

Wm. H. Jackson
ACTS

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PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURE
Wm. H. Jackson

OF THE

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7456
REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

DURING THE SESSION 1882-8

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ACTS

A Resolution assisting the citizens of Lexington of Sinoe county in building a bridge and causeway through a Swamp between Lexington and Farmersville.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled:—

Sec. 1st. That there be appropriated One thousand dollars for the purpose of assisting the Citizens of Sinoe in building a bridge and causeway through the above named Swamp.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved Jany. 5th, 1883

A Resolution Authorizing the repairs of the old Public Mansion in the city of Monrovia.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled:

Sec. 1st. That the President be and he is hereby authorized and required to put in proper repair the Government Mansion.

2nd. It is further enacted that there be an amount of six thousand dollars appropriated to carry on said repairs above mentioned.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved Jany 5th. 1883

H. I. Jackson

Resolution Compensating Stephen A. Hoff Jailor of Robertsport.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature Assembled:—

Section 1st. That from and after the passage of this resolution the Secretary of the Treasury be and he is hereby authorized and directed to pay Stephen A. Hoff the sum of (60,00) Sixty dollars being the amount claimed by said Stephen A. Hoff as due him

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for the use of a house and that all further rent for jail purposes at Robertspport be paid out of the contingent until a suitable jail can be furnished by the Government.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved Jany. 5th. 1883

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An Act of Indemnity for loss of registered articles.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled:

Sec. 1st. That from and immediately after the passage of this act, the Postal Administration of this Republic in accordance with the provisions of article 6th of the Convention of Paris in June 1873, of the Universal Postal Union, shall pay to the sender or to whomsoever else he may direct, the sum of Fifty Francs or its equivalent current value of ten dollars for the loss of any registered article received into any Post office of this Republic, and which has failed to reach its destination and the President be, and is hereby authorized to draw from any monies in the Treasury or in any of the sub-treasuries of this Republic not otherwise appropriated, all such sums from time to time as may be called for by the Post Master General for the payment of such claim or claims.

Sec. 2nd. It is further enacted that immediately after information has reached the Post Master General of this Republic of the loss of any registered article by the administration of the postal union, or by any person or persons, he shall make or cause to be made a diligent investigation of the matter; and should it be discovered that the said registered article or articles has or have been lost by or through the negligence of a Post Master of the office of ingress, said negligent post master shall pay to the general post office the sum of twenty dollars in American currency or gold or silver coin to be collected by the Post Master General within ten days: and on failure of payment he shall be subject to dismissal from office, and public prosecution instituted against him for fraud.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 9th. 1883.

H. J. Jackson

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An Act supplementary to an act declaring certain days to be National Holidays.

Whereas the Republic of Liberia has abundant reason to recognise the goodness and kind providence of Almighty God, and

whereas it is meet and right for nations as well as individuals to humble themselves before Almighty God the Giver of every good and perfect gift and to confess their sins and implore His gracious pardon.

Therefore. It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled:—

That from and after the passage of this Act the second (2nd) Friday in the month of April of every year shall be observed as a day of Fasting and Prayer for the prosperity of the Republic; and the President is requested to cause the Secretary of State to make a suitable number of Proclamations to be presented to him for his signature at least one month before said date, so that the nation may have legal notice thereof.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 9th. 1883.

H. J. Jackson

Resolution of the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia exempting the C. Woermann's line of Mail Steamers from tonnage dues in consideration of certain services to be rendered to the Republic by the said line of Mail Steamers.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled:—

Sec. 1st. That from and immediately after the passage of this Resolution, the C. Woermann's line of mail steamers are exempted from tonnage dues at the several Ports of Entry, within the Republic.

2nd. That from and after the passage of this resolution C. Woermann engages with the Republic of Liberia for and in lieu of the aforesaid tonnage dues to carry all Foreign and Domestic Mails for the said Republic, to convey the members and officers of the Legislature of Liberia, His Excellency the President and other Government commissioned officials, when traveling on official duty from one County to another within the limits of Liberia without being required to pay any additional charge for the services rendered by said line of mail steamers as are provided for in this section.

3rd. That from and after the passage of this Resolution that all the persons traveling in the said line of Mail steamers under the provision of the last section of this resolution shall in all respects be treated as first class cabin passengers.

4th. All laws or parts of laws conflicting with the provisions of this Resolution be and the same are hereby repealed.

Approved January 9th. 1883

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An act to amend the laws granting retail license money to the several settlements.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled:

Sec. 1st. That from and after the passage of this act, any and all persons transacting retail business in any of the several settlements of this Republic by selling any goods or merchandise, except alcoholic liquors of any description, shall pay into the town Treasuries a tax fee of Twelve Dollars and obtain the town Treasurer's receipt in duplicate for which he or they shall pay fifty cents; one of which he or they shall deposit with the clerk of the Court of Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas for the County in which the party or parties are carrying on such retail business, on which the clerk aforesaid shall grant the depositor a license according to article 8th, section third, under the head of Navigation, Commerce and Revenue.

