An Act to modify existing Laws imposing Duties on Imports, and for other Purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all goods, wares, and merchandise now in public stores or bonded warehouses, on which duties are unpaid, having been in bond more than one year and less than three years, when the act entitled “An act increasing temporarily, the duties on imports, and for other purposes,” approved July fourteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, went into effect, may be entered for consumption and the bonds cancelled, at any time before the first day of June next, on payment of duties at the rates prescribed by the act aforesaid, and all acts, and parts of acts, inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That section fourteen of an act entitled “An act increasing temporarily the duties on imports, and for other purposes,” approved July fourteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, be, and the same hereby is, modified so as to allow cotton and raw silk as reeled from the cocoon, of the growth or produce of countries beyond the Cape of Good Hope, to be exempt from any additional duty when imported from places this side of the Cape of Good Hope, for two years from and after the passage of this act.

SEC. 3. And be it further enacted, That so much of an act entitled “An act to authorize protection to be given to citizens of the United States, who may discover deposits of guano,” approved August eighteen, one hundred and fifty-six, as prohibits the export thereof, is hereby suspended in relation to all persons who have complied with the provisions of section second of said act for two years from and after July fourteenth, eighteen hundred and fifty-six.

SEC. 4. And be it further enacted, That the proviso in section fifteen of an act entitled “An act increasing temporarily the duties on imports, and for other purposes,” approved July fourteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, shall be construed to include any ship, vessel, or steamer to or from any port or place south of Mexico down to and including Aspinwall and Panama.

SEC. 5. And be it further enacted, That in lieu of the duties now imposed by law there shall be levied and collected upon printing paper unsized, used for books and newspapers exclusively, twenty per centum ad valorem; upon seedlac and sticklac the same duties now imposed upon polishing powders, twenty-five per centum ad valorem.

SEC. 6. And be it further enacted, That from and after the passage of this act, the duty on petroleum and coal illuminating oil, crude and not refined, when imported from foreign countries in a crude state, shall be twenty per centum ad valorem, and no more.

SEC. 7. And be it further enacted, That from and after the passage of this act, there shall be allowed a drawback on foreign saltpetre, manufactured into gunpowder in the United States and exported therefrom, equal in amount to the duty paid on the foreign saltpetre from which it shall be manufactured, to be ascertained under such regulations as shall be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, and no more: Provided, That
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ten per centum on the amount of all drawbacks so allowed shall be re-
tained for the use of the United States by the collectors paying such
drawbacks respectively.

APPROVED, March 3, 1863.

CHAP. LXXVIII. — An Act to promote the Efficiency of the Corps of Engineers and of
the Ordnance Department, and for other Purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United
States of America in Congress assembled, That the corps of topographical
engineers, as a distinct branch of the army, is hereby abolished, and from
and after the passage of this act, is merged into the corps of engineers,
which shall have the following organization, viz: one chief engineer, with
the rank, pay, and emoluments of a brigadier-general; four colonels; ten
lieutenant-colonels; twenty majors; thirty captains; thirty first lieutenants,
and ten second lieutenants.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That the general officer provided by
the first section of this act shall be selected from the corps of engineers as
therein established; and that officers of all lower grades shall take rank
according to their respective dates of commission in the existing corps of
engineers or corps of topographical engineers.

SEC. 3. And be it further enacted, That no officer of the corps of engi-
neers below the rank of a field-officer shall, hereafter, be promoted to a
higher grade before having passed a satisfactory examination before a
board of three engineers senior to him in rank; and should the officer fail
at said examination, he shall be suspended from promotion from one year,
when he shall be reexamined, and, upon a second failure, shall be dropped
by the President from the army.

SEC. 4. And be it further enacted, That there shall be added to the
ordnance department one lieutenant-colonel, two majors, eight captains,
eight first lieutenants; the additional officers herein authorized to be
appointed by promotion, so far as the present officers of the ordnance
corps will permit; and the residue to be appointed from other regiments or
corps of the army: Provided, That no officer of the ord-
nance department below the rank of a field-officer shall be promoted or
commissioned to a higher grade, nor shall any officer of the army be com-
missioned as an ordnance officer until he shall have passed a satisfactory
examination before a board of not less than three ordnance officers, senior
to him in rank; and should such officer fail on such examination he shall
be suspended from promotion or appointment for one year, when he may
be reexamined before a like board; and if, upon such second examination,
an ordnance officer fail, he shall be dismissed from the service, and if an
officer of the army he shall not be commissioned.

SEC. 5. And be it further enacted, That section two of the act approved
March three, eighteen hundred and forty-nine, entitled “An act to pro-
vide for the payment of horses and other property lost or destroyed in
the military service of the United States,” shall be construed to include
steamboats and railroad engines lost or destroyed in military service to be
paid for.

SEC. 6. And be it further enacted, That all payments of advance bounty
made to enlisted men who have been discharged before serving out the
term required by law for its payment in full shall be allowed in the set-
tlement of the accounts of paymasters at the treasury; but hereafter, in
all such cases, the amount so advanced shall be charged against the en-
listed men, unless the discharge be upon surgeon’s certificate for wounds
received or sickness incurred since their last enlistment.

SEC. 7. And be it further enacted, That upon any requisition here-
after being made by the President of the United States for militia, any
persons drafted,