

Henry L Jackson
ACTS

PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

DURING THE SESSION 1888—1889

PRINTED BY AUTHORITY

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A C T S .

An Act to incorporate the "Number 1. Division, Gentlemen's Mutual Relief Society" of East Harper Maryland County, Republic of Liberia.

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 J. J. Perry, J. J. Baker, Eli Barnes, J. L. Cox, C. J. George, R. A. Johnson, J. A. Tull, C. H. Gray, W. C. Cummings, A. L. Cummings, D. A. Cox, W. B. Dade, W. Williams, Jr. and R. A. Carpenter, all of the City of Harper, Maryland County, Republic of Liberia, together with such others as now are, or may hereafter become members of the Society called the "Number 1. Division Gentlemen's Mutual Relief Society" of East Harper, Maryland County, Republic of Liberia, be and they are hereby declared to be, a Body Corporate and Politic, under the name and style of the "Number 1. Division Gentlemen's mutual Relief Society of Maryland County, and shall be capable in law to receive, hold and enjoy Real and personal Estate, to the amount of Twenty Thousand Dollars, for the use and benefit of the 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 in any court of law or equity in this Republic having requisite Jurisdiction.

SEC. 2. 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 the 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 by purchase or donation.

SEC. 3. And be it further enacted that the "Number 1. Division, Gentlemen's Mutual Relief Society" of East Harper, Maryland County 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 Law or Constitution of the Republic.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding,

Approved December 31. 1888.

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An Act to incorporate the Grand Lodge of African Union Odd Fellows of Liberia.

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, A. D. Holliday, Urias H. Maddison, Joshua J. Randall, William H. Jones, Robert A. Kennedy, James T. Smith, Edward Skipwith, N. W. Early and J. L. Taylor, Trustees, together with such others as are now, or may hereafter become members of the Society, known as the Grand Lodge of African Union Odd Fellows of Liberia be and they are hereby declared to be a body Corporate and Politic under the name and style of the Grand Lodge of African Union Odd Fellows of Liberia, and shall be capable in law to receive, hold and enjoy real and personal Estate to the amount of Two Thousand Dollars for the 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 in any courts of law and equity in this Republic having Jurisdiction.

SEC. 2. It is further enacted that the Society aforesaid is hereby vested with full power and authority to make, establish, amend and repeal such By-laws, Rules and regulations for their own Government as they may deem expedient and necessary, provided such by-laws rules and regulation be not repugnant to the laws or Constitution of the Republic of Liberia.

Any Law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved December 31. 1888.

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An Act making provisions for the Legitimation of illegitimate children that is children born out of lawful wedlock.

Whereas the practice heretofore obtained in legitimizing illegitimate children, that is children born out of lawful wedlock, by means of special Acts of the Legislature does not appear consistent in view that the Act of legitimation may be effected before Courts of Record. And whereas the Statute of Liberia does not make provisions for any definite court of this Republic to exercise Jurisdiction in such cases.

Therefore it is enacted 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 Act, the Monthly Court commonly called the Monthly and Probate Courts of this Republic be, and all of the same are empowered and authorized to receive and record the petition of any applicant or applicants to have his or their child or children legitimized.

SEC. 2 Said Monthly and Probate Courts are empowered to exercise original Jurisdiction in all cases of legitimizing illegitimate children as referred to in section first; And it shall be the duty of any applicant to legitimize any child or children before any of the Monthly and Probate Courts of this Republic to file said petitions under the rules and regulations governing the filing of Civil cases in said courts.

Any law or parts of laws to the contrary hereof be and the same are hereby abrogated.

Approved December 31. 1888.

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An Act authorizing a grant of Two Hundred Acres of Public Land to the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, in the U. S. A. for Missionary purposes.

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, the President is authorized to direct the proper officers, to survey, and plot a parcel of land on the east bank of the Sinoe River, near the Junction which it forms with the Warnee Creek, not to exceed Two Hundred Acres, after which, the President will sign a deed for the same,

SEC. 2. Said parcel of land shall be deeded to, and held

by David W. Frazer, and W. W. McDonough, L. C. Sherman and J. J. Ross. as Trustees and their successors, for Missionary purposes under the auspices of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. of America. so long as it is used for its legitimate purposes, said Trustees paying expenses usual in such cases.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved December, 31. 1888.

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Resolution awarding the sum of Two hundred Dollars to Clement Irons and Scipio A. Givens builders and proprietors of the "Sarah Ann Irons" the first steam boat built in Liberia.

