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AN ACT

Laying duties on notes of banks, bankers, and certain companies; on notes, bonds and obligations, discounted by banks, bankers and certain companies; and on bills of exchange of certain descriptions.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That from and after the last day of December next, there shall be levied, collected and paid, throughout the United States, the several stamp duties following, viz: For every skin or piece of vellum, or parchment, or sheet or piece of paper, upon which shall be written or printed any or either of the instruments of writing following to wit:

On any promissory note or notes payable either to bearer or order, issued by any of the banks or companies, who issue and discount notes, bonds or obligations, either incorporated or not incorporated, which now are or may hereafter be established in the United States, or by any banker or bankers, according to the following scale, viz.

If not exceeding one dollar, one cent.

If above one dollar, and not exceeding two dollars, two cents.

If above two and not exceeding three dollars, three cents.

If above three and not exceeding five dollars, five cents.

If above five and not exceeding ten dollars, ten cents.

If above ten and not exceeding twenty dollars, twenty cents.

If above twenty and not exceeding fifty dollars, fifty cents.

If above fifty and not exceeding one hundred dollars, one dollar.

If above one hundred and not exceeding five hundred dollars, five dollars.

If above five hundred and not exceeding one thousand dollars, ten dollars.

If above one thousand dollars fifty dollars.

On any bond, obligation or promissory note or notes not issued by any bank, company, or banker as aforesaid, discounted by any such bank, company, or banker, and on any foreign or inland bill or bills of exchange above fifty dollars, and having one or more endorsers, according to the following scale, viz:

If not exceeding one hundred dollars, five cents.

If above one hundred and not exceeding two hundred dollars, ten cents.

If above two hundred and not exceeding five hundred dollars, twenty-five cents.

If above five hundred and not exceeding one thousand dollars, fifty cents.

If above one thousand and not exceeding fifteen hundred dollars, seventy-five cents.

If above fifteen hundred and not exceeding two thousand dollars, one dollar.

If above two thousand and not exceeding three thousand dollars, one dollar and fifty cents.

If above three thousand and not exceeding four thousand dollars, two dollars.

If above four thousand and not exceeding five thousand dollars, two dollars and fifty cents.

If above five thousand and not exceeding seven thousand dollars, three dollars and fifty cents.

If above seven thousand and not exceeding eight thousand dollars, four dollars.

If above eight thousand dollars, five dollars.

Provided, That nothing herein contained shall be construed to charge with a duty or require to be stamped any treasury or other note issued for the use or benefit of the United States, in pursuance of any act of Congress, or to draft of bill drawn by the treasurer of the U. S. or any check payable at sight upon any bank, company, or banker as aforesaid, or to

charge with a duty any second or other copy of a set of exchange.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That in respect to any stamp on any of the notes of the banks or companies aforesaid, now established, or which may hereafter be established, within the U. S. it shall be lawful for the Secretary of the Treasury to agree to an annual composition in lieu of such stamp duty, with any of the said banks or companies, of one and a half per centum on the amount of the annual dividend made by such banks to their stockholders respectively.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That the several duties aforesaid shall be levied, collected, received and accounted for, by and under the immediate direction and management of the collectors appointed under the act, entitled, "An act for the assessment and collection of direct taxes and internal duties," within their respective districts, subject to the superintendance, control and direction of the Treasury Department, according to the respective authorities and duties of the officers thereof.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of the commissioner of the revenue to cause to be provided so many marks and stamps differing from each other, as shall correspond with the several rates of duty aforesaid; that is to say, one mark or stamp for each distinct rate of duty; with which marks and stamps respectively shall be marked or stamped all vellum, parchment, or paper, upon which shall be written or printed all or any of the several instruments, writings, matters and things, herein before enumerated and charged, according to the nature and description of each of the said instruments, writings, matters and things, as are herein before specified and described; which said several marks and stamps shall be notification or advertisement, to be issued by the commissioner of the revenue and inserted in at least one news-paper printed in each state, and for not less than three months before the said last day of December next, to the end that all persons may have due notice thereof; and which said marks and stamps, or any of them, shall or may be altered or renewed from time to time as the said commissioner of the revenue shall think fit, so that like public notification thereof be made, for a term not less than three months, before such new stamps or marks shall begin to be used.

Sec. 5. And be it further enacted, That when any person or persons shall deposit any vellum, parchment, or paper, at the office of any collector aforesaid, accompanying the same with a list which shall specify the number and denomination of the stamps or marks which are to be thereto affixed, it shall be the duty of the said collector to transmit the same to the office of the commissioner of the revenue, where such paper, parchment and vellum, shall be properly marked or stamped, and forthwith sent back to the said collector, who shall thereupon collect the duties, and deliver the vellum, parchment, and paper, pursuant to the order of the person from whom it was received.

