

**CHAP. 326.**—An Act To cause the removal of weeds from lands in the city of Washington, District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

March 1, 1899.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That it shall be the duty of the owner, occupant, or agent in charge of any land in the city of Washington, District of Columbia, or in the more densely populated suburbs of said city to remove from such land any weeds thereon of four or more inches in height within seven days (Sundays and legal holidays excepted) after notice from the health officer of said District so to do, and upon failure to comply with such notice he or she shall, on conviction thereof, be punished by a fine of not more than ten dollars for each day said notice is not complied with.

District of Columbia.  
Removal of weeds from land required.

Penalty for failure.

**SEC. 2.** That whenever there are upon any unoccupied land aforesaid weeds of four or more inches in height, and no person can be found in said District who either is or claims to be the owner thereof, or who either represents or claims to represent such owner as aforesaid, the Commissioners of said District shall give notice, by publication twice a week in one daily newspaper published in the city of Washington aforesaid, requiring their removal. Said notice shall specify the land from which such weeds are to be removed, the character of the work to be done, and the time allowed for doing the same; and if such weeds be not removed within the time so specified it shall be the duty of said Commissioners to cause their removal; and the cost of such removal, including the cost of advertising, shall be a lien upon and shall be assessed by said Commissioners as a tax against the property on which said weeds were located, and the said tax so assessed shall bear interest at the rate of ten per centum per annum till paid, and shall be carried on the regular tax rolls of said District and be collected in the manner provided for the collection of general taxes.

Publication of notice to unknown owner of land.

Removal by Commissioners.

—costs.

**SEC. 3.** That prosecutions under this Act shall be in the police court of said District, upon information filed by the attorney for said District or one of his assistants.

Procedure.

Approved, March 1, 1899.

**CHAP. 327.**—An Act Making appropriations for the service of the Post-Office Department for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred.

March 1, 1899.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the following sums be, and they are hereby, appropriated for the service of the Post-Office Department, in conformity with the Act of July second, eighteen hundred and thirty-six, as follows:

Postal service appropriations.  
Vol. 5, p. 80.

**OFFICE OF THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL.**

Postmaster-General.

For advertising, seven thousand dollars.

Advertising.  
Miscellaneous.

For miscellaneous items in the office of the Postmaster-General, one thousand dollars.

For postal service in the territory held by military occupation, and for additional transportation to and from said territory, also including postal service for all military camps or stations, to be used in the discretion of the Postmaster-General, three hundred thousand dollars.

For service in territory held by military occupation, etc.

**OFFICE OF THE FIRST ASSISTANT POSTMASTER-GENERAL.**

First Assistant Postmaster-General.

For compensation to postmasters, seventeen million dollars.

Postmasters.

For compensation to clerks in post-offices:

Clerks, etc.

Four hundred clerks in charge of substations, at one hundred dollars each, forty thousand dollars;

—at \$100 each.

One hundred and fifty clerks in charge of substations, at two hundred dollars each, thirty thousand dollars;

—at \$200.

