

CHAP. 391.—An Act To amend section eight of the Act of Congress approved March second, eighteen hundred and ninety-six, granting a right of way to the Fort Smith and Western Coal Railroad Company through the Indian Territory, and for other purposes.

June 7. 1898.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section eight of the Act of Congress approved March second, eighteen hundred and ninety-six, granting a right of way to the Fort Smith and Western Coal Railroad Company through the Indian Territory, and for other purposes, be, and the same is hereby, amended so as to read as follows:

Fort Smith and Western Coal Railroad. Vol. 29, p. 42.

“SEC. 8. That said railway company shall build and complete its said railway on or before December thirty-first, nineteen hundred, or this grant shall be forfeited; that said railway company shall construct and maintain, continually, all road and highway crossings and necessary bridges over said railway whenever said roads and highways do now or may hereafter cross said railway’s right of way, or may be by the proper authorities laid out across the same.

Time extended to complete railway.

Approved, June 7, 1898.

CHAP. 392.—An Act To suspend the operation of certain provisions of law relating to the War Department, and for other purposes.

June 7. 1898.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the operation of the following provisions of law be, and is hereby, suspended in the discretion of the Secretary of War during the existing war, namely:

Army. Suspension of certain provisions of law. Amended. *post*, p. 1350. Limit of draught animals. Vol. 25, p. 486.

First. The provision of the first section of the Act entitled “An Act making appropriations for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and eighty-nine, and for other purposes,” in the following words:

“*Provided,* That hereafter no part of this appropriation shall be expended in the purchase for the Army of draught animals until the number on hand shall be reduced to five thousand, and thereafter shall only be expended for the purchase of a number sufficient to keep the supply up to five thousand.”

Second. The provisions of the first section of the Act entitled “An Act making appropriations for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, and for other purposes,” in the following words:

“*Provided,* That hereafter no part of the appropriations for the Quartermaster’s Department shall be expended on printing, unless the same shall be done by contract, after due notice and competition, except in such cases as the emergency will not admit of the giving notice for competition: *Provided further,* That after advertisement all the supplies for the use of the various departments and posts of the Army, and of the branches of the Army service, shall hereafter be purchased where the same can be purchased the cheapest, in the markets of the United States, quality and cost of transportation and the interest of the Government considered, except that purchases may be made in open market, in the manner common among business men, when the aggregate amount required does not exceed two hundred dollars, but every such purchase shall be immediately reported to the Secretary of War.”

Ante, p. 322. Quartermaster’s Department. —printing for, etc. —purchases where cheapest, etc.

And the words:

“*Provided,* That the number of horses purchased under this appropriation, added to the number on hand, shall not at any time exceed the number of enlisted men and Indian scouts in the mounted service, and that no part of this appropriation shall be paid out for horses not purchased by contract after competition duly invited by the Quartermaster’s Department, and an inspection by such Department, all under the direction and authority of the Secretary of War.”

Ante, p. 323. —purchase of horses; limit, etc.

And the words:

Ante, p. 323.
—civilian employees:
limit.

“*Provided*, That no more than one million dollars of the sums appropriated by this Act shall be paid out for the services of civilian employees in the Quartermaster’s Department, including those heretofore paid out of the funds appropriated for regular supplies, incidental expenses, barracks and quarters, army transportation, clothing, camp and garrison equipage; that no employee paid therefrom shall receive a salary more than one hundred and fifty dollars per month, unless the same shall be specially fixed by law.”

Ordnance Department.
Ante, p. 326.
Civilian clerks:
limit.

Third. So much of the Act approved March fifteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, entitled “An Act making appropriations for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-nine,” under the heading Ordnance Department, as provides that not more than sixty-five thousand dollars of the money appropriated for the Ordnance Department in all its branches shall be applied to the payment of civilian clerks in said Department.

Admission free of
war materials.

And be it further enacted, That during the existing war materials required by the War Department may, in the discretion of the Secretary of War, be purchased abroad and shall be admitted free of duty.

Purchases without
advertisement.

And be it further enacted, That during the existing war the Bureau of Ordnance of the War Department is authorized to purchase without advertisement such ordnance and ordnance stores as are needed for immediate use, and when such ordnance and ordnance stores are to be manufactured then to make contracts without advertisement for such stores to be delivered as rapidly as manufactured.

Approved, June 7, 1898.

June 7, 1898.

CHAP. 393.—An Act Authorizing certain life-saving stations to be opened and manned during June and July, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight.

Life-Saving Service.
Operation at certain
stations during June
and July.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized to keep such of the life-saving stations upon the Atlantic and Gulf coasts opened and manned for active service during the months of June and July, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, as he may deem advisable, the number of surfmen to be employed at each station during this period to be such as the General Superintendent of the Life-Saving Service shall determine, not to exceed the number now employed, and the compensation of each surfman shall be at the rate of sixty dollars per month.

Appropriation.

SEC. 2. That for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of the preceding section the sum of seventy thousand dollars, or such portion thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated, from any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Approved, June 7, 1898.

June 8, 1898.

CHAP. 394.—An Act Conferring on the supreme court of the District of Columbia jurisdiction to take proof of the execution of wills affecting real estate, and for other purposes.

District of Columbia.
Supreme court invested with powers exercised by orphan’s court, etc.
Vol. 16, p. 161.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section four of the Act of Congress entitled “An Act relating to the supreme court of the District of Columbia,” approved June twenty-first, eighteen hundred and seventy, be, and the same hereby is, amended so as to read as follows:

“That all the powers and jurisdiction by law held and exercised by the orphans’ court of Washington County, District of Columbia, prior