

ceive, out of any unappropriated monies in the treasury, such sums as will make the paper money in which their pay and other emoluments were received, equal to specie; and also interest thereon, from the said 21st day of October, 1780, until the time of the passing of this act—which sum or difference in value shall be ascertained by a scale of depreciation to be formed by the Secretary of the Treasury, by such means as he may think proper, and according to principles of equity and justice.

II. And be it further enacted, That the surviving Officers, non-commissioned Officers, Musicians and Privates, described in the preceding section, shall also be entitled to receive, out of any unappropriated money in the treasury, each according to the period of service, an annuity during his natural life, bearing such proportion to the annuities granted by the said act, as his period of service shall bear to the period which elapsed between the 21st day of October, 1780, and the termination of the war.

III. And be it further enacted, That the actual service, and the period thereof, and the rank and station of the claimants, shall be ascertained in like manner, as is provided by the said act of the 15th May, 1828.

IV. And be it further enacted, That the sums which may be awarded to the persons intended to be benefited by this act, shall be protected by the same immunities as are provided by the said act of the 15th of May, 1828; and that the persons who may be entitled to any benefit under this act, shall be free from arrest and imprisonment, by virtue or under pretence of any writ or process, in any civil suit or action, issuing out of any Court of the United States, or by the authority of any officer thereof.

V. And be it further enacted, That if any of the persons described in the first section of this act should, at the time of passing this act, or at any time thereafter, be confined in prison, or within the jail limits of any prison, or arrested, and held to bail by virtue or under pretence of any writ or order issued or made, under the authority of the United States, or of any officer thereof, for any matter or thing not criminal, such person, on producing the certificate of the Secretary of the Treasury, that the person or persons so confined and imprisoned, or arrested and held to bail, is or are within the meaning of this act, he or they shall be forthwith discharged from such imprisonment, or confinement, or restraint, without the payment of any costs or fees.