- at \$300. One hundred and fifty clerks in charge of substations, and stampers, messengers, watchmen, janitors, and porters, at three hundred dollars each, forty-five thousand dollars;
- at \$400. Six hundred and thirty-seven stampers, mail messengers, pressmen, messengers, watchmen, laborers, janitors, porters, firemen, carpenters, waste-paper examiners, general-utility clerks, and clerks in charge of stations, at four hundred dollars each, two hundred and fifty-four thousand eight hundred dollars;
- at \$500. One thousand one hundred and ninety-three stampers, mail messengers, pressmen, messengers, watchmen, laborers, janitors, porters, firemen, carpenters, waste-paper examiners, general-utility clerks, and clerks in charge of stations, at five hundred dollars each, five hundred and ninety-six thousand five hundred dollars;
- at \$600. Two thousand five hundred and thirty-nine mailing clerks, letter distributors, dispatchers, registry clerks, money-order clerks, directory clerks, nixie clerks, separators, assorters, record clerks, general-delivery clerks, inquiry clerks, special-delivery clerks, raters of third and fourth-class matter, supply clerks, timekeepers, stampers, mail messengers, pressmen, messengers, watchmen, laborers, janitors, porters, firemen, carpenters, waste-paper examiners, general-utility clerks, and clerks in charge of stations, at six hundred dollars each, one million five hundred and twenty-three thousand four hundred dollars;
- at \$700. Two thousand one hundred and two chief clerks, mailing clerks, letter distributors, dispatchers, registry clerks, money-order clerks, directory clerks, nixie clerks, separators, assorters, paper distributors, record clerks, general-delivery clerks, inquiry clerks, special-delivery clerks, raters of third and fourth class matter, supply clerks, timekeepers, stampers, mail messengers, pressmen, messengers, watchmen, laborers, janitors, porters, firemen, carpenters, waste-paper examiners, general-utility clerks, and clerks in charge of stations, at seven hundred dollars each, one million four hundred and seventy-one thousand four hundred dollars;
- at \$800. Two thousand one hundred and seventy-five chief clerks, mailing clerks, letter distributors, dispatchers, registry clerks, money-order clerks, directory clerks, nixie clerks, separators, assorters, paper distributors, record clerks, general-delivery clerks, inquiry clerks, special-delivery clerks, raters of third and fourth class matter, supply clerks, timekeepers, mail messengers, and clerks in charge of stations, at eight hundred dollars each, one million seven hundred and forty thousand dollars;
- at \$900. One thousand seven hundred chief clerks, stamp clerks, assistant superintendents of money order, foremen of crews, mailing clerks, letter distributors, dispatchers, registry clerks, money-order clerks, directory clerks, nixie clerks, separators, assorters, paper distributors, record clerks, general-delivery clerks, inquiry clerks, special-delivery clerks, raters of third and fourth class matter, weighers of second-class matter, supply clerks, timekeepers, printers, and clerks in charge of stations, at nine hundred dollars each, one million five hundred and thirty thousand dollars;
- at \$1,000. One thousand four hundred and ten chief clerks, stamp clerks, superintendents of registry, assistant superintendents of registry, superintendents of money order, assistant superintendents of money order, foremen of crews, mailing clerks, letter distributors, dispatchers, registry clerks, money-order clerks, nixie clerks, separators, assorters, paper distributors, record clerks, general-delivery clerks, inquiry clerks, special-delivery clerks, raters of third and fourth class matter, weighers of second-class matter, supply clerks, timekeepers, printers, and superintendents of stations, at one thousand dollars each, one million four hundred and ten thousand dollars;
- at \$1,100. Five hundred and ninety-six chief clerks, stamp clerks, superintendents of registry, assistant superintendents of registry, superintendents of money order, assistant superintendents of money order, foremen of crews, mailing clerks, letter distributors, dispatchers, registry clerks,

money-order clerks, nixie clerks, separators, assorters, paper distributors, record clerks, general-delivery clerks, inquiry clerks, special-delivery clerks, raters of third and fourth class matter, weighers of second-class matter, supply clerks, timekeepers, printers, and superintendents of stations, at one thousand one hundred dollars each, six hundred and fifty-five thousand six hundred dollars;

Five hundred and ninety chief clerks, secretaries and stenographers, assistant cashiers, finance clerks, bookkeepers, stamp clerks, assistant superintendents of mails, assistant superintendents of delivery, superintendents of registry, assistant superintendents of registry, superintendents of money order, assistant superintendents of money order, foremen of crews, mailing clerks, letter distributors, dispatchers, registry clerks, money-order clerks, nixie clerks, separators, assorters, paper distributors, record clerks, general-delivery clerks, inquiry clerks, special-delivery clerks, raters of third and fourth class matter, weighers of second-class matter, supply clerks, timekeepers, printers, draftsmen, and superintendents of stations, at one thousand two hundred dollars each, seven hundred and eight thousand dollars; -at \$1,200.

