and a commission on all customs money collected and accounted for by him, such salary, fees, and commissions not to exceed the sum of two thousand five hundred dollars per annum; and said deputy collectors shall each be allowed a compensation of one thousand dollars per annum.

Approved, March 3, 1873.

March 3, 1873.

CHAP. CCLXV. — An Act to provide for the Payment in Gold of certain Wages to Seamen in foreign Countries.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That moneys paid under the laws of the United States, by direction of consular officers or agents, at any foreign port or place, as wages, extra or otherwise, due American seamen, shall be paid in gold or its equivalent, without any deduction whatever, any contract to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved, March 3, 1873.

March 3, 1873.

CHAP. CCLXVI. — An Act to authorize Pre-emptors or Settlers upon Homesteads on the public Land to alienate Portions of their Pre-emptions or Homesteads for certain public Purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That any person who has already settled or hereafter may settle on the public lands of the United States, either by pre-emption, or by virtue of the homestead law or any amendments thereto, shall have the right to transfer by warranty, against his or her own acts, any portion of his or her said pre-emption or homestead for church, cemetery, or school purposes, or for the right of way of railroads across such pre-emption or homestead, and the transfer for such public purposes shall in no way vitiate the right to complete and perfect the title to their pre-emptions or homesteads.

Approved, March 3, 1873.

March 3, 1873.

CHAP. CCLXVII. — An Act to provide for the Care and Preservation of the Cemetery near the City of Mexico, purchased in Accordance with the Act of September twenty-eighth, eighteen hundred and fifty.

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 is authorized to provide out of the ordinary appropriations for establishing and maintaining United States military cemeteries, for the proper care and preservation and maintenance of the cemetery or burial-ground near the city of Mexico, in which are interred the remains of officers and soldiers of the United States, and of citizens of the United States, who fell in battle or died in and around said city; and that this cemetery shall be subject to the rules and regulations affecting United States national military cemeteries within the limits of the United States, so far as they may, in the opinion of the President, be applicable thereto.

Approved, March 3, 1873.

March 3, 1873.

CHAP. CCLXVIII. — An Act to establish the Custom-house Value of the Sovereign or Pound sterling of Great Britain, and to fix the Par of Exchange.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the value of foreign coin as expressed in the money of account of the United States shall be that of the pure metal of such coin of standard value; and the values of the standard coins in circulation of the various nations of the world shall be estimated annually by the director of the mint, and be proclaimed on the first day of January by the Secretary of the Treasury.
SEC. 2. That in all payments by or to the treasury, whether made here or in foreign countries, where it becomes necessary to compute the value of the sovereign or pound sterling, it shall be deemed equal to four dollars eighty-six cents and six and one-half mills, and the same rule shall be applied in appraising merchandise imported where the value is, by the invoice, in sovereigns or pounds sterling, and in the construction of contracts payable in sovereigns or pounds sterling; and this valuation shall be the par of exchange between Great Britain and the United States; and all contracts made after the first day of January, eighteen hundred and seventy-four, based on an assumed par of exchange with Great Britain of fifty-four pence to the dollar, or four dollars forty-four and four-ninths cents to the sovereign or pound sterling, shall be null and void.

Sec. 3. That all acts and parts of acts inconsistent with these provisions be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

Approved, March 3, 1873.

CHAP. CCLXIX.—An Act to require national Banks to restore their Capital when impaired, and to amend the National-currency Act.

Sec. 2. That section fifty-seven of said act be amended by adding thereto the following: "And provided further, That no attachment, injunction, or execution shall be issued against such association, or its property, before final judgment in any such suit, action, or proceeding in any State, county, or municipal court."

Sec. 3. That all banks not organized, and transacting business under the national-currency act, and all persons, companies or corporations doing the business of bankers, brokers, or savings institutions, except saving-banks, authorized by Congress to use the word "national" as a part of their corporate name, are prohibited from using the word "national" as a portion of the name or title of such bank, corporation, firm, or partnership; and every such bank, corporation, or firm, which shall use word "national" as a portion of their corporate title or partnership name six months after the passage of this act, shall be subject to a penalty of fifty dollars for each day thereafter in which such word shall be employed as aforesaid as part of such corporate name or title, such penalty to be recovered by action in any court having jurisdiction.

Sec. 4. That it shall be the duty of the comptroller of the currency to cause to be examined each year the plates, dies, but-pieces, and other material from which the national-bank circulation is printed in whole or in part, and file in his office annually a correct list of the same; and such material as shall have been used in the printing of the notes of national banks which are in liquidation, or have closed business, shall be destroyed under such regulations as shall be prescribed by the comp-
troller of the currency, and approved by the Secretary of the Treasury; and the expense of such examination and destruction shall be paid out of any appropriation made by Congress for the special examination of national banks and bank plates.

Approved, March 3, 1873.

March 3, 1873.

CHAP. CCLXX. — An Act to confer upon the Superintendent of the United States Military Academy the Power to convene general Courts-martial.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the superintendent of the United States Military Academy shall have power to convene general courts-martial for the trial of cadets, and to execute the sentences of such courts, except the sentences of suspension and dismissal, subject to the same limitations and conditions now existing as to other general courts-martial.

Approved, March 3, 1873.

March 3, 1873.

CHAP. CCLXXI. — An Act authorizing deputy Collectors and other Officers of the Customs to act as disbursing Agents in certain Cases.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in case of the sickness or unavoidable absence of any collector or surveyor of customs from his office, he may with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, authorize some officer or clerk under him to act in his place, and to discharge all the duties required by law of such collector or surveyor in his capacity as disbursing agent: Provided, That the official bond given by the principal of the office shall be held to cover and apply to the acts of the person appointed to act in his place in such cases.

Approved, March 3, 1873.

March 3, 1873.

CHAP. CCLXXII. — An Act to authorize certain Postmasters to deposit public Moneys in national Banks.

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 it shall be lawful for any postmaster, having public money belonging to the government, where there are no designated depositaries, treasurers of mints, or treasurer or assistant treasurers of the United States, within the county, to deposit the same at his own risk and in his official capacity, in any national bank in the town, city, or county where the said postmaster resides; but no authority or permission is or shall be given for the demand or receipt by the postmaster, or any other person, of interest, directly or indirectly, on any deposit made as herein described; and it shall be the duty of all postmasters who have made any such deposit to report quarterly to the Postmaster-General, the name of the bank where such deposits have been made, and also state the amount which may stand at the time to their credit.

Approved, March 3, 1873.

March 3, 1873.

CHAP. CCLXXIII. — An Act to fix the Compensation of the Deputy Collector of Customs at Saint Paul.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the compensation including official emoluments of all kinds of the officer appointed in pursuance of the second section of the act entitled "An act to establish the collection district of Du Luth, and to create Saint Paul, in the collection district of Minnesota, a port of delivery," approved May twenty-third, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, shall not exceed the sum of two