Sec. 2nd. It is further enacted that the Citizens of the several towns and villages shall require the Treasurers thereof at their annual town meetings to give good and legal bond with sufficient security to be approved by the presiding Justices of the Peace which bond shall not be less than one Hundred Dollars nor more than Five Hundred Dollars according to the amount of monies which each township is likely to have from taxes, licenses and other receipts:

Sec. 3rd. It is further enacted that the Treasurers of the several towns shall receive five per cent on all monies received by them, the town clerk who shall also be Secretary of the town treasury, shall receive five per cent on all monies paid; he shall be required to keep a correct account of any and all monies received and paid out of said town treasury.

Sec. 4th. The law requiring the Citizens of the several towns and villages to meet on the first Tuesday in October to appoint their overseers of roads and treasurers, and to levy all such taxes as may be necessary for township purposes, is hereby amended so as to allow the Citizens two days, should they need it, to make any and all such laws and regulations necessary for the Government of their respective towns; which laws and regulations shall have full force and virtue before any of the Courts of this Republic provided they do not conflict with the general laws of the country.

Sec. 5th. It is further enacted that should the Citizens fail to appoint any overseer or overseers of roads, or other officers of their respective towns or villages at their annual town meetings to be holden according to law, the officer or officers appointed at their previous annual meeting shall have full power to act until the next annual meeting.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 9th. 1883.

An Act amendatory and Supplementary to the several existing acts regulating the payment of custom house duties; and also amending the 4th. Section of an act for the relief of government approved January 12th. 1880, and repealing the law passed January 5th. 1879.

It is Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled:

Sec. 1st. That from and after the 31st. day of January A. D. 1883. the Import duty upon all Rum, Brandy, Gin and other Alcoholic liquors as well as the duty upon all Gunpowder, Guns, Tobacco, and Brass Kettles, shall be paid in gold coin at its intrinsic value. Any person or persons, Importer, Merchant, Supercargo, Captain or Consignee who may neglect or refuse to comply with the requisition of this Section, as relates to the payment of the Customs dues in gold as aforesaid, he or they shall be proceeded against immediately by the seizure of the goods, wares, merchandise, Interest or credit of said defaulter by a writ of attachment according to the laws governing attachments. And it is hereby declared that in all such cases for the enforcement of the Revenue Laws, bond shall not be required of, or given by the Republic.

Sec. 2nd. It is further enacted that from and after the passage of this Act, one half of the Currency paid into the Treasuries of this Republic, which bears on its face "Receivable for Duties," shall not be reissued, but the same shall be defaced by the said receiving Officer (Treasurer or Sub Treasurer) in the presence of the members of the Legislature or a majority of the same, within thirty six hours after said money is paid in. The Treasurer or Sub Treasurers shall forward notice to the members of their respective Counties immediately upon the receipt of any money; all monies defaced under the provision of this Act shall be laid before the Legislature, at its next session for final destruction.

Sec. 3rd. It is further enacted that for the better securing of the Revenue, one special wharf or landing shed, shall be designated by the Collector of Customs in each County, at each of the Townships where goods and merchandise are landed and produce shipped; and in no case or for any cause whatever shall landing or shipment be effected at any other place after the Collector of Customs shall have given public notice to that effect in three distinct places of the several Counties. And any goods, wares or merchandise landed or produce shipped at any other place contrary to the directions of this section, the same shall be seized and confiscated for the benefit of the Republic of Liberia in the same way and manner as is provided for in section 4th. page 92 of the first Liberian Statutes regulating Navigation, Commerce and Revenue: and in case the wares or merchandise or produce can not be found to be seized by

the Collector of Customs or any other revenue officer, the offender or offenders shall be proceeded against for smuggling or fraud upon the Revenue. And upon conviction for said offence before any court having jurisdiction said offender or offenders shall suffer the penalties and forfeitures as is provided for in the before recited act (viz: 1st Liberia Statutes, page 92, section 4th.)

Sec. 4th. It is further enacted that in no case shall produce, or merchandise, be trans-shipped in harbor unless the same be done by special permit from the Collector of Customs and under the personal inspection of an officer specially, to be employed for that purpose. Any person who shall be guilty of violating this section, shall be deemed guilty of "Fraud" and upon conviction before a court of competent jurisdiction shall pay a fine not exceeding one Thousand Dollars nor less than Three Hundred Dollars, and in default of paying said fine and all costs, said offender or offenders shall be imprisoned in the common jail for a term not exceeding one calendar year, nor less than three calendar months.

Sec. 5th. It is further enacted that one half of the fine imposed upon offenders for violation of the fourth section of this act, shall be for the benefit of the Republic; and the other half shall go to the informant, who shall not be disqualified as a witness in the case on account of interest in the plaintiffs claim, or thing in dispute.