Two hundred and five chief clerks, secretaries and stenographers, assistant cashiers, finance clerks, bookkeepers, stamp clerks, superintendents of mails, superintendents of delivery, assistant superintendents of delivery, superintendents of registry, assistant superintendents of registry, superintendents of money order, foremen of crews, registry clerks, money-order clerks, and superintendents of stations, at one thousand three hundred dollars each, two hundred and sixty-six thousand five hundred dollars; -at \$1,300.

One hundred and fifty-eight chief clerks, secretaries and stenographers, assistant cashiers, finance clerks, bookkeepers, stamp clerks, superintendents of mails, assistant superintendents of mails, superintendents of delivery, assistant superintendents of delivery, superintendents of registry, assistant superintendents of registry, superintendents of money order, assistant superintendents of money order, foremen of crews, mailing clerks, registry clerks, money order clerks, and superintendents of stations, at one thousand four hundred dollars each, two hundred and twenty-one thousand two hundred dollars; -at \$1,400.

One hundred and forty-six chief clerks, assistant postmasters, secretaries and stenographers, finance clerks, bookkeepers, stamp clerks, superintendents of mails, superintendents of delivery, superintendents of registry, assistant superintendents of registry, superintendents of money order, assistant superintendents of money order, and superintendents of stations, at one thousand five hundred dollars each, two hundred and nineteen thousand dollars; -at \$1,500.

One hundred and twelve assistant postmasters, secretaries and stenographers, finance clerks, bookkeepers, stamp clerks, superintendents of mails, superintendents of delivery, superintendents of registry, superintendents of money order, assistant superintendents of money order, and superintendents of stations, at one thousand six hundred dollars each, one hundred and seventy-nine thousand two hundred dollars; -at \$1,600.

Eighty-five assistant postmasters, finance clerks, bookkeepers, stamp clerks, superintendents of mails, superintendents of delivery, superintendents of registry, superintendents of money order, assistant superintendents of money order, and superintendents of stations, at one thousand seven hundred dollars each, one hundred and forty-four thousand five hundred dollars; -at \$1,700.

Fifty-nine assistant postmasters, cashiers, superintendents of mails, superintendents of delivery, superintendents of registry, assistant superintendent of registry, superintendents of money order, assistant superintendents of money order, and superintendents of stations, at one thousand eight hundred dollars each, one hundred and six thousand two hundred dollars; Assistant postmasters, cashiers, etc.  
-at \$1,800.

Eight assistant postmasters, superintendents of mails, superintendents of delivery, superintendents of registry, superintendents of money -at \$1,900.

order, and superintendents of stations, at one thousand nine hundred dollars each, fifteen thousand two hundred dollars;

—at \$2,000.

Forty-eight assistant postmasters, cashiers, superintendents of mails, superintendents of delivery, superintendents of registry, superintendents of money order, and superintendents of stations, at two thousand dollars each, ninety-six thousand dollars;

—at \$2,100.

Six assistant postmasters, superintendents of mails, superintendents of delivery, superintendents of registry, superintendents of money order, and superintendents of stations, at two thousand one hundred dollars each, twelve thousand six hundred dollars;

—at \$2,200.

Twenty-five assistant postmasters, cashiers, superintendents of mails, superintendents of delivery, superintendents of money order, and superintendents of stations, at two thousand two hundred dollars each, fifty-five thousand dollars;

—at \$2,400.

Eighteen assistant postmasters, cashiers, superintendents of mails, superintendents of delivery, superintendents of registry, assistant superintendent of registry, and superintendents of money order, assistant superintendent of money orders, at two thousand four hundred dollars each, forty-three thousand two hundred dollars;

—at \$2,500.

Ten assistant postmasters, superintendents of mails, superintendents of delivery, and superintendents of stations, at two thousand five hundred dollars each, twenty-five thousand dollars;

—at \$2,600.

Eleven assistant postmasters, cashiers, superintendents of mails, superintendents of delivery, at two thousand six hundred dollars each, twenty-eight thousand six hundred dollars;

—at \$2,700.

Ten assistant postmasters, superintendents of mails, superintendents of delivery, at two thousand seven hundred dollars each, twenty-seven thousand dollars;

One assistant postmaster at \$2,900.

