# GENERAL ORDERS IN BANKRUPTCY.

In pursuance of the tenth section of the act entitled "An act to establish a uniform system of bankruptcy throughout the United States," approved March 2, 1867, the justices of the Supreme Court of the United States have framed the following general orders, which shall constitute the rules of practice and procedure in bankruptcy in the district courts of the United States.

DECEMBER TERM, 1871.

The general orders in bankruptcy, heretofore established by this court, are so amended as to read as follows:

I.

DUTIES OF CLERKS OF DISTRICT COURTS.

The clerks of the several district courts shall enter upon each petition in bankruptcy the day, and the hour of the day, upon which the same shall be filed; and shall also make a similar note upon every subsequent paper filed with them, except such papers as have been filed before the register, and so indorsed by him; and the papers in each case shall be kept in a file by themselves. No paper shall be taken from the files for any purpose except by order of the court. Every paper shall have indorsed upon it a brief statement of its character. The clerks shall keep a docket, in which the cases shall be entered and numbered in the order in

which they are commenced; and the number of each case shall be indorsed on every paper. The docket shall be so arranged that a brief memorandum of every proceeding in each case shall be entered therein, in a manner convenient for reference, and shall at all times be open for public inspection. The clerks shall also keep separate minute-books for the record of proceedings in bankruptcy, in which shall be entered a minute of all the proceedings in each case, either of the court or of a register of the court, under their respective dates.

## II.

### PROCESS.

All process, summons, and subpœnas shall issue out of the court under the seal thereof, and be tested by the clerk; and blanks, with the signature of the clerk and seal of the court, may, upon application, be furnished to the registers.

## III.

### APPEARANCE.

Proceedings in bankruptcy may be conducted by the bankrupt in person in his own behalf, or by a petitioning or opposing creditor; but a creditor will only be allowed to manage before the court his individual interest. Either party may appear and conduct the proceedings by attorney, who shall be an attorney or counselor authorized to practice in the circuit or district court. The name of the attorney or counselor, with his place of residence and business, shall be entered upon the docket, with the date of the entry. All papers or proceedings

offered by an attorney to be filed shall be indorsed as above required; and orders granted on motion shall contain the name of the party or attorney making the motion. Notices and orders which are not, by the act or by these rules, required to be served on the party personally, may be served upon his attorney.

## IV.

### COMMENCEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS.

Upon the filing of a petition in case of voluntary bankruptcy, or as soon as any adjudication of bankruptcy is made upon a petition filed in case of involuntary bankruptcy, the petition shall be referred to one of the registers in such manner as the district court shall direct and the petitioner shall furnish the register with a copy of the papers in the case, and thereafter all the proceedings required by the act shall be had before him, except such as are required by the act to be had in the district court, or by special order of the district judge, unless some other register is directed to act in the case.

The order designating the register to act upon any petition shall name a day upon which the bankrupt shall attend before the register, from which date he shall be subject to the orders of the court in all matters relating to his bankruptcy, and may receive from the register a protection against arrest, to continue until the final adjudication on his application for a discharge, unless suspended or vacated by order of the court.

A copy of the order shall forthwith be sent by mail to the register, or be delivered to him personally, by the clerk or other officer of the court.

## V.

### REGISTERS.

The time when and the place where the registers shall act upon the matters arising under the several cases referred to them, shall be fixed by special order of the district court, or by the register acting under the authority of a general order, in each case, made by the district court; and at such times and places the registers may perform the acts which they are empowered to do by the act, and conduct proceedings in relation to the following matters, when uncontested, viz: making adjudication of bankruptcy on petition of the debtor; directing, unless otherwise ordered by the court, the newspapers in which the notice shall be published by the messenger; administering oaths; receiving the surrender of a bankrupt; granting protection thereon; giving requisite direction for notices, advertisements, and other ministerial proceedings; taking proofs of claims; ordering payment of rates and taxes, and salary or wages of persons in the employment of the assignee; ordering amendments, or inspection, or copies, or extracts of any proceedings; taking accounts of proceeds of securities held by any creditor; taking evidence concerning expenses and charges against the bankrupt's estate; auditing and passing accounts of assignees; proceedings for the declaration and payment of dividends, and taxing costs in any of the proceedings, all of which shall be subject to the control of the court.