It is further enacted that any Collector of Customs, Treasurer or Sub-Treasurer who shall fail in executing faithfully and promptly any of the provisions of this act, shall be forthwith dismissed from office, and criminal proceedings instituted against him or them immediately for fraud and collusion. Judgment in such cases (against the Collector of Customs Treasurer or Sub-Treasurers) shall not be less than twelve calendar months imprisonment with hard labor in irons, nor more than three years, besides the forfeiture of his or their bond or bonds.

All laws or parts of laws conflicting with any of the provisions of this act be and the same are hereby repealed.

Approved January 9th. 1883.

Henry J. Jackson

Supplementary Act to an Act to increase the revenue.

It is Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled:

Sec. 1. That from and after the passage of this Act there shall be paid an additional sum of one cent per bushel on all Palm kernels exported from this Republic, making the total amount of duty three cents per bushel.

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Sec. 2. It is further enacted that on all Rubber, Gutta Percha and Caoutchouc—exported, from this Republic there shall be paid a duty of one cent per pound.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 9th 1883.

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A Resolution providing for the erection of bridges in Clay-Ashland

Whereas it is deemed expedient for the encouragement of Agriculture in Clay-Ashland.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled—

Sec. 1st. That there be appropriated the sum of Two Hundred and fifty dollars for the purpose of assisting the Citizens of Clay-Ashland in building a bridge and Causeway through the large swamp on the avenue. No. One West of Johnson's Avenue, and the sum of one hundred and ten dollars to assist the Citizens of Clay-Ashland to complete the work on three Swamps already commenced in cross Avenue and in Johnson's Avenue and in Avenue east of Johnson's.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved Jany. 8th. 1883.

Henry Jackson

An act regulating the Liquor Traffic.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled:

Sec. 1st. That from and after the 30th, day of September A. D. 1883, all persons who are or may hereafter be engaged in importing alcoholic liquors into this Republic, that is to say Rum, Gin, Brandy, Whisky or any other alcoholic liquors shall be required to pay an annual license of Two Thousand dollars in the public treasury of each of the counties of this Republic for the authority of importing the same, and shall obtain the Treasurer's receipt in duplicate one of which shall be deposited with the Secretary of the Treasury, and the other with the Clerk of Courts of Quarter Sessions of each of the counties of this Republic who shall grant a license to the depositor for the term or unexpired term of one year, which term shall expire on the 30th day of September in each year; and any person or persons desirous of vending any of the above named liquors that is to say, Rum, Gin, Brandy, Whisky or any other alcoholic liquors in quantities

of less than twenty gallons shall be required to pay an annual tax of One Hundred Dollars for such privilege; and of more than twenty gallons Three Hundred Dollars, payment to be made in form and manner as above.

Sec. 2nd. It is further enacted that should any person or persons citizen or foreigner be found violating any of the provisions of this act by importing or selling or purchasing alcoholic liquors of any description at any time without having paid the amounts above named and obtained the necessary license as prescribed in the first section of this act shall be fined by any court having Competent jurisdiction in a sum of not less than Five Hundred Dollars nor more than Five Thousand Dollars for each offence: and any and all such liquors be confiscated to the Government of Liberia.

Sec. 3rd. It is further enacted that one half of all monies arising from the provision of this act shall be for General Government purposes, and the other half for the use of the County in which said money is paid. The fee for granting any of the above named licenses shall be the same as for retail license.

Any laws or parts of laws Conflicting with the provisions of this, act be and the same are hereby repealed.

Approved January 9th. 1883,

Henry J. Jackson

An act declaring it treason, for any citizen of Liberia, (Naturalized aborigines, or Americo Liberian) to be engaged in levying war against the Republic, or in adhering to its enemies giving them aid and comfort.

Whereas it has been the custom of civilized natives to take the oath of allegiance to this government in times of peace, and to fight against the Liberian Government during hostilities, between the government and aboriginal tribes; and

Whereas, such actions on the part of civilized native citizens have greatly strengthened the aborigines against the authorities of this government, in times of war and manifestly militates against the general interest of Liberia. Therefore

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled:

Sec. 1st. That from and after the passage of this act, any citizen of Liberia who shall take up arms against this Republic in times of war, or in any way so far sympathise with the enemy as to be with them during such hostilities, shall be proclaimed guilty of treason against this nation and upon conviction before any Tribunal of this Republic having competent jurisdiction be punished according to foreign usages in such cases made and provided.

Sec. 2nd. The real estate of such convicted person or person, shall be confiscated to the Liberian Government, and he or they shall be forever debarred from holding any public office in this Republic.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 9th. 1883.

Henry J. Jackson

An Act chartering the Union Mining Company of Liberia.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

Sec. 1st. That from and after the passage of this Act Henry J. Neyle and John W. Worrell, of the County of Grand Bassa, Alfred B. King, Charles T.O. King, and William David Coleman, of Montserrado County, D. M. Johnson, of Maryland County and James M. Priest of Sinoe County in the Republic of Liberia, together with all other persons who now are or may become members of "The Union Mining Company of Liberia," be, and they are hereby declared a Body corporate and politic, under the name and style of "The Union Mining Company of Liberia" and in that name and style may sue and be sued, plead and implead. The said company shall be capable in law and Equity to take and hold real estate, in fee simple or by lease not exceeding two Million dollars.