One assistant postmaster, at two thousand nine hundred dollars;

Assistant postmasters, etc., New York.

Thirteen assistant postmasters, and auditor, New York, at three thousand dollars each, thirty-nine thousand dollars;

Three superintendents of mails, superintendent of registry, superintendents of money order, New York, at three thousand two hundred dollars each, nine thousand six hundred dollars;

One assistant postmaster, New York, at three thousand five hundred dollars;

Substitutes for clerks on vacation.  
Separating mails.

For substitutes for clerks on vacation, seventy-five thousand dollars;

For separating mails at third and fourth class post-offices, seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars;

Summer resorts, etc.

For temporary clerk hire at summer and winter resort offices, and for holiday and election service, seventy-five thousand dollars;

In all, for clerk hire in post-offices, twelve million three hundred and ninety-eight thousand nine hundred dollars.

Rent, fuel, etc.

For rent, light, and fuel for first, second, and third class post-offices, one million eight hundred thousand dollars: *Provided*, That there shall

*Proviso.*  
—limit. third-class post-office.

not be allowed for the use of any third-class post-office for rent a sum in excess of four hundred dollars, nor more than sixty dollars for fuel and lights, in any one year: *And provided further*, That the Postmaster-General may, in the disbursement of this appropriation, apply a part thereof to the purpose of leasing premises for the use of post-offices of the first, second, and third classes at a reasonable annual rental, to be paid quarterly for a term not exceeding ten years.

—lease of premises for first, etc., class post-offices.

Miscellaneous.

For necessary miscellaneous and incidental items directly connected with first and second class post-offices, including furniture, two hundred thousand dollars: *Provided*, That the Postmaster-General, in his discretion, under such regulations as he shall prescribe, may authorize any of the postmasters of said offices to expend the fund he may allow them for such purposes without the written consent of the Postmaster-General.

*Proviso.*

Expenditures without consent of Postmaster-General.

Advertising.

For advertising at first and second class post-offices, twenty thousand dollars.

Free delivery.  
Letter carriers.

**FREE-DELIVERY SERVICE:** For pay of letter carriers in offices already established, and for substitute letter carriers and for temporary carriers

at summer resorts, holiday and election service, thirteen million six hundred and ninety-seven thousand two hundred dollars.

For pay of letter carriers in new offices entitled to free-delivery service under existing law, sixty thousand dollars. —new offices.

For horse-hire allowance, four hundred and ten thousand dollars. Horse hire.

For car fare and bicycle allowance, one hundred and ninety-five thousand dollars. Car fare, etc.

For incidental expenses, including twelve mechanics in the six largest cities, exclusively employed in repairing boxes and locks, and erecting boxes, planting posts and pedestals, at nine hundred dollars per annum; Incidentals.

letter boxes, package boxes, posts, satchels, repairs, marine free-delivery service at Detroit, one hundred and fifty thousand dollars; in all, fourteen million five hundred and twelve thousand two hundred dollars:

*Provided*, That ten per centum of the foregoing amounts for free-delivery service may be available interchangeably for expenditure on the objects named, but no one item of appropriation shall thereby be increased more than ten per centum. *Proviso.*  
Interchangeable expenditures.

For experimental rural free delivery, including pay of carriers, horse-hire allowance, supplies, and mechanical appliances, three hundred thousand dollars. Rural free delivery.

For stationery for postal service, fifty-five thousand dollars. Stationery.

For wrapping twine, ninety thousand dollars. Twine.

For wrapping paper, thirty thousand dollars. Paper.

For letter balances, scales, and test weights, and repairs to same, ten thousand dollars. Scales.

For postmarking and rating stamps, and repairs to same, and ink and pads for stamping and canceling purposes, forty thousand dollars. Canceling, etc., stamps.

For packing boxes, sawdust, paste, and hardware, one thousand dollars. Packing boxes, etc.

For printing facing slips and cutting same, card slide labels, blanks, and books of an urgent nature for the postal service, twenty thousand dollars. Printing.

For rental or purchase of canceling machines and motors and power therefor, one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. Canceling machines.

