

CHAP. 10.—An act to provide for the change of name of the steamboat "Alexis".

May 29, 1879.

*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 and directed to allow the owner of the American built and owned steamboat "Alexis" of New York, to change her name, so that she may hereafter be known as the "Riverdale".

Steamboat  
"Alexis."

Approved, May 29, 1879.

CHAP. 11.—An act to prevent the introduction of contagious or infectious diseases into the United States.

June 2, 1879.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That it shall be unlawful for any merchant ship or vessel from any foreign port where any contagious or infectious disease exists, to enter any port of the United States except in accordance with the provisions of this act, and all rules and regulations of State boards of health and all rules and regulations made in pursuance of this act; and any such vessel which shall enter, or attempt to enter, a port of the United States, in violation thereof, shall forfeit to the United States a sum, to be awarded in the discretion of the court, not exceeding one thousand dollars, which shall be a lien upon said vessel, to be recovered by proceedings in the proper district court of the United States. And in all such proceedings the United States district attorney for such district shall appear on behalf of the United States, and all such proceedings shall be conducted in accordance with the rules and laws governing cases of seizure of vessels for violation of the revenue laws of the United States.

Contagious diseases.  
Vessels from infected ports.

Penalty.

Proceedings.

SEC. 2. All such vessels shall be required to obtain from the consul, vice-consul, or other consular officer of the United States at the port of departure, or from the medical officer, where such officer has been detailed by the President for that purpose, a certificate in duplicate setting forth the sanitary history of said vessel, and that it has in all respects complied with the rules and regulations in such cases prescribed for securing the best sanitary condition of the said vessel, its cargo, passengers, and crew; and said consular or medical officer is required, before granting such certificate, to be satisfied the matters and things therein stated are true; and for his services in that behalf he shall be entitled to demand and receive such fees as shall by lawful regulation be allowed, to be accounted for as is required in other cases.

Bill of health.

Fees.

That upon the request of the National Board of Health the President is authorized to detail a medical officer to serve in the office of the consul at any foreign port for the purpose of making the inspection and giving the certificates hereinbefore mentioned: *Provided,* That the number of officers so detailed shall not exceed at any one time six: *Provided further,* That any vessel sailing from any such port without such certificate of said medical officer, entering any port of the United States, shall forfeit to the United States the sum of five hundred dollars, which shall be a lien on the same to be recovered by proceedings in the proper district court of the United States. And in all such proceedings the United States district attorney for such district shall appear on behalf of the United States, and all such proceedings shall be conducted in accordance with the rules and laws governing cases of seizure of vessels for violation of the revenue laws of the United States.

Medical inspectors at consulates.

Number.

Penalty.

Proceedings.

SEC. 3. That the National Board of Health shall co-operate with and, so far as it lawfully may, aid State and municipal boards of health in the execution and enforcement of the rules and regulations of such boards to prevent the introduction of contagious or infectious diseases into the United States from foreign countries, and into one State from another; and at such ports and places within the United States as have no

National Board of Health.