Whereas Clement Irons and Scipio A. Givens have set a noble example of Industry and enterprise by building and launching a Steam Boat on the St. Paul's River, Montserrado County said steam boat bearing the name "Sarah Ann Irons" and as said Steam boat is not only safely and well built, but is a great convenience in being able to carry passengers to the number of forty more or less as well as freight to the amount of ten tons more or less. And whereas said steam boat built and launched by the said Clement Irons and Scipio A. Givens is the first manifestation and production of that kind of industry and enterprise in Liberia.

Therefore as a public appreciation of said industry and enterprise as well as to give encouragement to industry and enterprise generally.

It is enacted 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 Act the sum of Two Hundred Dollars be and the same is hereby appropriated as a grant to Clement Irons and Scipio A. Givens for and in consideration of their industry and enterprise in building and launching on the St. Paul's River a Steam boat named "Sarah Ann Irons."

SEC. 2. It is further enacted that the President be and he is hereby empowered to draw upon the General Government fund in payment of said two hundred dollars.

Any law or parts of laws to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved December 31. 1888.

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An Act granting a Concession to Benjamin L. Thomson and others of London, England, to gather, collect and prepare Caoutchouc or India Rubber within the Republic.

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Whereas a PRELIMINARY AGREEMENT has been signed by Edward B. Gudgeon Consul General of Liberia residing in London and Benjamin L. Thomson of the firm of Thomson & Co, London, England, on the subject of granting to the said Benjamin L. Thomson the privilege of gathering, collecting and preparing the substance or product known as Caoutchouc, Rubber or Gum elastic, which proposal has received due consideration from the Government of Liberia, therefore,

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 a concession is granted unto Benjamin L. Thomson for himself and others who shall join him in the enterprise conferring upon him and them the sole right, liberty and privilege of gathering, collecting and preparing the substance or product known as Caoutchouc, Rubber or Gum elastic in or upon such public lands as shall be specified, designated or mentioned in a future agreement to be executed between the Government of Liberia and Benjamin L. Thomson and others.

SEC. 2. It is further enacted that agreeably to the terms and conditions set forth in a preliminary agreement signed by Edward B. Gudgeon as Consul General and Commercial Agent for the Government of Liberia and Benjamin L. Thomson for "self and principal" dated the 25th, day of May 1888, the President of Liberia is authorized and empowered to enter into a further agreement with the parties herein referred to; specifying the locality and the special area within which the said Benjamin L. Thomson and others shall operate in gathering, collecting and preparing from such trees, vines and shrubs as are capable of, and proper and suitable for yielding the substance or product known as Caoutchouc, Rubber or Gum elastic with such other details as are proper and necessary to be expressed and understood in such agreement, requiring at the same time of Benjamin L. Thomson and principal, statement of the method in which they propose to gather, collect and prepare the said substance or product for export with such other details on their part as are proper and necessary to be expressed. The President is further authorized and directed to appoint a commission not to exceed three persons to inspect the operation of gathering, collecting and preparing the said substance or product for export as well as to ascertain and test the amount so gathered, collected and prepared.

SEC. 3. After the agreement provided for in the previous

section has been duly executed on the part of Government by the President or some duly authorized official he shall publish and declare the locality and special area within which it has been agreed that the said parties shall act. From and after this publication it shall be unlawful for any person or persons whatsoever to gather, collect or prepare the said substance within the area allotted the said B. L. Thomson and others unless he, she or they are employed by the said parties for the purpose; and when any Liberian heathen or civilized is so employed, he shall not adulterate the said substance. Any entrance upon the grounds for the purpose of gathering, collecting or preparing rubber in the unlawful manner already described shall be deemed a trespass, and any attempt to adulterate said substance collected, gathered or prepared for the company shall be deemed fraud, and both offences or either shall be punishable in our Courts of law as in other cases of trespass or fraud.

SEC. 4. The term for which this concession is granted is twenty one (21) years from the date of the execution of the agreement herein provided for, although it may be determinable at the option of the Government or of B. L. Thomson and principals at the end of the first seven or fourteen years.

All laws or parts of laws conflicting with this act are hereby repealed.

Approved January 4. 1889.

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An Act restoring certain persons to Citizenship.

Whereas John Roe, Charles Knox and Joseph B. Warner of Montserrado County having been convicted of larceny, and Mary J. Hungerford of Maryland County of a Misdemeanor, and S. F. Cooper of a Felony and they having petitioned the Legislature for restoration Therefore.