Blanks, blank books, and printed matter for the money-order service, one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars. Books, etc.

Rubber and metal stamps and articles pertaining thereto; and for carbon paper and articles pertaining to its use in the issue and payment of money orders, three thousand dollars. Money orders, stamps, etc.

Stationery, exchange on drafts, copying presses, and necessary miscellaneous and incidental expenses for the money-order service, seven thousand five hundred dollars. —stationery.

OFFICE OF THE SECOND ASSISTANT POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

For inland mail transportation, namely: Inland transportation by star routes, including temporary service to newly established offices, five million and twenty-five thousand dollars. Second Assistant Postmaster-General.  
Inland mail transportation.  
Star routes.

For inland transportation by steamboat routes, five hundred thousand dollars. Steamboat routes.

For mail-messenger service, nine hundred and fifty thousand dollars. Messenger service.

For transportation of mail by pneumatic tube, or other similar devices, by purchase or otherwise, two hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars. Pneumatic tubes, etc.

For regulation, screen, or other wagon service, seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars. Wagon, etc., service.

For mail bags, cord fasteners, label cases, and for labor and material necessary for repairing equipment, two hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars. Bags, catchers, etc.

For mail locks and keys, chains, tools, and machinery, and for labor and material necessary for repairing same, forty-three thousand dollars, of which sum not exceeding two thousand dollars may be used to provide badges for railway post-office clerks. Locks, keys, etc.

## Repair shop.

For rent of building for a mail-bag repair shop and lock-repair shop, and for fuel, gas, watchmen and char woman, oil, and repair of machinery for said shops, eight thousand five hundred dollars.

## Railroad routes.

For inland transportation by railroad routes, of which a sum not exceeding thirty thousand dollars may be employed to pay freight on postal cards, stamped envelopes, and stamped paper, and other supplies from the manufactories to the post-offices and depots of distribution, thirty-three million two hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars.

## Post-office cars.

For railway post-office car service, four million two hundred and four thousand five hundred dollars.

## Railway mail clerks.

For railway post-office clerks, eight million seven hundred and sixty-five thousand dollars, of which sum not to exceed fifteen thousand dollars may be used to pay necessary traveling expenses of chief clerks and railway postal clerks traveling on duty under order of the Postmaster-General: *Provided*, That the Postmaster-General may allow railway postal clerks whose duties require them to work six days or more per week, fifty-two weeks per year, an annual vacation of fifteen days with pay, and the sum of thirty-one thousand dollars is hereby appropriated for this purpose.

*Proviso.*  
—vacation.

For inland transportation of mail by electric and cable cars on routes not exceeding twenty miles in length, three hundred and fifty thousand dollars: *Provided*, That the rate of compensation to be paid per mile shall not exceed the amount now received by companies performing said service.

Electric and cable  
car service.

*Proviso.*  
Continuance of  
present rates.

## Special facilities.

For necessary and special facilities on trunk lines from New York and Washington to Atlanta and New Orleans, one hundred and seventy-one thousand two hundred and thirty-eight dollars and seventy-five cents: *Provided*, That no part of the appropriation made by this paragraph shall be expended unless the Postmaster-General shall deem such expenditure necessary in order to promote the interest of the postal service.

*Proviso.*

For continuing necessary and special facilities on trunk lines from Kansas City, Missouri, to Newton, Kansas, twenty-five thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary: *Provided*, That no part of this appropriation shall be expended unless the Postmaster-General shall deem such expenditure necessary in order to promote the interest of the postal service.

Consent of Post-  
master-General.

## Miscellaneous.

For miscellaneous items, including railway guides, city directories, and other books and periodicals necessary in connection with mail transportation, one thousand dollars.

Foreign mails.  
Oceanic Steamship  
Company.

