

June 15, 1878.

CHAP. 216.—An act to authorize the Barataria Ship Canal Company to construct and operate a ship canal from New Orleans to the Gulf of Mexico, through the lands and waters of the United States, and to grant to said company the right of way for that purpose.

Barataria Ship-
Canal Company.
Right of way, etc.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Barataria Ship Canal Company, a body corporate of the State of Louisiana, created by an act of the legislature of said State, approved April twenty-fourth, eighteen hundred and seventy-seven, be, and the same is hereby, granted the right of way through the lands and waters of the United States, to enable said company to construct and operate a ship-canal from a point at or near the city of New Orleans to the Gulf of Mexico, through the Barataria Bay, in the State of Louisiana, with power and authority to construct and maintain all necessary harbors, locks, dams, dikes, levees, and piers: *Provided*, The same shall in no manner interfere with or affect the usual and ordinary navigation of said waters where they are not confined either by piers or canal-banks constructed by said company, and necessary for the use and operation of said canal: *And provided further*, That Bayou Villars shall not be closed by said canal company.

Proviso.

Proviso.

Rates of toll.

SEC. 2. That in the transportation of military or naval stores, troops, or munitions of war of the United States, such rates of toll only shall be charged as may be prescribed by the Secretary of War; and that the tolls or tonnage charges of said company shall not exceed one dollar per ton on the tonnage measurement of any vessel for the round trip through said canal, or half said sum for less than the round trip; and not exceeding twenty-five cents for each passenger through said canal either way: *Provided*, That vessels of five tons burden and less shall be exempt from tolls for the use of said canal when they do not pass through the locks: *And provided further*, That no tolls shall be charged on any boats or vessels navigating any of the waters on the line of said canal, which could have been navigated by such vessels had such canal not been built

Proviso.

Proviso.

Approved, June 15, 1878.

June 17, 1878.

CHAP. 259.—An act making appropriations for the service of the Post-Office Department for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-nine, and for other purposes.

Appropriations.
Postal service.

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 the same are hereby, appropriated for the service of the Post-Office Department for the year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-nine, out of any money in the Treasury arising from the revenues of said department, in conformity to the act of July second, eighteen hundred and thirty-six, as follows:

Mail depreda-
tions.

OFFICE OF THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL.—For mail depredations and special agents, one hundred and fifty thousand dollars; and not exceeding seven thousand five hundred dollars of this amount may be expended for fees to United States attorneys, marshals, clerks of courts, and counsel necessarily employed by special agents of the Post-Office Department, subject to approval by the Attorney-General: *Provided*, That hereafter the per diem pay of all special agents appointed under section forty hundred and seventeen, Revised Statutes, shall only be allowed for their actual and necessary expenses not exceeding five dollars per diem when they are actually engaged in traveling on the business of the department except such, not exceeding ten in number, as are appointed by the Postmaster-General to duty at such important points as he may designate, and nine assistant superintendents of railway mail service, who may be detailed to act as superintendents of division of railway mail service who shall each receive a salary of two thousand five hundred dollars, per annum and no more: *And provided further*, That twenty thousand dollars of this appropriation, or so much thereof as shall be necessary, may be used in paying rewards for apprehension of mail-robbers.

Pay of special
agents.
R. S. 4017, p. 780.

Salaries of ten
agents and nine as-
sistant superintend-
ents of railway
service.

Proviso.

For preparation and publication of post-route maps, thirty-five thousand dollars; and the Postmaster-General may authorize the publication and sale of said maps to individuals at the cost thereof, the proceeds of said sales to be applied as a further appropriation for said purpose.

Post-route maps.
Sale of maps.

For advertising, sixty thousand dollars: *Provided*, That the Postmaster-General shall cause advertisements of all general mail-lettings of each State and Territory to be conspicuously posted up in each post-office in the State and Territory embraced in said advertisements for at least sixty days before the time of such general letting; and no other advertisement of such lettings shall be required; but this provision shall not apply to any other than general mail-lettings.

Advertising.

Advertisements to be posted up.

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

Miscellaneous items.

OFFICE OF THE FIRST ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL.—For compensation to postmasters, seven million two hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

Postmasters.

