

removal of any or all the public offices to such other place or places as, in his discretion, shall be deemed most safe and convenient for conducting the public business.

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That whenever, in the opinion of the chief justice, or in case of his death, or inability, of the senior associate justice of the supreme court of the United States, a contagious sickness shall render it hazardous to hold the next stated session of the said court at the seat of government, it shall be lawful for the chief or such associate justice, to issue his order to the marshal of the district within which the supreme court is by law to be holden, directing him to adjourn the said session of the said court to such other place within the same, or an adjoining district, as he may deem convenient; and the said marshal shall thereupon adjourn the said court, by making publication thereof in one or more public papers printed at the place by law appointed for holding the same, from the time he shall receive such order, until the time by law prescribed for commencing the said session. And the district judges shall, respectively, under the same circumstances, have the same power, by the same means, to direct adjournments of the district and circuit courts within their several districts, to some convenient place within the same respectively.

SEC. 8. *And be it further enacted*, That the act, intituled "An act relative to quarantine," passed in the first session of the fourth Congress of the United States, shall be, and the same is hereby repealed.

APPROVED, February 25, 1799.

of disease at the seat of government.

Supreme court may in such case be adjourned to a different place.

Also the district and circuit courts.

Repeal of the Act of May 27, 1796, ch. 31.

STATUTE III.

Feb. 25, 1799.

CHAP. XIII.—*An Act for the augmentation of the Navy.*

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That under the orders of the President of the United States, and in addition to the naval armament already authorized by law, there shall be built within the United States, six ships of war, of a size to carry, and which shall be armed with not less than seventy-four guns each; and there shall be built or purchased within the United States, six sloops of war, of a size to carry, and which shall be armed with eighteen guns each, or not exceeding that force; all which ships and vessels shall be procured, manned and employed as soon as may be, for the service of the United States: And in part of the necessary expenditures to be incurred herein, a sum not exceeding one million of dollars, shall be, and is hereby appropriated, and shall be paid out of any monies which shall be in the treasury of the United States, not otherwise appropriated.

[Obsolete.]

Six ships of not less than 74 guns, and six sloops of war of 18 guns to be procured &c.

One million of dollars appropriated.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the President of the United States shall be, and he is hereby authorized to augment, at his discretion, the force of any ship or vessel, now in the service, or building for the service of the United States, by allowing an additional number of guns and men therein, beyond the established rate, and according to the respective size and capacity of such ship or vessel: And a sum not exceeding thirty-five thousand dollars, shall be, and is hereby appropriated to defray the expense of such augmentation, and shall be paid out of any monies which shall be in the treasury of the United States, not otherwise appropriated.

The President may augment the force of the other vessels.

\$35,000 appropriated.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That the President of the United States shall be, and is hereby authorized to place on the naval establishment, and employ accordingly, all or any of the vessels, which, as revenue cutters, have been increased in force, and employed in the defence of the sea-coast, pursuant to the act, intituled "An act providing a naval armament;" and thereupon, the officers and crews of such vessels, may be allowed, at the discretion of the President of the United States, the pay, subsistence, advantages and compensations, proportionably to the

Revenue cutters whose force has been increased may be placed on the naval establishment.

Ante, p. 523.

rates of such vessels, and shall be governed by the rules and discipline, which are, or which shall be established for the navy of the United States.

APPROVED, February 25, 1799.

STATUTE III.

Feb. 25, 1799.

CHAP. XV.—*An Act authorizing the establishment of Docks.*

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That two docks, for the convenience of repairing the public ships and vessels, be erected in suitable places, under the direction of the President of the United States, and that the sum of fifty thousand dollars be appropriated towards effecting this object, to be paid out of any monies in the treasury of the United States, not otherwise appropriated.

APPROVED, February 25, 1799.

STATUTE III.

Feb. 25, 1799.

CHAP. XVI.—*An Act authorizing the purchase of Timber for naval purposes.*

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 shall be, and he is hereby authorized to direct a sum not exceeding two hundred thousand dollars, to be paid out of any monies in the treasury, not otherwise appropriated, to be laid out in the purchase of growing or other timber, or of lands on which timber is growing, suitable for the navy, and to cause the proper measures to be taken to have the same preserved for the future uses of the navy.

APPROVED, February 25, 1799.

STATUTE III.

Feb. 28, 1799.

CHAP. XVII.—*An Act to alter the Stamp Duties imposed upon Foreign Bills of Exchange and Bills of Lading, by an act intituled "An act laying duties on stamped vellum, parchment and paper," and further to amend the same.*

[Repealed.]

Former duty on foreign bills of exchange and bills of lading repealed.

Act of July 6, 1797, ch. 11.

New duties imposed on foreign bills of exchange, bills of lading, and policies of assurance.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That from and after the thirty-first day of March next, the duties imposed by an act, intituled "An act laying duties on stamped vellum, parchment and paper," upon foreign bills of exchange and bills of lading, shall cease and determine; and from and after the said thirty-first day of March next, there shall be levied and paid throughout the United States, the several stamp duties following, to wit:—On every skin or piece of vellum or parchment, or sheet or piece of paper, on which shall be written or printed any or either of the instruments following, to wit:—Any foreign bill of exchange, draft or order for the payment of money in any foreign country, twenty cents; any note or bill of lading, or writing or receipt in the nature thereof, for any goods or merchandise to be exported, if from one district to another district of the United States, not being in the same state, four cents; if to be exported to any foreign port or place, ten cents; any policy of assurance, or instrument in nature thereof, other than those specified in the above recited act, when the sum, for which insurance is made, shall not exceed five hundred dollars, twenty-five cents; and when the sum insured shall exceed five hundred dollars, one dollar. And the said duties shall be chargeable upon each and every bill of exchange and bill of lading, without respect to the number contained in a set.

Foreign bills of exchange not to be stamped

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That from and after the said thirty-first day of March, it shall not be lawful for any supervisor, or other person employed for the stamping of vellum, parchment or paper,