For transportation of foreign mails, two million one hundred and fifty-four thousand dollars, including additional compensation to the Oceanic Steamship Company for transporting the mails by its steamers sailing from San Francisco to New Zealand and New South Wales by way of Honolulu, all mails made up in the United States destined for the Hawaiian Islands, the Australian colonies, New Caledonia, and the islands in the Pacific Ocean, eighty thousand dollars: *Provided*, That the sum paid the said Oceanic Steamship Company shall not exceed two dollars per mile, as authorized by Act of March third, eighteen hundred and ninety-one, entitled "An Act to provide for ocean mail service between the United States and foreign ports, and to promote commerce:" *And provided further*, That hereafter the Postmaster-General shall be authorized to expend such sums as may be necessary, not exceeding fifty-five thousand dollars, to cover one-half of the cost of transportation, compensation, and expense of clerks to be employed in assorting and pouching mails in transit on steamships between the United States and other postal administrations in the International Postal Union; and not exceeding forty thousand dollars for transferring the foreign mail from incoming steamships in New York Bay to the several steamship and railway piers, and between the steamship piers in New York City and Jersey City and the post-office and railroad stations, and for transferring the foreign mail from incoming steamships in San Francisco Bay to the piers.

*Provisos.*  
Limit.

Vol. 26, p. 832.

## Clerks on steamers.

For transfers at New York.

Transfers at New  
York.

## San Francisco.

For balances due foreign countries, one hundred and forty-five thousand dollars.

Balances due foreign countries.

OFFICE OF THE THIRD ASSISTANT POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

Third Assistant Postmaster-General.

For manufacture of adhesive postage and special delivery stamps, one hundred and ninety-nine thousand dollars: *Provided*, That out of the revenue arising from special-delivery business the Postmaster-General may allow expenditures by postmasters at first-class post-offices, under regulations to be established by him, for car fare for special-delivery messengers in emergent cases where immediate delivery in the usual way is impracticable, not to exceed in the aggregate, for all offices, ten thousand dollars a year: *And provided further*, That at first and second class post-offices the Postmaster-General may establish rules under which special delivery may be effected by any salaried clerk or employee thereof, and the lawful special delivery fees allowed therefor, the same as is now done at third class offices, in cases where such delivery can not be made by regular messengers.

Stamps.  
*Provisos.*  
Special delivery revenues available for expenditures at first-class post offices.

For pay of agent and assistants to distribute stamps, and expenses of agency, twelve thousand dollars.

—fees from available for any employee at first and second class offices; rules.

For manufacture of stamped envelopes and newspaper wrappers, six hundred and ninety-four thousand dollars.

Distribution of stamps.

For pay of agent and assistants to distribute stamped envelopes and newspaper wrappers, and expenses of agency, seventeen thousand eight hundred dollars.

Stamped envelopes.

For manufacture of postal cards, one hundred and forty-nine thousand dollars.

—distribution.

For pay of agent and assistants to distribute postal cards, and expenses of agency, seven thousand dollars.

Postal cards.

For registered package, tag, official, and dead letter envelopes, ninety-seven thousand dollars.

—distribution.

For ship, steamboat, and way letters, one thousand dollars.

Ship, etc., letters.  
Indemnity for loss of registered matter. Vol. 29, p. 599.

For payment of limited indemnity for the loss of pieces of first-class registered matter, as provided for in the Act of Congress approved February twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven, entitled "An Act to amend the postal laws providing limited indemnity for loss of registered mail matter," six thousand dollars.

For miscellaneous items, five hundred dollars.

Miscellaneous.

OFFICE OF THE FOURTH ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL.

Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General.

For mail-depredations and post-office inspectors, including salaries of post-office inspectors and clerks, and fifteen inspectors at two thousand dollars per annum, without per diem, and for per diem allowance of inspectors in the field while actually traveling on business of the Department, four hundred and fifty thousand dollars: *Provided*, That the Postmaster-General may, in his discretion, allow post-office inspectors per diem while temporarily located at any place on duty away from home or their designated domicile for a period not exceeding twenty consecutive days at any one place, and may make rules and regulations governing the foregoing provisions relating to per diem.

Mail depredations.

*Proviso.*  
Per diem to inspectors.

For payment of rewards for the detection, arrest, and conviction of post-office burglars, robbers, and highway mail robbers, twenty-five thousand dollars.