Sec. 6. And be it further enacted, That if any person or persons shall write or print, or cause to be written or printed upon any unstamped vellum, parchment or paper, (with intent fraudulently to evade the duties imposed by this act,) any of the matters and things for which the said vellum, parchment or paper is hereby charged to pay any duty, or shall write or print, or cause to be written or printed, any matter or thing upon any vellum, parchment, or paper, that shall be marked or stamped for any lower duty than the duty by this act payable, or shall write or print or cause to be written or printed on vellum, parchment, or paper duly stamped, any matters or things in respect whereof a duty is payable as aforesaid, at a distance from the stamps or marks impressed upon the said vellum, parchment or paper, with intent again to use the said

stamp, vellum, parchment, or paper, or with intent fraudulently to evade the duties imposed by this act; or shall write or print, or cause to be written or printed, any matters or things in respect whereof a duty is payable on any piece of stamped vellum, parchment or paper, whereon there shall have been before written or printed any other matter or thing in respect whereof a duty is payable by this act, before such vellum, parchment or paper shall have been again duly marked or stamped according to this act, such person so offending shall for every such offence forfeit the sum of one hundred dollars, and in case any clerk, officer or person, who, in respect of any public office or employment, is or shall be authorized or instructed to make, write or print any instruments or writings by this act charged to pay a duty as aforesaid, shall be guilty of any fraud or practice to defraud the U. S. of any duty by this act payable, by making, writing or printing any such instrument, or writing, or causing the same to be made, written or printed upon vellum, parchment, or paper, not marked or stamped according to this act, (or upon vellum, parchment, or paper marked or stamped with any mark or stamp which he shall know to be counterfeited,) or by writing or printing any such instrument or other writing upon vellum, parchment or paper that shall be marked or stamped for a lower duty as aforesaid, every such clerk, officer, or person so guilty, and being thereof lawfully convicted, shall instead of the penalty aforesaid forfeit and pay the sum of five hundred dollars; and, if an officer of the U. S. shall, in addition thereto, forfeit his office, and be disabled to hold or enjoy the same for the future.

Sec. 7. And be it further enacted, That no instrument or writing whatever, charged by this act with the payment of a duty aforesaid, shall be pleaded or given in evidence in any court, or admitted in any court to be available in law or equity, unless the same shall be stamped or marked as aforesaid: Provided, That if any such instrument or writing shall have been written or printed upon vellum, parchment, or paper, not marked or stamped according to this act, or upon vellum, parchment or paper, marked or stamped for a lower duty than ought to be paid upon the same, then and in such case, it shall be lawful for the person or persons holding such instrument or writing, to pay to the collector within whose collection district such persons shall reside, the duty chargeable by law on such instrument or writing, together with ten dollars in addition thereto, which duty and additional sum of ten dollars such collector is hereby authorized and required to receive, and without fee or reward to endorse a receipt therefor under his hand, upon some part of such instrument or writing, after which endorsement and not otherwise, such instrument or writing shall be to all intents and purposes as valid and available, as if the same had been or were stamped or marked, as by this act required.

The sums thus received by each collector in virtue of this section shall be accounted for and paid over in the same manner as other monies received for stamp duties, and in such form and under such regulation as shall be prescribed by the treasury department. And if any person with intent to defraud the U. S. of any sum of monies, directed to be paid by this act, shall counterfeit or forge, or cause or procure to be counterfeited or forged, any receipt or endorsement provided for and directed by this section, or shall utter, pass away, vend or offer in evidence in any court of justice, any such forged or counterfeit receipt or endorsement, knowing the same to be forged or counterfeit, then every person so offending and being thereof convicted in due form of law, shall be adjudged to be guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be subject to be fined in any sum not exceeding one thousand dollars, and to be imprisoned for any term not exceeding seven years.

Sec. 8. And be it further enacted, That from and after the last day of December next, no bank or companies aforesaid now established, or which shall be hereafter established, which shall not have compounded for the duty hereby required, shall issue any bank bill or promissory note, unless upon paper duly stamped and whereon the respective duties shall have been paid; and if the officer of any such bank, or any person or persons employed therein, shall thereafter issue any bill or note not duly stamped as aforesaid, he or they shall forfeit and pay a fine equal to the value of the bill or note so issued.