## VI.

### DISPATCH OF BUSINESS.

Every register, in performing the duties required of him under the act, and by these orders, or by orders of the district court, shall use all reasonable dispatch, and shall not adjourn the business but for good cause shown. Six hours' session shall constitute a day's sitting if the business requires; and when there is time to complete the proceedings in progress within the day, the party obtaining any adjournment or postponement thereof may be charged, if the court think proper, with all the costs incurred in consequence of the delay.

## VII.

### EXAMINATION AND FILING OF PAPERS.

It shall be the duty of the register to examine the bankrupt's petition and schedules filed therewith, and to certify whether the same are correct in form; or, if deficient, in what respect they are so; and the court may allow amendments to be made in the petition and schedules upon the application of the petitioner, upon proper cause shown, at any time prior to the discharge of the bankrupt. The register shall indorse upon each paper filed with him the time of filing, and at the close of the last examination of the bankrupt, the register having charge of the case shall file all the papers relating thereto in the office of the clerk of the district court, and these papers, together with those on file in the clerk's office, and the entries in the minute-book, shall constitute the record in each case; and the clerk shall cause the papers in each case to be bound together.

## VIII.

### ORDERS BY THE REGISTER.

Whenever an order is made by a register in any proceeding in which notice is required to be given to either party before the order can be made, the fact that the notice was given, and the substance of the evidence of the manner in which it was given, shall be recited in the preamble to the order, and the fact also stated that no adverse interest was represented at the time and place appointed for the hearing of the matter upon such notice; and whenever an order is made where adverse interests are represented before the register, the fact shall be stated that the opposing parties consented thereto, or that the adverse interest represented made no opposition to the granting of such order.

## IX.

### NOTIFICATION TO ASSIGNEE OF HIS APPOINTMENT.

It shall be the duty of the register, immediately upon the appointment of an assignee, as prescribed in sections twelve and thirteen of the act (should he not be present at such meeting), to notify him, by personal or mail service, of his appointment; and in such notification the assignee so appointed shall be required to give notice forthwith to the register of his acceptance or rejection of the trust.

## X.

### TESTIMONY, HOW TAKEN.

The examination of witnesses before a register in bankruptcy may be conducted by the party in person or by his

counsel or attorney, and the witnesses shall be subject to examination and cross-examination, which shall be had in conformity with the mode now adopted in courts of law. The depositions upon such examination shall be taken down in writing by the register in the form of narrative, unless he determines that the examination shall be by question and answer in special instances, and when completed shall be read over to the witness and signed by him in the presence of the register. Any question or questions which may be objected to shall be noted by the register upon the deposition, but he shall not have power to decide on the competency, materiality, or relevancy of the question; and the court shall have power to deal with the costs of incompetent, immaterial, or irrelevant depositions, or parts of them, as may be just. In case of refusal of a witness to attend, or to testify before a register, the same proceedings may be had as are now authorized with respect to witnesses to be produced on examination before an examiner of any of the courts of the United States on written interrogatories.

## XI.

### MINUTES BEFORE REGISTER, FILING, ETC.

A memorandum made of each act performed by a register shall be in suitable form, to be entered upon the minute-book of the court, and shall be forwarded to the clerk of the court not later than by mail the next day after the act has been performed. Whenever an issue is raised before the register in any proceedings, either of fact or law, he shall cause the same to be stated in writing in the manner required by the fourth and sixth sections of the

act, and certify the same forthwith to the district judge for his decision. The pendency of the issue undecided before a judge shall not necessarily suspend or delay other proceedings before the register or court in the case.

## XII.

### ACCOUNTS FOR SERVICES OF REGISTER AND MARSHAL.

Every register shall keep an accurate account of his traveling and incidental expenses, and those of any clerk or other officer attending him in the performance of his duties in any case or number of cases which may be referred to him; and shall make return of the same under oath, with proper vouchers (when vouchers can be procured), on the first Tuesday in each month; and the marshal shall make his return, under oath, of his actual and necessary expenses in the service of every warrant addressed to him, and for custody of property, publication of notices and other services, and other actual and necessary expenses paid by him, with vouchers therefor whenever practicable, and also with a statement that the amounts charged by him are just and reasonable.