Sec. 2nd. The said company, shall also be capable in law to receive, hold and enjoy concessions of land from the Government of Liberia, or any Citizen or Citizens, thereof, not exceeding two thousand acres for mining or other purposes. All lands procured from the Government of Liberia by concession, or, on lease, to said company, shall be for a term, of forty years; and the said company shall have the sole, and exclusive right to work all mines discovered by them.

Sec. 3rd. The company aforesaid, shall have the right to dig, crush, wash, smelt, and do every and all things usual and necessary in mining: and for this purpose, is granted the right to import into this Republic, free of duty, all mining utensils, and acids necessary for the succesful prosecution of their enterprise.

Sec. 4th. It is further enacted, that it shall be lawful at any time, during the operation of the said Union Mining Company of Liberia, to establish Banks, and Rail-Roads in connection with their enterprise; and be at liberty to operate in any part of the Republic of Liberia, subject to the indulgences, privileges and protection enacted by the Legislature of Liberia, in An Act encouraging Mining in Liberia, approved January 23. 1869. without such legal restrictions as shall interfere with the rights and privileges granted under, this charter.

Sec. 5th. It is further enacted, that said company is hereby vested with power, and authority to establish such By-Laws, Rules,

and Regulations for their government, as they may deem expedient; provided such By-Laws, Rules, and Regulations, do not conflict with the provisions of this charter. And, as a body corporate and Politic, may at any stated time, agreed upon in their By-Laws and Regulations, elect such officers as may be deemed necessary, for their own government; and shall have perpetual succession.

Sec. 6th. The said company, may have, and use a common seal; accept, and receive bequests or donations of any kind for the benefit of the said company and in whatever name manner or style made to them. And may, when the interest of the company require it, purchase, sell, or exchange any property, real, or personal by them acquired, in any legitimate manner: and in their name and style, act, and do all things common and usual for such bodies corporate and politic.

Sec. 7th. It is further enacted that this charter may be renewed at the expiration of forty years for another term of forty years provided the company applies for the same.

Sec. 8th. It is further enacted that all laws conflicting with the provisions of this Act, be and the same are hereby repealed.

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An act to incorporate " The Liberia Interior Association.

Whereas it is the object of this association to develop and foster the Interior trade to suggest methods and make efforts to facilitate carriage and transportation to and from the Interior of Africa and to enhance the commercial agricultural and political interests of the Republic of Liberia in the interior and with the tribes of that Section.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled :

Sec. 1st. That from and after the passage of this act A. L. Stanford, E. J. Barclay, W. H. King, J. A. Cuthbert S. J. Campbell, J. R. Cooper, together with such others as now are or may hereafter become members of this association entitled The Liberia Interior Association be and they are hereby declared a body Corporate and Politic under the name and style of The Liberia Interior Association and shall hold and enjoy lease of lands from Government or citizens to the amount of One hundred acres for trading and agricultural purposes at every trading Station ten miles distant from the other, said lands if desired from government shall be leased to said association for a term of Twenty years and at the expiration of said term the lease may be renewed for the use and benefit of said association and shall have perpetual succession of officers and members, and may have and use a common seal, and under the name and style aforesaid may sue and be sued, plead and implead, answer and be answered unto in any court of law or equity in the Republic having requisite jurisdiction.

Sec. 2nd. And it is further enacted that said association shall be capable in law of receiving by bequest or donation whether in money other or things for the benefit of said association by whatever name or style the same may be made and in their name and style aforesaid may sell, lease or exchange any estate by them acquired—whether by purchase bequest or donation, provided however such sale lease or donation do not conflict with the Constitution and laws of this Republic where applied to real estate; and the said association is authorized to issue share certificates to the amount of TWENTY THOUSAND SHARES AT FIVE DOLLARS each,

Sec. 3rd. It is further enacted that the Liberia Interior Association is hereby vested with full power and authority to make and establish such Bye-laws, Rules and Regulations for their own Government as they may deem expedient, provided such Bye-laws, Rules and Regulations be not repugnant to the laws or Constitution of this Republic.

Sec. 4th. It is further enacted that any Foreigner or Foreigners or Females or Infants holding share certificates of said association shall receive equal privileges, rights and protection for their interests according to the amount of investment, as may be guaranteed to any and all members of this association by the constitution and Statute Laws of Liberia.

Sec. 5th. It is further enacted that the meetings of the shareholders shall be held quarterly on the *third wednesday* in *March, June, September, and December* when correct information shall be given of the operations. The board of Directors shall consist of *ten members* who shall meet on the first Monday in each month, and shall have power to appoint the necessary travelling agents.

The President of the association shall be Chairman of the Board and shall have power to call the Board at any time and four shall constitute a quorum, providing that each member of the Board shall receive due and timely notice of the meeting.

Sec. 6. It is further enacted that the association shall be allowed by its lawful traders to transport all commodities from the Interior for home consumption free of duty, but on all Imports from and Exports to any Foreign country shall be required to pay Government the usual duties which may from time to time be required by law.