Sec. 9. And be it further enacted, That every person who shall be employed for the marking or stamping of vellum, parchment, or paper as aforesaid, before his acting in the marking or stamping of the said vellum, parchment or paper, shall take the following oath or affirmation: I (insert here the name of the person) do solemnly swear (or affirm as the case may be) that I will according to the best of my knowledge and skill, faithfully, honestly and carefully execute the trust reposed in me, and will truly mark or stamp all vellum, parchment or paper, which I shall be required or directed to mark or stamp, and will render a true and exact account thereof, to the proper officer or officers.

Sec. 10. And be it further enacted, That the said collectors shall, from time to time, for the better execution of their several duties and trusts, observe and execute such directions as they respectively shall from time to time receive from the Department of the Treasury, which department shall take care that the several parts of the U. S. shall from time to time be sufficiently furnished with vellum, parchment & paper, stamped or marked as aforesaid, so that the citizens thereof may have it in their election to buy the same of the officers or persons to be employed in and about the execution of this act at the usual or most common rates above the said duty, or to bring their own vellum, parchment or paper to be marked or stamped as aforesaid.

Sec. 11. And be it further enacted, That whenever any person other than officers employed in collecting the revenue of the U. S. shall apply to any collector aforesaid at the office of such collector, for the purchase at one time, of any quantity of vellum, parchment or paper, stamped and marked in the manner aforesaid, the whole amount of the duties on which quantity shall be ten dollars or upwards, such collector shall be, and hereby is authorized and required, to deliver to such person such quantity of vellum, parchment or paper, stamped as aforesaid; the said person paying down the amount of the said duties, after deducting therefrom seven and one half per centum on such amount, which deduction the said collector is hereby authorized and required to allow.

Sec. 12. And be it further enacted, That all the paper wanted for the purposes of this act, excepting paper for bank notes, shall be furnished at the expense of the U. S. by the Secretary of the Treasury, who is hereby authorized to employ annually a sufficient sum for that purpose, which sum, as well as an annual sum of twenty thousand dollars for defraying the expenses of dies and of stamping the paper, shall be paid out of any monies in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Sec. 13. And be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of the collectors aforesaid, in their respective districts, and they are hereby authorized to collect the duties imposed by this act, and to prosecute for the recovery of the same, and for the recovery of any sum or sums which may be forfeited by virtue of this act. And all fines, penalties and forfeitures which shall be incurred by force of this act, shall & may be sued for and recovered in the name of the U. S. or of the collector aforesaid within whose district any such fine, penalty or forfeiture, shall have been incurred, by bill, plaint, or information, one moiety thereof to the use of the U. States, and the other moiety thereof

to the use of the person who, if a collector, aforesaid, shall first discover, if other than a collector, aforesaid, shall first inform of the cause, matter or thing whereby any such fine, penalty or forfeiture, shall have been incurred; and where the cause of action or complaint shall arise or accrue more than fifty miles distant from the nearest place by law established for the holding of a district court within the district in which the same shall arise or accrue, such suit and recovery may be had before any court of the state, holden within the said district, having jurisdiction in like cases.

Sec. 14. And be it further enacted, That this act shall continue in force until the termination of the war in which the U. S. are now engaged with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland & the dependencies thereof, and for one year thereafter and no longer.

H. CLAY,
Speaker of the House of Rep.
E. GERRY,
Vice President of the U. S. and
President of the Senate.
Aug. 2, 1813—APPROVED,
JAMES MADISON.

AN ACT

Laying duties on licenses to distillers of spirituous liquors.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That every person, who on the first day of January next shall be the owner of any still or stills, or other implements in lieu of stills used for the purpose of distilling spirituous liquors, or who shall have such still or stills, or implements as aforesaid, under his superintendance either as agent for the owner or on his own account, shall before the said day, and every person who after the said day shall use or intend to use any still or stills, or implements as aforesaid, either as owner agent or otherwise, shall before he shall begin to use such still or stills, or other implements in lieu thereof, for the purpose of distilling spirituous liquors, apply for and obtain from the collector appointed by virtue of the act entitled, "An act for the assessment and collection of direct taxes and internal duties," for the collection district in which such person resides [or to the deputy of such collector duly authorized,] a license for using the said still or stills, or other implements as aforesaid; which licenses respectively shall be granted at the option of the proprietor or possessor of such still or stills for any or either of the terms mentioned in this act, upon the payment in money by such proprietor or possessor of the duties payable on the said license or licenses according to the provisions of this act, if the said duties shall not exceed five dollars, and if they shall exceed five dollars, on such proprietor or possessor executing and delivering to the collector or to his deputy as aforesaid a bond with one or more securities to the satisfaction of such collector or deputy, conditioned for the payment of said duties at the end of four months after the expiration of the term for which such license or licenses respectively shall have been granted. And the said bond shall be taken in the name of the United States of America, and in such form as shall be prescribed by the Treasury Department. And if any person shall after the said first day of Jan. next, use or cause to be used any still or stills, or other implements as aforesaid, in distilling spirituous liquors, or shall be the owner of, or have under his superintendance either as agent or otherwise, any still or stills or other implements as aforesaid, which shall after the said day have been used as aforesaid, without having a license therefor as aforesaid, continuing in force for the whole term during which the said still or stills or implements as aforesaid, shall have been thus used, every such person shall forfeit and pay the sum of one hundred dollars, together with double the amount of duties which would have been payable for the term during which such still or stills or implements as aforesaid, shall be