## XIII.

### MARSHAL AS MESSENGER.

It shall be the duty of the marshal as messenger to take possession of the property of the bankrupt, and to prepare, within three days from the time of taking such possession, a complete inventory of all the property, and to return it as soon as completed. The day of filing the petition and the value of the assets as appearing in schedule B shall be stated. The time for making the

inventory and return may be enlarged, under proper circumstances, by special order of the district court: [*Provided, however*, That if any goods or effects so taken into possession as the property of the bankrupt shall be claimed by or in behalf of any other person, the marshal shall forthwith notify the petitioning creditor of such claim, and may, within five days after so giving notice of such claim, deliver them to the claimant or his agent, unless the petitioning creditor or party at whose instance possession is taken shall, by bond with sufficient sureties, to be approved by the marshal, indemnify the marshal for the taking and detention of such goods and effects, and the expenses of defending against all claims thereto; and, in case of such indemnity, the marshal shall retain possession of such goods and effects, and proceed in relation thereto as if no such claim had been made: *And provided further*, That in case the petitioning creditor claims that any property not in the possession of the bankrupt belongs to him, and should be taken by the marshal, the marshal shall not be bound to take possession of the same, unless indemnified in like manner.] He shall also, in case the bankrupt is absent or cannot be found, prepare a schedule of the names and residences of his creditors, and the amount due to each, from the books or other papers of the bankrupt that may be seized by him under his warrant, and from any other sources of information; but all statements upon which his return shall be made shall be in writing, and sworn to by the parties making them, before one of the registers in bankruptcy of the court, or a commissioner of the

courts of the United States. In cases of voluntary bankruptcy, the marshal may appoint special deputies to act, as he may designate, in one or more cases, as messengers, for the purpose of causing the notices to be published and served as required in the eleventh section of the act, and for no other purpose. In giving the notices required by the third subdivision of the eleventh section of the act, it shall be sufficient to give the names, residences, and the amount of the debts (in figures) due the several creditors, so far as known, and no more.

## XIV.

### PETITIONS AND AMENDMENTS.

All petitions, and the schedules filled therewith, shall be printed or written out plainly, and without abbreviation or interlineation, except where such abbreviation and interlineation may be for the purpose of reference; and whenever any amendments are allowed, they shall be written and signed by the petitioner on a separate paper, in the same manner as the original schedules were signed and verified; and if the amendments are made to different schedules, the amendments to each schedule shall be made separately, with proper reference to the schedule proposed to be amended, and each amendment shall be verified by the oath of the petitioner in the same manner as the original schedules.

## XV.

### PRIORITY OF ACTIONS (INVOLUNTARY BANKRUPTCY).

Whenever two or more petitions shall be filed by creditors against a common debtor, alleging separate acts of

bankruptcy committed by said debtor on different days within six months prior to the filing of said petitions, and the debtor shall appear and show cause against an adjudication of bankruptcy against him on the petitions, that petition shall be first heard and tried which alleges the commission of the earliest act of bankruptcy; and in case the several acts of bankruptcy are alleged in the different petitions to have been committed on the same day, the court before which the same are pending may order them to be consolidated, and proceed to a hearing as upon one petition; and if an adjudication of bankruptcy be made upon either petition, or for the commission of a single act of bankruptcy, it shall not be necessary to proceed to a hearing upon the remaining petitions, unless proceedings be taken by the debtor for the purpose of causing such adjudication to be annulled or vacated.

## XVI.

### FILING PETITIONS IN DIFFERENT DISTRICTS.

In case two or more petitions shall be filed against the same individual in different districts, the first hearing shall be had in the district in which the debtor has his domicile, and such petition may be amended by inserting an allegation of an act of bankruptcy committed at an earlier date than that first alleged, if such earlier act is charged in either of the other petitions; and in case of two or more petitions against the same firm in different courts, each having jurisdiction over the case, the petition first filed shall be first heard, and may be amended by the insertion of an allegation of an earlier act of bankruptcy than that first alleged, if such earlier act is charged

in either of the other petitions, and, in either case, the proceedings upon the other petitions may be stayed until an adjudication is made upon the petition first heard; and the court which makes the first adjudication of bankruptcy shall retain jurisdiction over all proceedings therein until the same shall be closed. In case two or more petitions for adjudication of bankruptcy shall be filed in different districts by different members of the same copartnership for an adjudication of the bankruptcy of said copartnership, the court in which the petition is first filed having jurisdiction shall take and retain jurisdiction over all proceedings in such bankruptcy until the same shall be closed; and if such petitions shall be filed in the same district, action shall be first had upon the one first filed.