Sec. 7. It is further enacted that the Government shall protect the association in the lawful pursuit of business and in order to encourage and facilitate the promotion of its objects among the Interior tribes a yearly stipend of FIFTY DOLLARS shall be paid the principal chiefs where trading stations may be established, if they will on their part keep the roads open for peaceable travel to the agents of the association.

And said Association shall not be allowed to traffic in *Ardent Spirits* with the natives, nor unlawfully intrude in any manner or their personal or private property, any violation of the provisions of this act, to be retributed upon the person or persons so doing by

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fine or imprisonment as a source of the laws of Liberia may determine.

Sec. 8th. It is further enacted that all laws or parts of laws conflicting with the provisions of this act be and are hereby repealed.

Approved January 11th. 1883.

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A Resolution Authorizing the President to build a Gun house in the County of Maryland in the City of Harper.

Also to complete the fortification at Jacksonville and Mount Tubman.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature Assembled.

Sec. 1st. That the sum of Five Hundred dollars be appropriated to build a suitable Stone Gun house in the county of Maryland in the City of Harper.

Sec. 2nd. It is further enacted that the sum of Six-hundred dollars be appropriated for the completion of the fortification at Jacksonville, also Five hundred dollars for the completion of the fortification at Tubman Town.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 11th. 1883

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An act to incorporate the Ebenezer Baptist Church Maryland County of Harper.

It is Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

Sec. 1st. That from and after the passage of this act E. W. Diggs, Charles McIntosh, J. W. Simpson, E. B. Cummings, Adam Barker, Richard Webster, Boston Moulton and A. B. Jackson, Pastor, and Deacons Worshipping in the Church Edifice called the Ebenezer Baptist Church in the City of Harper Maryland County Republic of Liberia are hereby constituted a body corporate and politic to have a perpetual succession by the name of Ebenezer Baptist Church of Harper, and with power to take, hold, possess and enjoy real and personal estate by grant, purchase or otherwise and to convey the same whenever the circumstances of said body shall make it conducive to its interest in an amount not exceeding Twentyfive thousand dollars, and to have the privilege to sue and be sued plead and implead in any Court of law or equity in this Republic and to do all other acts and things usual to be done by such bodies Corporate and Politic.

Sec. 2nd. It is further enacted that all laws or parts of laws militating against the provisions of this act be and the same are hereby repealed.

Approved January 11th. 1883.

A Resolution accepting the proffer of Telegraphic Communication in the Republic of Liberia.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature Assembled:—

That the proffer of Telegraphic Communication in the Republic of Liberia made known to this Government by its Consul General James W. Shaw be and is hereby accepted.

It is further resolved that the Republic of Liberia engages to protect those portions of the line of Telegraph which passes directly through the Americo Liberian towns and villages, Monrovia in the County of Montserrado; Edina, upper Buchanan, or Lower Buchanan, in Grand Bassa County; Greenville in Sinoe County and Harper in Maryland County. and will also grant protection to English employes at such stations on the line of Telegraph as may be situated as above indicated.

All laws to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved Jany. 11th. 1883.

H. J. Jackson

A Resolution assisting the Citizens of Robertsport of Montserrado County in building a bridge and Causeway through the Swamp or Creek between Krootown and the Old Garrison, and one by R. J. B. Watson's residence also one between Jas. M. Strother and Charles Curtis place.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled:—

Sec. 1st. That there be appropriated the sum of Two hundred and fifty dollars to build a bridge and Causeway on the Swamp between Krootown and the garrison, and Fifty dollars for the completion of the bridge by R. J. B. Watson's residence also One hundred dollars for the bridge between J. M. Strother and Charles Curtis place.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved Jany. 11th, 1883.

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X An additional act supplementing the several existing acts regulating the payment of the Custom House duties, and providing for the punishment of offending officers.

Whereas some of the accounting and disbursing officers of this government have disbursed public monies contrary to law, pleading necessity as an excuse for their actions, and whereas it has been discovered that a strict observance of the laws of this Republic

will greatly relieve the government as well as prove beneficial to its citizens Therefore,

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled:

Sec. 1st. That the amounts of gold paid into the Treasury and Sub-treasuries for and on account of Custom House duties on rum, gin, brandy, and other alcoholic liquors, as well as on all guns, gunpowder, tobacco and brass kettles, shall be disposed of in the following order, viz.—

One tenth of said gold shall be set aside for the purpose of liquidating foreign claims, and the remaining nine tenths shall be used in payments under the general appropriation bill; no officer or officers, person or persons presenting his or their bill or bills for payment shall in any case receive more than half gold on account of his or their claim.

Sec. 2nd. It is further enacted that should any accounting or disbursing officer fail strictly and faithfully to observe any of the requisitions of this act or such as may be contained in any of the unrepealed statutes of this Republic under any pretext whatever, he or they shall be presented or indicted by the Grand Jury for said offence, or impeached by the Legislature. Judgment in such cases shall be removal from office, forfeiture of his or their bond, or bonds and imprisonment for a term of not less than five (5) years in the Common Jail in irons, and be disqualified forever hereafter from holding any office of honour or trust in this Republic.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding

Approved January 11th 1883.

