

June 6, 1896.

CHAP. 339.—An Act Amending and extending the provisions of an Act of Congress entitled "An Act approving with amendments the funding Act of Arizona," approved June twenty-fifth, eighteen hundred and ninety, and the Act amendatory thereof and supplemental thereto approved August third, eighteen hundred and ninety-four.

Arizona.
Refunding of all outstanding obligations authorized.
Vol. 26, p. 179; Vol. 28, p. 224.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the provisions of the Acts of Congress approved June twenty-fifth, eighteen hundred and ninety, and August third, eighteen hundred and ninety-four, authorizing the funding of certain indebtedness of the Territory of Arizona, are hereby amended and extended so as to authorize the funding of all outstanding obligations of said Territory, and the counties, municipalities, and school districts thereof, as provided in the Act of Congress approved June twenty-fifth, eighteen hundred and ninety, until January first, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven, and all outstanding bonds, warrants, and other evidences of indebtedness of the Territory of Arizona, and the counties, municipalities, and school districts thereof, heretofore authorized by legislative enactments of said Territory bearing a higher rate of interest than is authorized by the aforesaid funding Act approved June twenty-fifth, eighteen hundred and ninety, and which said bonds, warrants, and other evidences of indebtedness have been sold or exchanged in good faith in compliance with the terms of the acts of the legislature by which they were authorized, shall be funded, with the interest thereon which has accrued and may accrue until funded into the lower interest-bearing bonds as provided by this Act.

Confirmation of funded bonds, etc.

SEC. 2. That all bonds and other evidences of indebtedness heretofore funded by the loan commission of Arizona under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved June twenty-fifth, eighteen hundred and ninety, and the Act amendatory thereof and supplemental thereto approved August third, eighteen hundred and ninety-four, are hereby declared to be valid and legal for the purposes for which they were issued and funded; and all bonds and other evidences of indebtedness heretofore issued under the authority of the legislature of said Territory, as hereinbefore authorized to be funded, are hereby confirmed, approved, and validated, and may be funded as in this Act provided until January first, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven: *Provided,* That nothing in this Act shall be so construed as to make the Government of the United States liable or responsible for the payment of any of said bonds, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness by this Act approved, confirmed, and made valid, and authorized to be funded.

Refunding permitted until Jan. 1, 1897.

Proviso.
Non liability of United States.

Approved, June 6, 1896.

June 8, 1896.

CHAP. 370.—An Act To regulate mail matter of the fourth class.

Postal service.
Fourth-class matter defined.
Vol. 20, p. 360.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That mailable matter of the fourth class shall embrace all matter not embraced in the first, second, or third class which is not in its form or nature liable to destroy, deface, or otherwise damage the contents of the mail bag or harm the person of anyone engaged in the postal service, and is not above the weight provided by law, which is hereby declared to be not exceeding four pounds for each package thereof, except in case of single books weighing in excess of that amount, and except for books and documents published or circulated by order of Congress, or printed or written official matter emanating from any of the Departments of the Government or from the Smithsonian Institution, or which is not declared nonmailable under the provisions of section thirty-eight hundred and ninety-three of the Revised Statutes as amended by the Act of July twelfth, eighteen hundred and seventy-six, or matter appertaining to lotteries, gift concerts, or fraudulent schemes or devices.

Limit of weight.
Exceptions.
Congressional documents.
Printed or written official matter.

Obscene, etc.
R. S., sec. 3893, p. 758.

Lotteries, etc.

Approved, June 8, 1896.

CHAP. 371.—An Act To expedite the delivery of imported parcels and packages not exceeding five hundred dollars in value.

June 8, 1896.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That articles, not merchandise intended for sale, not exceeding five hundred dollars in value, imported in packages not exceeding one hundred pounds in weight, in vessels of the United States, may be specially delivered to and appraised at the public stores, and the entry thereof liquidated by the collector under such regulations as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe, and after such appraisement and liquidation may be delivered, upon payment of the liquidated duties under the bond provided for in this Act, to express companies or other duly incorporated inland carriers bonded for the transportation of appraised or unappraised merchandise between the several ports in the United States: *Provided*, That not more than one such consignment to one ultimate consignee from the same consignor shall be imported in any one vessel: *And provided*, That the original appraisement of and liquidation of duties on such importations shall be final against the owner, importer, agent, or consignee, except in the case of manifest clerical errors, as provided for in section twenty-four of the Act of June tenth, eighteen hundred and ninety: *Provided*, That nothing contained in this Act shall apply to explosives, or any article the importation of which is prohibited by law.

SEC. 2. That such express companies or other inland carriers shall be responsible to the United States under bond for the safe delivery of such articles to the ultimate consignee: *Provided*, That if any package shall not be delivered to the ultimate consignee by the express company or other inland carrier, and shall be returned to the collector of the port where such articles are entered under the provisions of this Act within ninety days from the date of importation intact, the collector shall take charge of such package and dispose of it as unclaimed merchandise, and the duties, including additional duties, if any, under section seven of the Act of June tenth, eighteen hundred and ninety, paid shall be refunded by the Secretary of the Treasury out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated; and the express company or other inland carriers shall be relieved of any liability therefor under its bond; and before any express company or other inland carrier shall be permitted to receive and transport any such articles they shall become bound to the United States in such bonds, in such form and amount, and with such conditions not inconsistent with law as the Secretary of the Treasury may require.

SEC. 3. That articles transported under the provisions of this Act shall be corded and sealed in such manner as shall from time to time be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury; and the collector of the port of first arrival shall retain in his office a permanent record of such merchandise so forwarded.

SEC. 4. That such packages may be consigned to and entered by the agents of the express company or other inland carrier or steamship company, who shall at the time of entry state the ultimate consignee, and in all cases where a certified or other invoice is now required by law such invoice may be attached to or inclosed in the package, under such regulations as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe; and the delivery of such articles to the express company or other inland carrier shall not be delayed because of the nonarrival of the triplicate invoice, but the ultimate consignee shall be liable for any increased duty found due on reliquidation, if any, after receipt of said merchandise from the express company or other inland carrier or steamship company making entry under this Act; and the provisions of section twenty-eight hundred and fifty-seven, Revised Statutes, shall not apply to importations under this Act.

Approved, June 8, 1896.

Customs.
Special delivery of imported articles not exceeding \$500 in value.

Provisos.
Single consignments.

Appraisement final.

Errors.
Vol. 26, p. 140.

Prohibited articles not affected.

Responsibility of carriers.

Proviso.
Disposal of unclaimed packages.

Vol. 26, p. 134.

Liability of carriers.

Transportation bond.

Sealing, etc.

Record.

Consignment to carrier.

Invoices.

Delivery.

Increased duty, etc.

R. S., sec. 2857, p. 563.