## XVII.

### CONCERNING REDEMPTIONS OF PROPERTY AND COMPOUNDING CLAIMS.

Whenever it may be deemed for the benefit of the estate of a bankrupt to redeem and discharge any mortgage or other pledge, or deposit, or lien upon any property, real or personal, or to relieve said property from any conditional contract, and to tender performance of the conditions thereof, or to compound any debts or other claims or securities due or belonging to the estate of the bankrupt, the assignee, or the bankrupt, or any creditor who has proved his debt, may file his petition therefor in the office of the clerk of the district court; and thereupon the court shall appoint a suitable time

and place for the hearing thereof, notice of which shall be given in some newspaper, to be designated by the court, at least ten days before the hearing, so that all creditors and other persons interested may appear and show cause, if any they have, why an order should not be passed by the court upon the petition authorizing such act on the part of the assignee.

## XVIII.

### PROCEEDINGS IN CASE OF COPARTNERSHIPS.

In case one or more members of a copartnership refuse to join in a petition to have the firm declared bankrupt, the parties refusing shall be entitled to resist the prayer of the petition in the same manner as if the petition had been filed by a creditor of the partnership, and notice of the filing of the petition shall be given to him in the same manner as provided by law and by these rules in the case of a debtor petitioned against; and he shall have the right to appear at the time fixed by the court for the hearing of the petition, and to make proof, if he can, that the copartnership is not insolvent, or has not committed an act of bankruptcy, and to take all other defenses which any debtor proceeded against is entitled to take by the provisions of the act; and in case an adjudication of bankruptcy is made upon the petition, such copartner shall be required to furnish to the marshal, as messenger, a schedule of his debts and an inventory of his property, in the same manner as is required by the act in cases of debtors against whom adjudication of bankruptcy shall be made.

## XIX.

### DUTIES OF ASSIGNEES.

The assignee shall, immediately on entering upon his duties, prepare a complete inventory of all the property of the bankrupt that comes into his possession; and all sales of the same shall be by public auction, unless otherwise ordered by the court. Every assignee shall keep full, exact, and regular books of account of all receipts, payments, and expenditures of money by him, and shall make report to the court, within twenty days after receiving the deed of assignment, of the articles set off to the bankrupt by him, according to the provisions of the fourteenth section of the act, with the estimated value of each article, and any creditor may take exceptions to the determination of the assignee within twenty days after the filing of the report. The register may require the exceptions to be argued before him, and shall certify them to the court for final determination at the request of either party. At the expiration of three months from the date of the adjudication of bankruptcy, the assignee shall file with the register a report, which shall exhibit just and true accounts of all his receipts and payments, verified by his oath; and he shall also file at the same time a statement of the whole estate of the bankrupt as then ascertained, of the property recovered and of the property outstanding, specifying the cause of its being outstanding, and also what debts or claims are yet undetermined. The register may, if he shall judge it expedient, order that the second general meeting of creditors be called. Similar reports and statements shall be made,

and similar proceedings had thereon, at the expiration of each successive period of three months. The substance of each monthly return of the assignee shall be sent by the register to any creditor who shall request it and pay the fee provided for notices to creditors. In case the assignee shall neglect to file any report or statement which it is made his duty to file or make by the bankrupt act, or any general order in bankruptcy, within five days after the same shall be due, it shall be the duty of the register to make an order requiring the assignee to show cause before the court, at a time specified in the order, why he should not be removed from office. The register shall cause a copy of the order to be served upon the assignee at least seven days before the time fixed for the hearing, and proof of the service thereof to be delivered to the clerk.

