made for the payment of pensions, in the same manner as the ordinary fees
of appointed surgeons are or may be authorized to be paid.

Sec. 38. That the Secretary of the Interior be, and is hereby, author-
ized to appoint a duly qualified surgeon as medical referee, who, under the
control and direction of the commissioner of pensions, shall have charge of
the examination and revision of the reports of examining surgeons, and
such other duties touching medical and surgical questions in the pension-
office, as the interests of the service may demand; and his salary shall be
two thousand five hundred dollars per annum. And the Secretary of the
Interior is further authorized to appoint such qualified surgeons (not
exceeding four) as the exigencies of the service may require, who may
perform the duties of examining surgeons when so required, and who shall
be borne upon the rolls as clerks of the fourth class: Provided, That such
appointments shall not increase the clerical force of said bureau.

Sec. 39. That all acts and parts of acts inconsistent or in conflict with
the foregoing provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

Approved, March 3, 1873.

Chap. CCXXXV.—An Act to declare the true Intent and Meaning of the Act approved
June eighth, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, amendatory of the General Bankrupt
Law.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United
States of America, in Congress assembled, That it was the true intent and
meaning of an act approved June eighth, eighteen hundred and seventy-
two, entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to establish a
uniform system of bankruptcy throughout the United States,' approved
March second, eighteen hundred and sixty-seven," that the exemptions
allowed the bankrupt by the said amendatory act should, and it is hereby
enacted that they shall, be the amount allowed by the constitution and
laws of each State, respectively, as existing in the year eighteen hundred
and seventy-one; and that such exemptions be valid against debts con-
tracted before the adoption and passage of such State constitution and
laws, as well as those contracted after the same, and against liens by judg-
ment or decree of any State court, any decision of any such court rendered
since the adoption and passage of such constitution and laws to the con-
trary notwithstanding.

Approved, March 3, 1873.

Chap. CCXXXVI.—An Act to extend for four Years the Act establishing the Board of
Commissioners of Claims, and the Acts relating thereto.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United
States of America, in Congress assembled, That the second, third, fourth,
fifth and sixth sections of the act entitled "An act making appropriations
for the support of the army for the year ending June thirtieth, eighteen
hundred and seventy-two, and for other purposes," approved March third,
eighteen hundred and seventy-one, and the act entitled "An act to author-
ize the commissioners of claims to appoint special commissioners to take
testimony and for other purposes," approved May eleventh, eighteen hun-
dred and seventy-two, be, and the same are hereby, extended and continued
in force for four years from the tenth day of March, anno Domini eighteen
hundred and seventy-three.

Sec. 2. That the commissioners of claims shall not receive any petition
for the allowance of any claim or claims unless such petition shall be pre-
SENTED to and filed with them on or before the third day of March, eigh-
teen hundred and seventy-three; and all claims so presented shall be
deemed to be barred forever thereafter.

Approved, March 3, 1873.