—o— *H. J. Jackson.*

An Act regulating the duties of the several Law officers of the Government.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature Assembled.

Sec. 1. That the Attorney General shall represent the Republic in all cases before the Supreme Court and shall supervise and direct all prosecutions in the several Courts of Admiralty under the Navigation, Commerce and Revenue Laws of this Republic, and all suits arising out of treaties under the principles of International Law which may come before the several courts of this Republic. He shall have power from time to time to make regulations for the guidance of the Several County and District Attorneys and shall see that they perform their duties, and shall require from them quarterly reports on all matters relating to the duties of their several offices. He shall advise the General Government officers on all legal questions touching the duties of their several offices, and may, if he thinks the interest

of the State require it, ask the President to remove any County or District attorney from office, or to order an investigation into the conduct of any such officer in any matter which may pertain to his duties as such officer, or affect his performance thereof, and he shall make annual reports to the Legislature of all matters and things pertaining to his office. The Attorney General shall reside at the Capital and only visit the other Counties when on official duty and that by permission of the President.

Sec. 2. The several County and District attorneys shall obey the instructions and regulations of the Attorney General when duly notified of them in writing, on pain of dismissal from office; shall advise the several officers of their respective Counties or districts concerning any matter touching the duties of their offices; shall represent the Republic in the several County and District courts and may refer any matter to the Attorney General for his instruction or opinion, and make quarterly reports of all matters and things pertaining to their offices to the Attorney General.

Sec. 3. It shall be the duty of the several County and District Attorneys to perform the duties of Escheator General and be vigilant in finding out what properties escheat to the Government and prosecute the claim of the Government to the same, and they shall receive two and a half per cent on the value of all property escheated by their efforts; they shall make a return to the Attorney General of all property so escheated with a full statement of the facts in the case, and should any person consider that he has a claim which although not enforceable at law or equity might fairly entitle him to property which has been escheated, he shall file in the Attorney General's office within six months of the date of the order escheating such property a full statement of his claim verified by the affidavits of other reliable witnesses or satisfactory and legal evidence, and the Attorney General shall examine into the matter and advise the President as to whether such person in his opinion is entitled to all or any portion of the property claimed, and for so advising the Attorney General shall receive three and one third per cent of the value of such property all expenses incurred in the escheating of such property and the percentage of the law officers shall in all cases be paid out of any property escheated before any portion shall return to any claimant.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 11th, 1883.

An Act to incorporate the Farmers Joint Stock Raising and Trading Association.

Whereas the within named citizens of the County of Montserrado, in the Republic of Liberia deem it necessary to form a more perfect union among the Farmers of this Republic, to establish a stronger basis for themselves and those who may hereafter

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join with them for the more speedy development of the resources of the Country by increasing and carrying on agriculture with more ease, and also to open up and prosecute an honorable trade among our citizens and interior tribes, as well as to raise beasts of all kinds suitable for our market, and.

Whereas every honorable enterprise should be encouraged, Therefore

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

Sec. 1st. That from and after the passage of this Act, Andrew Cartwright, George Moore, Samuel Barker, Joseph Ash, T. C. Lomax, Henry Chesson, William P. Chesson, Richard Newton, Julia Simpson, and W. D. Coleman of the county of Montserrado and with such others as are now and may hereafter become members of the Company to be known as Farmers Joint Stock Raising and Trading Association, be and they are hereby declared a body corporate and politic under the name and style aforementioned and shall be capable in law to receive, hold and enjoy real and personal estate to the amount of One Million Dollars, and not less than one hundred dollars for the use and benefit of said Company: and shall have perpetual succession of Officers and members and under the name and style aforesaid, may sue and be sued, plead and implead, answer and be answered into any Court of Law and Equity of this Republic having requisite jurisdiction.

Sec. 2nd. It is further enacted that the said Association shall be capable in law of receiving by bequest or donation, whether in money or other things real or personal for the benefit of the said Association by whatever name or style the same may be made and in the name and style aforesaid, may whenever the interest of the Association and its prosperity seem to require, sell, lease or exchange any estate by them acquired whether by purchase, bequest, or donation.

Sec. 3. It is further enacted that the Farmers Joint stock Raising and Trading Association is hereby vested with full power and authority to make and establish such Bye laws, Rules and Regulations for their own government as they may deem necessary, which bye laws, rules and regulations shall have full force in and before any of the Courts of this Republic, provided such byelaws, rules and regulations, be not repugnant to the laws and Constitution of this Republic.

Sec. 4. It is further enacted that for the purpose of carrying fully into effect the designs of this Association, there shall be a President, Vice President, and Five (5) or more Directors with such other Officers as the Association may deem necessary to have, the duties of which shall be defined in the Constitution and Byelaws of the Association.