## XX.

### COMPOSITION WITH CREDITORS (ARBITRATION).

Whenever an assignee shall make application to the court for authority to submit a controversy arising in the settlement of demands against the bankrupt's estate, or of debts due to it, to the determination of arbitrators, or for authority to compound and settle such controversy by agreement with the other party, the subject-matter of the controversy and the reasons why the assignee thinks it proper and most for the interest of the creditors that it should be settled by arbitration or otherwise, shall be set forth clearly and distinctly in the application; and the court, upon examination of the same, may immediately proceed to take testimony and make an order thereon, or

may direct the assignee to give notice of the application, either by publication or by mail, or both, to the creditors who have proved their claims to appear and show cause, on a day to be named in the order and notice, why the application should not be granted, and may make such order thereon as may be just and proper.

## XXI.

### DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY BY ASSIGNEE.

In making sales of personal property the assignee shall give at least ten days' notice of the time and place of the sale, and of the articles to be sold, by advertisement in one or more newspapers, to be designated by the court or by a register, and by posted handbills or otherwise, as he may think best for the interest of the estate, or as the court may order, and he shall give like notice of the sale of any real estate at least twenty days before such sale. Upon his application to the court, and for good cause shown, the assignee may be authorized to sell any specified portion of the bankrupt's estate at private sale; in which case he shall keep an accurate account of each article sold, and the price received therefor, and to whom sold; which account he shall file with his report, at the first meeting of creditors after the sale. The court, by order in special cases, may dispense with newspaper and handbill advertisements. In making sale of the franchise of a corporation, it may be offered in fractional parts or in certain numbers of shares, corresponding to the, number of shares in the bankrupt corporation. And in making the sale of the real estate of a bankrupt, the assignee shall, unless otherwise ordered by the court,

offer the same in lots or parcels, if it exists in separate parcels, in such manner as may be for the interest of the creditors of the estate.

## XXII.

### PERISHABLE PROPERTY.

In all cases where goods or other articles come into possession of the messenger or assignee which are perishable, or liable to deterioration in value, the court may, upon application, in its discretion, order the same to be sold, and the proceeds deposited in court.

## XXIII.

### SERVICE OF NOTICE.

The notice provided by the eighteenth section of the act shall be served by the marshal or his deputy, and notices to the creditors of the time and place of meeting provided by the section shall be given through the mail by letter, signed by the clerk of the court.

Every envelope containing a notice sent by the clerk or messenger shall have printed on it a direction to the postmaster at the place to which it is sent to return the same within ten days unless called for.

## XXIV.

### OPPOSITION TO DISCHARGE.

A creditor opposing the application of a bankrupt for discharge shall enter his appearance in opposition thereto on the day when the creditors are required to show cause, and shall file his specification of the grounds of his opposition, in writing, within ten days thereafter, unless

the time shall be enlarged by order of the district court in the case, and the court shall thereupon make an order as to the entry of said case for trial on the docket of the district court, and the time within which the same shall be heard and decided.

## XXV.

### SECOND AND THIRD MEETING OF CREDITORS.

Whenever any bankrupt shall apply for his discharge, within three months from the date of his being adjudged a bankrupt, under the provisions of the twenty-ninth section of the act, the court may direct that the second and third meetings of creditors of said bankrupt required by the twenty-seventh and twenty-eighth sections of said act shall be had on the day which may be fixed in the order of notice for the creditors to appear and show cause why a discharge should not be granted such bankrupt; and the notices of such meeting shall be sufficient if it be added to the notice to show cause, that the second and third meetings of said creditors shall be had before the register upon the same day that cause may be shown against the discharge, or upon some previous days or day.

## XXVI.

### APPEALS.

Appeals in equity from the district to the circuit court, and from the circuit to the Supreme Court of the United States, shall be regulated by the rules governing appeals in equity in the courts of the United States. Any supposed creditor who takes an appeal to the circuit court from the decision of the district court rejecting his claim,

in whole or in part, according to the provisions of the eighth section of the act, shall give notice of his intention to enter the appeal within ten days from the entry of the final decision of the district court upon his claim; and he shall file his appeal in the clerk's office of the circuit court within ten days thereafter, setting forth a statement in writing of his claim in the manner prescribed by said section; and the assignee shall plead or answer thereto in like manner within ten days after the statement shall be filed. Every issue thereon shall be made up in the court, and the cause placed upon the docket thereof, and shall be heard and decided in the same manner as other actions at law.