That the compensation of postmasters of the fourth class shall be the whole of the box-rents collected at their offices and commissions on unpaid letter-postage collected, on amounts received from waste-paper, dead newspapers, printed matter, and twine sold, and on postage-stamps, stamped envelopes, postal cards, and newspaper and periodical stamps canceled as postages on matter actually mailed at their offices, at the following rate, namely: On the first one hundred dollars or less per quarter, sixty per centum; on all over one hundred dollars and not over three hundred dollars per quarter, fifty per centum; and on all over three hundred dollars per quarter, forty per centum; the same to be ascertained and allowed by the Auditor in the settlement of the accounts of such postmasters, upon their sworn quarterly returns: *Provided*, That when the compensation of any postmaster of this class shall reach one thousand dollars per annum, exclusive of commissions on money-order business, and when the returns to the Auditor for four quarters shall show him to be entitled to a compensation in excess of that amount under section seven of the act of July twelfth, eighteen hundred and seventy six, the Auditor shall report such fact to the Postmaster-General, who shall assign him to his proper class, and fix his salary as provided by said section: *Provided further*, That in no case shall there be allowed to any postmaster of this class a compensation greater than two hundred and fifty dollars in any one quarter, exclusive of money-order commissions.

Compensation of postmasters of fourth class.

When exceeding \$1,000, salary to be adjusted.

1876, ch. 179,
19 Stat., 81.

Limit to compensation.

That in any case where the Postmaster-General shall be satisfied that a postmaster has made a false return of business, it shall be within his discretion to withhold commissions on such returns, and to allow any compensation that under the circumstances he may deem reasonable: *Provided*, That the form of affidavit to be made by postmasters upon their returns shall be such as may be prescribed by the Postmaster-General; and any postmaster who shall make a false return to the Auditor, for the purpose of fraudulently increasing his compensation under the provisions of this or any other act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction thereof, shall be fined in a sum not less than fifty nor more than five hundred dollars, or imprisoned for a term not exceeding one year, or punished by both such fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the court; and no postmaster of any class, or other person connected with the postal service, intrusted with the sale or custody of postage-stamps, stamped envelopes, or postal cards, shall use or dispose of them in the payment of debts or in the purchase of merchandise or other salable articles, or pledge or hypothecate the same, or sell or dispose of them except for cash, or sell or dispose of postage-stamps or postal cards for any larger or less sum than the values indicated on their faces, or sell or dispose of stamped envelopes for a larger or less sum than is charged therefor by the Post-Office Department for like quantities, or sell or dispose of postage-stamps, stamped envelopes, or postal

When commissions may be withheld.

Affidavit.

Penalty for false.

Unlawful use of stamps, etc.

- Penalty.* cards otherwise than as provided by law and the regulations of the Post-Office Department; and any postmaster, or other person connected with the postal service, who shall violate any of these provisions shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction thereof, shall be fined in any sum not less than fifty nor more than five hundred dollars, or be imprisoned for a term not exceeding one year.
- Clerks.* For compensation to clerks in post-offices, three million four hundred and sixty-five thousand dollars.
- Letter-carriers.* For payment to letter-carriers, one million eight hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars.
- Wrapping-paper.* For wrapping-paper, twenty thousand dollars.
- Twine.* For wrapping-twine, forty-five thousand dollars.
- Marking-stamps.* For marking and rating stamps, twelve thousand dollars.
- Letter-balances.* For letter-balances and scales, three thousand five hundred dollars.
- Rent, etc.* For rent, light, and fuel, three hundred and eighty thousand dollars.
- Furniture.* For office furniture, twenty thousand dollars.
- Stationery.* For stationery, fifty thousand dollars.
- Miscellaneous.* For miscellaneous and incidental items, eighty thousand dollars.
- Inland mail transportation.* OFFICE OF THE SECOND ASSISTANT POSTMASTER-GENERAL.—For inland mail transportation, namely: For transportation on star routes, five million three hundred and ninety thousand six hundred and seventy-three dollars.
- Star routes.*
- Steamboats.* For transportation by steamboat routes, seven hundred thousand dollars.
- Railroads.* For transportation by railroad, nine million one hundred thousand dollars; one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars of which sum may be used by the Postmaster-General to obtain proper facilities from the great trunk lines of railroads for the railway post-office service during the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-nine: *Provided*, That hereafter the Postmaster-General may appoint one agent only to superintend the postal railway service, who shall be paid, out of the appropriation for the transportation of the mail on railways, a salary at the rate of three thousand five hundred dollars a year, and no allowances for traveling or incidental expenses: *And provided further*, That the Postmaster-General be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to readjust the compensation to be paid from and after the first day of July, eighteen hundred and seventy-eight, for transportation of mails on railroad routes by reducing the compensation to all railroad companies for the transportation of mails five per centum per annum from the rates for the transportation of mails, on the basis of the average weight fixed and allowed by the first section of an act entitled "An act making appropriations for the service of the Post Office Department for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-seven, and for other purposes", approved July twelfth, eighteen hundred and seventy-six.
- One agent for railway service.* *Salary of.*
- Reduction of railway compensation.*
- 1876, ch. 179,
19 Stat., 79.
- Railway post office clerks.* For compensation to railway post-office clerks, one million three hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars.
- Route-agents.* For route-agents, one million and thirty thousand dollars.
- Mail-route messengers.* For mail-route messengers, one hundred and seventy-one thousand dollars.
- Local agents.* For local agents, one hundred and fifteen thousand dollars.
- Mail-messengers.* For mail-messengers, six hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars.
- Locks and keys.* For mail-locks and keys, fifteen thousand dollars.
- Mail-bags, etc.* For mail-bags and mail-bag catchers, one hundred and eighty-five thousand dollars.
- Postage-stamps.* OFFICE OF THE THIRD ASSISTANT POSTMASTER-GENERAL.—For manufacture of adhesive postage-stamps, of official stamps, and of newspaper and periodical stamps, eighty thousand dollars.
- For pay of agent and assistants to distribute stamps, and expenses of the agency, eight thousand one hundred dollars.
- Stamped envelopes.* For manufacture of stamped envelopes and newspaper-wrappers, four hundred and seventy thousand dollars.

