House, for the reason that his testimony touching such fact or the production of such paper may tend to disgrace him or otherwise render him infamous: *Provided*, That nothing in this act shall be construed to exempt any witness from prosecution and punishment for perjury committed by him in testifying as aforesaid.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That when a witness shall fail to testify, as provided in the previous sections of this act, and the facts shall be reported to the House, it shall be the duty of the Speaker of the House or the President of the Senate to certify the fact under the seal of the House or Senate to the district attorney for the District of Columbia, whose duty it shall be to bring the matter before the grand jury for their action.

APPROVED, January 24, 1857.

Jan. 26, 1857.

CHAP. XXIV.—*An Act making a Reappropriation from the Surplus Fund for the Relief of Lieutenant John Guest, United States Navy, and others.*

Balance of appropriations for coast survey carried to surplus fund, reappropriated for John Guest and others.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the sum of one thousand seven hundred and sixty dollars and forty-nine cents, being the balance remaining of the appropriations made by Congress in the years eighteen hundred and forty, and eighteen hundred and forty-one, for the survey of the coast from Apalachicola bay to the mouth of the Mississippi River, for the ascertainment of the practicability of establishing a navy yard and naval station which should best subserve the protection of the commerce of the Gulf of Mexico, which balance has been carried to the credit of the surplus fund, be and the same is hereby reappropriated, for the payment of the sum due Lieutenant John Guest, United States Navy, (six hundred and seventeen dollars,) for services rendered in such survey, and for other lawful claims of officers who were employed in that survey.

APPROVED, January 26, 1857.

Jan. 28, 1857.

CHAP. XXV.—*An Act authorizing the establishing of a Navy Depot on Blythe Island, at Brunswick, on the Coast of Georgia, and for other Purposes.*

A site on Blythe Island (Ga.) to be purchased for a naval depot. Buildings.

Appropriation.

*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 is hereby authorized to purchase a site for a navy depot on Blythe Island, on the coast of Georgia, and to erect such buildings and make such improvements as may be necessary for the repair of United States vessels of war, and afford refuge therefor, and that the sum of two hundred thousand dollars be appropriated for effecting that object, out of any moneys in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

APPROVED, January 28, 1857.