(See last page.)

at the commencement of the session. The President had invited the meeting of Congress, seat of commissioners for St. Petersburg to meet such as Great Britain might send to join them to negotiate and conclude a peace under the auspices of that power. The late rejection of Mr. Gallatin as one of the commissioners by the Senate, it is presumed will materially affect the mission. No news has been as yet received from them; but it seems to remain the more general expectation that some arrangement will be brought about, and peace once more restored.

I am, Sir,
Most respectfully,
Your obedient servt.,
R. STANFORD.

Daily Federal Republican

At the commencement of the late session of congress, our readers will recollect, that the reporter for this paper was refused a seat among the stenographers on the floor of the House of Representatives. By a subsequent resolution the Speaker was required to furnish seats for more stenographers, and they were by the same resolution all to be placed in the gallery. For some reason to us and to the public unknown, this resolution has never been complied with by the Speaker; of course we could not have a reporter in the house this session. Although, therefore, we have made every exertion that our disadvantageous situation would permit, to furnish our readers with the proceedings and debates of congress, yet many omissions have been inevitable, and these have in no measure been supplied by the lame and mutilated abstracts which have been published in the National Intelligencer. That Gazette is under the absolute control of the administration, and through evil report and through good report, must support the interests and measures of its masters. Hence it has happened that during the late session, although Gales is a stenographer, and has a seat provided on the floor, but very barren abstracts of the congressional business have been furnished, and almost every debate has been suppressed. The motive for this suppression may be discovered in the manner in which the debates have been conducted, & the issue of the most of them.—They certainly would never have raised the reputation of the majority in congress, or have tended to strengthen the administration among the people. The debates have been extremely interesting and upon the most important subjects. Bold truths have been freely spoken, the errors and vices of the administration have been unfolded.—But as our reporter was excluded, and as Gales has chosen to suppress the debates, all has been lost to the people. This evil must be remedied.—If Federal Reporters are excluded the floor, they must with other citizens enter the galleries. But under the resolution above alluded to, before the next session, we presume, new and additional accommodations will be provided for stenographers. And if there is a stenographer in the country competent to give the debates on all subjects in the house, he will be procured for the next session of Congress. It is our determination, if sufficient encouragement is afforded, to issue, besides our present publication, a daily paper during the session.

Facts and events are daily occurring at the seat of government, extremely interesting to all classes of society; and the earliest publicity should be given them through the country.

Those who are willing to patronize the Daily Paper, will send on their names without delay, post-paid. We have no other object in view but to serve the cause, to do which effectually it is necessary to keep pace with the Court Gazette, which scarcely ever issues, without containing some misrepresentation and deception to the injury of the people. The affairs of administration have become so desperate, that the practice of suppressing altogether or discoloring important information, and of frequently disseminating the boldest falsehoods, requires every effort to increase and strengthen the guards of truth, to counteract a system of organized deception and falsehood, destructive of the public morals, and aimed against the best interests of the nation. The Daily National Intelligencer is chiefly supported by Federal merchants, whose business requires constant and early information. If that information can be as readily derived from some other than the impure source now relied on, it is to be presumed there will be no hesitation in discontinuing patronage to a mischievous print whose proprietors and directors are immediately interested in deceiving the public, to further the sinister views of an embarrassed ministry.

Just Published

And for Sale at George Shaw's Book Store, Price, \$1 50 in Boards—\$2 00 Bound.

The Report

Of the Committee of Grievances and Courts of Justice, relative to the Riot and Mobs in the City of Baltimore. Together with the DEPOSITIONS Taken before the said Committee July 15, 1813.