Sec. 5. There shall be an annual meeting of the shareholders of this Association in the settlement of Brewerville on the fourth

(4th.) Wednesday in every year, and the Board of Directors shall meet on the fourth Wednesday of every month at such places as may be directed in the byelaws of the Association, said board of directors shall have power to require a correct report from the Officers of the Association and transact any and all other business which may be assigned in the byelaws, and regulations of this Association.

Approved January 11: 1883.

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An act to incorporate the Union League Society of Arthington. Montserrado County.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature Assembled.

Sec. 1st. That from and after the passage of this Act George Askie, S. R. Hoggard, Solomon York, James H. Rawlhac, Mc. Gilbert Lawrence, W. L. Askie, S. W. Askie, Robert Mitchell, and W. L. Carter, all of the town of Arthington together with such others as now are or may hereafter become members of the association called the Union League Society of Arthington be and they are hereby declared to be a body Corporate and politic under the name and style of the Union League Society of Arthington Montserrado County and shall be capable in law to receive hold and enjoy real and personal estate to the amount of Twenty five thousand dollars for the use and benefit of said Society and shall have perpetual succession of officers and members, and may have and use a common seal and under the name and style aforesaid may sue and be sued plead and be impleaded, answer and be answered into any Court of law or equity in this Republic having requisite Jurisdiction

Sec. 2nd. And be it further enacted that the said Society shall be capable in law of receiving by bequest or donation whether in money or other things for the benefit of said Society by whatever name or style the same may be made and under their name or style aforesaid when the interest of the society and its prosperity seem to require it sell, lease, or exchange any estate by them acquired whether by purchase or donation.

Sec. 3rd. And be it further enacted that the Union League Society of Arthington aforesaid is hereby vested with full power and authority to make and establish such by-laws, rules, and regulations for their government as they may deem expedient provided such by-laws, rules, and regulations be not repugnant to the laws or Constitution of this Republic, and provided also that such by-laws, rules and regulations shall at all times be subject to be altered or repealed by the Legislature.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved Jan'y 18th 1883

A Resolution fixing the day of adjournment of the Eighteenth Legislature 2nd Session.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled:—

That the Second Session of the Eighteenth Legislature adjourn its present session, *Sine die* on the Twentieth (20th) day of January 1883.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

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A Resolution to amend an Act to encourage Agriculture throughout the Republic of Liberia, approved January 13th 1883.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

Sec. 1st, That the words Eighteen Hundred and Eighty Four in the sixth (6th.) line and first section of the above recited act be, and the same are hereby amended so as to read A. D. (1886.) Eighteen Hundred and Eighty Six.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 18th. 1883.

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A Resolution making appropriation to assist the citizens of Brewerville and the old Field in the rear of Upper Caldwell to throw up the worst swamps, and to bridge the running streams through them.

Whereas the citizens of Brewerville and the Old Field in the rear of Upper Caldwell are greatly inconvenienced in conveying their produce to market as well as common travel to attend their daily avocations on account of the swamps in the highway and;

Whereas the said Citizens of Brewerville have petitioned the Legislature for a small amount of money to assist them in throwing up the said swamps and to bridge the said streams and;

Whereas it is deemed absolutely necessary to enact such laws and make such appropriations as will encourage the working citizens and thereby preserve their health and lives.

Therefore. It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled:

Sec. 1st. That from and immediately after the passage of this resolution, the sum of Two Hundred and Seventy five dollars (275.00) be and the same is hereby appropriated for the North Avenue known as Slight's avenue, and the sum of Three Hundred (\$ 300.00) dollars to be equally divided between East and West

avenues known as Indian Ridge and Brisbane avenue; and the sum of Fifty (\$50.00) dollars for the road that leads from the water side to the town of Brewerville; and also Fifty (50.00) dollars for the road leading from the St. Pauls River to the Old Field in the rear of Upper Caldwell; and the sum of One Hundred (\$100.00) dollars to assist the Citizens of Arthington in building a bridge.

Sec. 2nd It is further resolved that the above sums be drawn by the Overseers of the different sections of roads, who shall give legal bond with good security to use said money exclusively upon the swamps which most need it; and that they will throw up all or have thrown up said swamps sufficiently high so as to prevent the overflow of water, and to bridge such streams in said swamps so as to afford comfortable passage,

Sec. 3rd. It is further resolved that any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 18th. 1883

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A Resolution amending a Resolution of the Legislature of Liberia approved January 18th. 1876.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled—

Sec. 1. That from and immediately after the passage of this resolution, the Secretary of State under the direction of the President be and he is hereby authorized, to communicate with the United States Government through the Liberian Consul at Washington D. C. the desire of this Government to negotiate a *treaty* of defensive alliance and protection with that Government, and should the proposition meet the concurrence of the United States Government, the President be and he is hereby authorized without delay to form such *treaty* of defensive alliance and protection with the said United States Government either in person or by Commission, on such terms and conditions as may best suit the interest of this Republic, and shall in no wise compromise or impair the independence and Sovereignty of Liberia.

