term not exceeding five years, at such place or places as shall be agreed upon, all negroes, mulattoes, or persons of color, delivered from on board vessels seized in the prosecution of the slave trade by commanders of United States armed vessels, and to provide them with suitable instruction, and with comfortable clothing and shelter, and to employ them, at wages, under such regulations as shall be agreed upon, for a period not exceeding five years from the date of their being landed at the place or places agreed upon: Provided, That the United States incur no expenses on account of said negroes, mulattoes, or persons of color, after having landed them at the place or places agreed upon: And provided, further, That any arrangement so made as aforesaid may be renewed by the President of the United States from time to time, as may be found necessary or desirable, for periods not exceeding five years on each renewal.

SECTION 2. And be it further enacted, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized to issue instructions to the commanders of the armed vessels of the United States, directing them, whenever it shall be practicable, and under such rules and regulations as he shall prescribe, to proceed directly to such place or places as shall have been agreed upon with any foreign government, or its duly constituted agent or agents, under the provisions of the first section of this act, and there deliver to the duly constituted authorities, or agents of such foreign governments, all negroes, mulattoes, or persons of color, delivered from on board vessels seized in the prosecution of the slave trade, afterwards taking the vessel and persons engaged in prosecuting the slave trade to the proper place for trial and adjudication.

APPROVED, July 17, 1862.

CHAP. CXCIX. — An Act to provide for the more prompt Settlement of the Accounts of Disbursing Officers.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That from and after the passage of this act any officer or agent of the United States who shall receive public money which he is not authorized to retain as salary, pay or emolument, shall render his accounts monthly, instead of quarterly, as heretofore; and such accounts, with the vouchers necessary to the correct and prompt settlement thereof, shall be rendered direct to the proper accounting officer of the treasury, and be mailed or otherwise forwarded to its proper address within ten days after the expiration of each successive month. And in case of the non-receipt at the treasury of any accounts within a reasonable and proper time thereafter, the officer whose accounts are in default shall be required to furnish satisfactory evidence of having complied with the provisions of this act; and for any default on his part, the delinquent officer shall be deemed a defaulter, and be subject to all the penalties prescribed by the sixteenth section of the act of August sixth, eighteen hundred and forty-six, "to provide for the better organization of the treasury, and for the collection, safe-keeping, transfer and disbursement of the public revenue;" Provided, That the Secretary of the Treasury may, if in his opinion the circumstances of the case justify and...