It is enacted 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 Act John Roe, Charles Knox, and Joseph B. Warner of Montserrado County, and Mary J. Hungerford and S. F. Cooper of Maryland County be, and they are hereby restored to all the rights and privileges granted all other good citizens of this Republic.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 4. 1889.

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An Act appropriating annually Seventy five Dollars to and for the use of Rosaline Clark widow of Jacob Clark of Montserrado County and her children.

Whereas Jacob Clark was employed in Government service in firing a Salute from Fort Norris in the month of May 1888, was injured, and within a few days died leaving a widow and four children.

Therefore it is resolved 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 Resolution the sum of seventy five dollars annually be and the same is hereby appropriated as a Pension for the widow and children of the late Jacob Clark as aforesaid during her widowhood and the minority of the children, and that the President be and he is hereby authorized to draw for the same quarterly out of any money in the Public Treasury of this Republic not otherwise appropriated.

Any law or parts of law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 4. 1889.

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An Act authorizing a special Election to be holden in Harper Maryland County on the 2nd, Monday in April 1889.

Whereas the Sheriff of Maryland County published a wrong day for the Election of Mayor, Councilmen and Aldermen for the City of Harper in view of which no Election was held according to the provisions of said charter.

Therefore, 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, a special election shall be held in the City of Harper in the County of Maryland on the 2nd Monday in April A. D. 1889, and the Judge of the Monthly and Probate Court is hereby authorized to appoint Judges and clerks for said election according to law to elect a Mayor, Aldermen and Councilmen.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 4. 1889.

Resolution Providing for the immediate restoration of Peace at Half Cavalla in Maryland County.

It is resolved 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 resolution the Secretary of the Treasury be and he is hereby authorized under the direction of the President to obtain a loan of Twenty five Thousand Dollars from any citizen or citizens Foreigner or Foreigners who are doing mercantile business in Liberia for the purpose of immediately forcing the rebellious tribes at Half Cavalla to terms of peace and Loyalty to this Government to be refunded by giving such dutiable obligations receivable at the Custom Houses of this Government.

SEC. 2. It is further enacted that to effect the above purpose the President be and he is hereby empowered and authorized to have at least Three Hundred soldiers to be enlisted to act in concert with the entirety of the fourth Regiment.

Any law or parts of laws to the contrary notwithstanding.
Approved January 4, 1889.

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HOMESTEAD AND HOUSEHOLD EXEMPTION ACT.

An Act to exempt from sale on execution the Homestead of a Householder having a family.

Whereas it becomes necessary to encourage and strengthen the motives to industry and business among the community at large, under circumstances prosperous or adverse, and is in keeping also with the general usage, laws and practice of the civilized world made and provided respecting such cases; Therefore.

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, all Householders and heads of families owning real estates, shall have so much of that real estate, exempt from the writs of their Creditors; that is to say, One Town lot or one acre of farm land upon which the House is situated with all the appurtenances and outwellings of the same, which exemption

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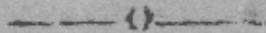
shall mean, the Homestead of the family ; and this exemption shall last as long as any of the heirs of the family so occupying it shall live.

SEC. 2. To entitle any property to this exemption a notice by the Holder to the Register of lands where the property is located, must be formally executed and acknowledged that such property is designated and intended by the owner thereof to be so held.

SEC. 3. It is further enacted that so much of the personal Property belonging or appertaining to the piece or parcel of land so registered to be designated by the Householder, and appraised by the proper officer to the amount of Two Hundred Dollars, shall in like manner be free from Execution.

All laws or parts of laws to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 4. 1889.



An Act to incorporate the Grand United Order Daughters of Temperance Fidelity Division No. 2. of Greenville.

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 G. A. Crayton, P. W. S. J. E. Marschalk, P. W. S. G. A. Kelly, P. W. S. S. A. Draper, P. W. S. E. Roberts, P. W. S. S. J. McCalla, P. W. S. E. F. Lewis, A. S. F. J. Green R. S. together with such others as now are, or may hereafter become members of this Society, Entitled "The Grand United Order, Daughters of Temperance Fidelity Division No. 2. of Greenville, be and they are hereby declared a Body Corporate and Politic, under the name and style of the Grand United Order Daughters of Temperance Fidelity Division No. 2. of Greenville and shall hold and enjoy lease of land, or hold Real Estate and Personal 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 Twenty Thousand Dollars, and to have the privilege to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded in any court of law or Equity in this Republic, and do all acts and things usual to be done by such bodies Corporate and Politic.