Sec. 2nd. Resolved that the President or Commissioners be further authorized to effect such other Negotiations with the said United States Government or any Company or Citizens thereof as will relieve this Government of its entire Foreign indebtedness for the consideration of which the said United States Government, company or citizen thus relieving this Government shall have the right of developing the mineral resources of this Republic and shall have such commercial and agricultural advantages as shall be agreed upon by the contracting parties.

Soc. 3rd. Resolved that the commissioners provided for in the first section of this resolution shall be provided with a competent Secretary whose duty it shall be to keep a true and correct record

of all of the proceedings of the commissioners and the Convention during the negotiations thereof, and he shall receive the usual salary of Secretary to such conventions and should it become necessary for the commissioners to go to the United States of America to effect said treaty of defensive alliance and protection and such other negotiations for the relief of this government, The sum of Two thousand and Five Hundred dollars be and the same is hereby appropriated for the use of said commission who shall be required to render a faithful account of the actual amount expended by them while engaged in the duties required of them under the provisions of this resolution.

And the Secretary of the Treasury be and he is hereby authorised to draw under warrant of the President for the same.

Sec, 4th. Resolved that the said treaty of defensive alliance and protection and such other negotiations provided for in the first and second sections of this resolution shall be subject to the joint action of the Legislature, where necessarily implied in the distribution of power to the constitutional authorities.

Section 5th. Resolved that the United States Government is earnestly requested by the Legislature of Liberia to accede to the foregoing resolution.

Any laws or parts of laws to the contrary notwithstanding

Approved Jan'y 18th. 1863.

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Joint Resolution in behalf of President ANTHONY WILLIAM GARDNER

Whereas it has pleased Almighty God in his wise providence to afflict His Excellency Anthony William Gardner, President of the Republic of Liberia and the only surviving Signer of the Declaration of our National Independence, who for the past fifty years has faithfully served his Country in the various departments of Government, with such zeal and energy as characterizes true patriotism, and whereas in the midst of his third term of office he becomes no longer able to perform the duties incumbent upon him, and finds it necessary to resign his post and retire to private life Therefore

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled:

Section 1st. That this Nation bow in humble submission to the Divine will of heaven in the poignant suffering of our Noble Chieftain, while with hearts overshadowed by sorrow we extend to him and his distressed family expressions of gratitude and sympathy.

Section 2nd. It is further resolved that the sum of One thousand dollars be and the same is hereby appropriated as an annual

stipend for the life time support of our beloved President whose name will ever be a lasting monument to generations yet unborn

Section 3rd. It is further resolved that the Secretary of the Treasury be and he is hereby authorized to provide for the passage of the President and family home, from the General Contingent fund, and draw under warrant of the President for the sum provided for in the second section of this resolution.

Approved Jany 20th. 1883.

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A Resolution Appropriating An Amount of Five hundred dollars for opening and constructing a Road between Harlandville and Lower Buchanan in Bassa County.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature Assembled:—

Sec. 1st. That there be appropriated the sum of Five hundred dollars for the purpose of opening and constructing a Road at least twenty feet wide, between Harlandville and Lower Buchanan.

Any laws to the contrary notwithstanding

Approved Jany 20th. 1883.

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Resolution authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to examine into the claim of Mrs A. E. Roye,

Whereas Mrs A. E. Roye has petitioned the Legislature of Liberia to appropriate for One thousand dollars, said to be loaned to the Republic of Liberia by her husband E. F. Roye, Therefore.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled:

That as soon as practicable after the passage of this resolution the Secretary of the Treasury be and he is hereby directed to carefully examine into the above claim of Mrs A. E. Roye, and report his conclusion to the Legislature of Liberia at its ensuing session.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 20th. 1883

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An Act for the relief of the Settlements of Crozerville, Careysburg Paynesville and Ammons ville in the Old Field Messurado River.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representative of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature Assembled.

That from and after the passage of this Act the sum of Six hundred dollars be and is hereby specially appropriated for the construction of two bridges in the settlements of Careysburg, Crozerville at Zimadoo and Zodaque and the of sum Five hundred dollars is hereby also specially appropriated for the construction of four bridg-

es in the settlements of Paynesville and Ammons ville on the old field Messurado River, one of said bridges to be situated between Chief Justice Parsons' land and A. D. Williams' land, one between Ammons station and Jesse Cooper's land, and one between Mrs Rebecca Mars and Mrs Deputie's land in Paynesville or any other direction better situated.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 20th. 1883.

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A Resolution making appropriations for the opening of Findley Road in Grand Bassa County.

Whereas there is an Interior Settlement established at Findley Mountain a distance of ten miles from Hartford and whereas the road from Hartford to Findley is nearly impassable on account of many small creeks and swamps. Therefore ;

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled :

That there be hereby appropriated *Three Hundred Dollars* for the opening of the Findley Road and making bridges across the small creeks on the same.

That the President be and he is hereby authorized to draw on the Public Treasury for the said amount.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 20th. 1883.

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