Rewards.

SEC. 2. That the appropriations herein made for the officers, clerks, and persons employed in the postal service shall not be available for the compensation of any persons permanently incapacitated for performing such service. The establishment of a civil pension roll or an honorable service roll, or the exemption of any of the officers, clerks, and persons in the postal service from the existing laws respecting employment in such service, is hereby prohibited.

Appropriations un-available for incapacitated employees.

Civil pension roll, etc., forbidden.

SEC. 3. That the Postmaster-General is hereby authorized, in his discretion, to pay from appropriations for transportation by railroad routes for the special transfer and terminal service between the Union Station at East Saint Louis, Illinois, and the Union Station at Saint

Appropriation for railroad routes available for mail transfer Union Station, St. Louis, Mo.

Louis, Missouri; including the use, lighting, and heating of mail building and the transfer service at Saint Louis, at the rate of not exceeding fifty thousand dollars per annum, beginning on the first day of July, eighteen hundred and ninety nine.

Congressional committee to investigate, etc., continued.

Ante, p. 445.

Vacancies, how filled.

Report.

Reappropriation of unexpended balance.

Franking privilege extended to Hawaiian Islands.

Money orders.—identification of payee, etc., not to be waived, etc.

—may be drawn without exacting additional fee for correcting errors of postmasters.—forms.

Appropriation for deficiencies in revenues.

SEC. 4. That the commission to investigate the question whether or not excessive prices are paid to the railroad companies for the transportation of the mails and as compensation for postal-car service, and all sources of revenue and all expenditures of the postal service, and rates of postage upon all postal matter, authorized by section five of the "Act making appropriations for the service of the Post-Office Department for the fiscal year eighteen hundred and ninety-nine," is hereby continued during the Fifty-sixth Congress, with all the powers and duties imposed upon it by said section five of said Act.

Any vacancy occurring in the membership of said commission, by resignation or otherwise, shall be filled by the presiding officer of the Senate or House, respectively, according as the vacancy occurs in the Senate or House representation on said committee.

And said commission shall make report as soon as practicable after the beginning of the first session of the Fifty-sixth Congress. The unexpended balance of the sum appropriated by said section five of said Act is hereby reappropriated and made available during the Fifty-sixth Congress for the expenses of said commission, payable, on the draft of the chairman of said commission, in sums not exceeding one thousand dollars at any one time, and an additional sum of seven thousand dollars is hereby appropriated for said purpose.

The franking privilege, as the same is regulated by law, shall extend to the Hawaiian Islands.

SEC. 5. On and after April first, eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, postmasters shall not issue any money order conditioned that identification of payee, endorsee, or attorney may be waived, nor shall any postmaster pay any money order issued on or subsequent to said date without requiring identification of the payee, endorsee, or attorney. Money orders may be drawn by the Superintendent of the Money-Order System without the exaction of an additional fee for the purpose of correcting errors made by issuing or paying postmasters; and the Postmaster-General shall prescribe the forms for the issue of money orders.

SEC. 6. That if the revenues of the Post-Office Department shall be insufficient to meet the appropriations made by this Act, a sum equal to such deficiency of the revenues of said Department is hereby appropriated, to be paid out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to supply said deficiencies in the revenues for the Post-Office Department for the year ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred.

Approved, March 1, 1899.

March 1, 1899.

**CHAP. 328.**—An Act To amend section one of an Act to provide for the entry of lands in Greer County, Oklahoma Territory, to give preference right to settlers, and for other purposes.

Greer County, Okla. Settlers who purchased prior to annexation may perfect title.

Vol. 29, p. 490.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That section one of an Act to give preference right to settlers in Greer County, Oklahoma Territory, is hereby so amended as to allow parties who have had the benefit of the homestead laws of the United States, and who had purchased lands in Greer County from the State of Texas prior to March sixteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-six, to perfect titles to said lands according to the provisions of section one hereinbefore mentioned, under such regulations as the Commissioner of the General Land Office may prescribe, and according to the legal subdivisions of the