For pay of agent and assistants to distribute stamped envelopes and newspaper-wrappers, and expenses of agency, sixteen thousand dollars.

For manufacture of postal cards, one hundred and seventy thousand dollars.

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

For registered-package envelopes, locks, and seals, forty thousand dollars.

For office-envelopes and for dead-letter envelopes, twenty-five thousand dollars.

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

For engraving, printing, and binding drafts and warrants, one thousand five hundred dollars.

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF FOREIGN MAILS.—For transportation of foreign mails, two hundred and forty thousand dollars.

For balances due foreign countries, forty thousand dollars, including the United States' portion of the expense of the International Office organized under the provisions of article fifteen of the General Postal Union treaty concluded at Berne, October ninth, eighteen hundred and seventy-four.

SEC. 2. That if the revenue of the Post Office Department shall be insufficient to meet the appropriations made by this act, then the sum of four million two hundred and twenty-two thousand two hundred and seventy-four dollars and seventy-two cents, or so much thereof as may be necessary, be, and the same is hereby, appropriated, to be paid out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to supply deficiencies in revenue of the Post Office Department for the year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-nine: *Provided*, That the disbursements of the moneys appropriated for the preparation and publication of post-route maps be made by a regular bonded disbursing-officer of the Post-Office Department, according to the laws, rules, and customs as recognized by the accounting-officers of the Treasury Department: *And provided also*, That the pay-rolls of the draughtsmen, clerks, messengers, and other employees of the topographer's office, shall be regularly made out by the chief of the topographer's office, examined and checked by the appointment-clerk of the Post-Office Department, and the payments thereof made by a bonded disbursing-officer of the Post-Office Department: *And also provided further*, That all expenditures made by the chief of the topographer's office for the preparation and publication of post-route maps shall be accounted for by vouchers, accompanied by affidavit, and the moneys therefor shall be disbursed by a disbursing-officer of the Post-Office Department; and all of the above disbursements shall be paid out of the appropriation for the preparation and publication of post-route maps.

SEC. 3. That all acts or parts of acts in conflict with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

Approved, June 17, 1878.

Postal cards.

Registered-package envelopes.

Office envelopes.

Ship letters.

Drafts and warrants.

Foreign mail transportation.

Balances due foreign countries.

Appropriation in addition to revenue.

Disbursement for maps.

Pay-rolls, topographers' office.

Vouchers for expenditures for maps, etc.

Repeals.

CHAP. 260.—An act regulating the appointment of cadet-midshipmen and cadet-engineers in the Naval Academy, and for other purposes.

June 17, 1878.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section fifteen hundred and thirteen of the Revised Statutes shall hereafter read as follows:

“SEC. 1513. There shall be allowed in said academy one cadet-midshipman for every member or delegate of the House of Representatives, one for the District of Columbia, and ten appointed at large: *Provided, however*, That there shall not be at any time more in said academy appointed at large than ten: but the provisions of this section shall not be construed to apply to cadet-midshipmen appointed at large now in said academy.”

Cadet-midshipmen.
Number of.
R. S. 1513, p. 259,
Amended.