SEC. 2. 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 12. 1889.

An Act supplementary to the several existing Acts regulating Towns and Villages.

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, it shall be lawful for citizens of any Township within this Republic, at the annual Townmeeting in the month of October, in each year, to allow or refuse License for the sale of alcoholic liquors within the limits of the Township. A copy of the Resolution of the inhabitants of each township shall in either case be filed with the Clerk of the Court of Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas in each County who shall govern himself accordingly.

SEC. 2. Any person or persons who shall sell alcoholic liquor in the Townships of this Republic contrary to the resolutions of the inhabitants agreed to at the said Annual meetings of Townships in the month of October in each year shall be guilty of a misdemeanor before any court having competent jurisdiction; and on conviction shall pay a fine of three hundred dollars, one Hundred Dollars shall go to the informer, and Two Hundred Dollars to the Republic.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 12. 1889.

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An Act protecting Government against Fraud.

It is enacted 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 Act, It shall be the duty of all Sub-Treasurers to report at each Term of the Court of Quarter Sessions on the first Tuesday of the meeting of said Court, all monies received by them for Licenses, Taxes, Land Sales, Military and Judiciary fines. Said report is to contain the registration of said bills, the names of the person in whose favor drawn, the amount, number and the appropriation on which said Bills were drawn. Said reports shall be examined by the Clerk of the Court, and if found correct it shall be verified by the Clerk of Court, and attested with the seal of said Court.

SEC. 2. It is further enacted that all Treasury Orders, Checks, and Audited Bills received according to the provis-

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ions of the first section of this Act shall be immediately destroyed by fire by the Court, and a verified report forwarded to the Secretary of the Treasury by the first conveyance.

SEC. 3. It is further enacted that it shall be the duty of the several Superintendents of Counties, i. e. Maryland, Sinoe, Grand Bassa and Montseriado, to cause each Clerk of the Court of Quarter Sessions, to enter into Bonds for the faithful performance of their several duties of not less than One Thousand Dollars.

Any law to the contrary, be, and the same is hereby repealed.

Approved January 12. 1889

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An Act Restoring Alexander Jackson and Anthony Tubman of Maryland County, and Frank Crowel of Sinoe County, to citizenship.

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, Alexander Jackson and Anthony Tubman of Maryland County, and Frank Crowel, of Sinoe County, be and they are hereby restored to all the rights, privileges and immunities granted to all other good citizens of this Republic.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 12. 1889

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Joint Resolution replying to A. Woermann of Hamburg, Germany.

Whereas A. Woermann of Hamburg, Germany has made proposals to the Government of Liberia in answer to the Secretary of Treasury concerning the difficulties at Half Cavalla in Maryland County asking for some aid to settle the same ; And whereas the Secretary has submitted the proposals to the Legislature now in session ; And Whereas it is just and right that the Legislature should give some expression respecting the proposed Loan.

Therefore, it is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature Assembled.

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SEC. That the Secretary of Treasury be authorized under the direction of the President to contract with A. Woermann of Hamburg, Germany as follows, Accepting the Ten Thousand Dollars in Coin to be paid in a given time at six per cent 6 o/o interest payable yearly, he A. Woermann deducting a sufficient sum from the Ten Thousand Dollars to pay the cost of one of his Steamers to convey the Liberian Forces to and from Maryland County and send the remainder to the Secretary of the Treasury.

SEC. 2. That the Government will take up any and all Bills, Checks or Scripts in A. Woermann's possession which have not been made null and void by the Act of consolidation of A. D. 1880 and settle the same by making them available for Custom Dues on Goods to be imported. The said Bills, Checks or Scripts shall be presented to the Secretary of the Treasury whose duty it shall be to examine them, and if any of them be found bearing dates previous to the date of the above referred to Act, he shall return the same to A. Woermann, but of those which are otherwise he shall retain, and give A. Woermann dutiable obligations receivable at the Customs on Goods to be imported,

SEC. 3. The Loan authorized by this Resolution shall be so construed as to be included in the sum of Twenty five Thousand Dollars authorized to be borrowed in a previous Act passed this Session Entitled "Resolution for immediate restoration of Peace at Half Cavalla in Maryland County.

Approved January 15. 1889.

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Joint Resolution fixing the day of adjournment of the Second Session of the Twenty First Legislature of the Republic of Liberia.

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

That the Second Session of the Twenty first Legislature of the Republic of Liberia Adjourn *Sine die* on Friday the Eighteenth (18) Day of January A. D. 1889.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.