be done to the men and to the United States in the settlement of the accounts. Any commanding officer offending herein shall be punished at the discretion of a court-martial.

SEC. 17. And be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of the commanding officer of any fleet, squadron, or vessel acting singly, when on service, to send to an Atlantic port of the United States in some public or other vessel, all petty officers and persons of inferior ratings desiring to go there at the expiration of their terms of service, or as soon thereafter as may be, unless in his opinion the detention of such persons for a longer period should be very essential to the public interests; in which case he may detain them or any of them until the vessel to which they belong shall return to such Atlantic port; and in case of such detention the person so sent home, or so detained, shall be subject in all respects to the laws and regulations for the government of the Navy, until their return to an Atlantic port, and their regular discharge; and all persons who shall be so detained beyond their terms of service, or who shall, after the termination of their service voluntarily reenter to serve until the return to an Atlantic port of the vessel to which they belong, and their regular discharge therefore, shall for the time during which they are so detained, or shall so serve beyond their original terms of service, which shall in no case exceed thirty days after their arrival in an Atlantic port, receive an addition of one-fourth of their former pay: Provided, That the shipping articles shall hereafter contain the substance of this section.

SEC. 18. And be it further enacted, That all officers not holding commissions or warrants, or who are not entitled to them, except such as are temporarily appointed to the duties of a commissioned or warrant officer, or secretaries and clerks, shall be deemed petty officers, and shall be entitled to obedience in the execution of their offices from those of inferior ratings.

SEC. 19. And be it further enacted, That the Secretary of the Navy shall cause each commissioned or warrant officer of the navy, on his entry into the service, to be furnished with a copy of the regulations and general orders of the department then in force, and thereafter with a copy of all such as may be issued.

SEC. 20. And be it further enacted, That all provisions of previous laws which are inconsistent with those of this act, shall be and are hereby repealed.

APPROVED, July 17, 1862.

July 17, 1862.

CHAP. CCCV. — An Act requiring the Commanders of American Vessels sailing to foreign Ports and Persons prosecuting Claims, to take the Oath of Allegiance.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the commanders of all American vessels sailing from ports in the United States to foreign ports, during the continuance of the present rebellion, and all persons prosecuting claims either as attorney or on his own account, before any of the departments or bureaus of the United States, shall be required to take the oath of allegiance, and to support the Constitution of the United States, (or affirm, as the case may be,) as required of persons in the civil service of the United States by the provisions of the act of Congress approved August sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That the oath or affirmation herein provided for in the first section of this act may be taken before any justice of the peace, notary public, or other person who is legally authorized to administer an oath in the State or district where the same may be administered; and that any violation of such oath by any person or persons taking the same shall subject the offender to all the pains and penalties of wilful and corrupt perjury, who shall be liable to be indicted and prosecuted to conviction for any such offence before any court having competent jurisdiction thereof.

APPROVED, July 17, 1862.