## XXVII.

### IMPRISONED DEBTOR.

If at the time of preferring his petition the debtor shall be imprisoned, the court, upon his application, may order him to be produced upon *habeas corpus* by the jailor, or any officer in whose custody he may be, before the register, for the purpose of testifying in any matter relating to his bankruptcy; and if committed after the filing of his petition upon process in any civil action founded upon a claim provable in bankruptcy, the court may, upon like application, discharge him from such imprisonment. If the petitioner, during the pendency of the proceedings in bankruptcy, be arrested or imprisoned upon process in any civil action, the district court, upon his application, may issue a writ of *habeas corpus* to bring him before the court, to ascertain whether such process has been issued for the collection of any claim provable in

bankruptcy, and, if so provable, he shall be discharged; if not, he shall be remanded to the custody in which he may lawfully be. Before granting the order for discharge, the court shall cause notice to be served upon the creditor, or his attorney, so as to give him an opportunity of appearing and being heard before the granting of the order.

## XXVIII.

### DEPOSIT AND PAYMENT OF MONEYS.

The district court in each district shall designate certain national banks, if there are any within the judicial district, or if there are none, then some other safe depository, in which all moneys received by assignees or paid into court in the course of any proceedings in bankruptcy shall be deposited; and every assignee and the clerk of said court shall deposit all sums received by them, severally, on account of any bankrupt's estate, in one designated depository; and every clerk shall make a report to the court of the funds received by him, and of deposits made by him, on the first Monday of every month. On the first day of each month, the assignee shall file a report with the register, stating whether any collections, deposits, or payments have been made by him during the preceding month, and if any, he shall state the gross amount of each. The register shall enter such reports upon a book to be kept by him for that purpose, in which a separate account shall be kept with each estate; and he shall also enter therein the amount, the date, and the expressed purpose of each check countersigned by him. No moneys so deposited shall be drawn from such de-

pository unless upon a check, or warrant, signed by the clerk of the court, or by an assignee, and countersigned by the judge of the court, or one of the registers designated for that purpose, stating the date, the sum, and the account for which it is drawn; and an entry of the substance of such check or warrant, with the date thereof, the sum drawn for, and the account for which it is drawn, shall be forthwith made in a book kept for that purpose by the assignee or the clerk; and all checks and drafts shall be entered in the order of time in which they are drawn, and shall be numbered in the case of each estate. A copy of this rule shall be furnished to the depository so designated, and also the name of any register authorized to countersign said checks.

## XXIX.

### PREPAYMENT OR SECURITY OF FEES.

The fees of the register, marshal, and clerk shall be paid or secured in all cases before they shall be compelled to perform the duties required of them by the parties requiring such service; and in the case of witnesses their fees shall be tendered or paid at the time of the service of the summons or subpœna, and shall include their traveling expenses to and from the place at which they may be summoned to attend. The court may order the whole, or such portion of the fees and costs in each case to be paid out of the fund in court in such case as shall seem just.

The funds deposited with the register, marshal, and clerk shall, in all cases where they come out of the bankrupt's estate, be considered as a part of such estate,

and the assignee shall be charged therewith, and shall not be allowed for any disbursements therefrom, except upon the production of proper vouchers from such officers, respectively, given after the due allowance of their respective bills.

## XXX.

### AS TO FEES AND COSTS.

In addition to the fees expressly allowed by the bankrupt act, there shall be allowed the following: To the clerks: For every copy of any paper in proceedings in bankruptcy, twenty-five cents for certifying the same, and ten cents in addition for each folio of one hundred words. For each notice required to be sent by mail, when signed by the clerk, ten cents; to be prepaid by the party required to give the notice.

To the registers: Affidavits to any petition, schedule, or other proceedings in bankruptcy, except proof of debt by a creditor or his agent, for each oath and certifying the same, twenty-five cents.

For examining petition and schedules and certifying to their correctness, three dollars.

For notification to assignee of his appointment, fifty cents. For assignment of bankrupt's effects, one dollar. For order to assignee directing publication of his appointment, fifty cents. For order for examination of the bankrupt or his wife, one dollar.

Summons or subpœna for witness, twenty-five cents. For taking examination of bankrupt or his wife, or any witness, under section twenty-six, and for each examination in proof of debt under section twenty-two, twenty

cents for each folio, and one dollar for each hour actually engaged; and for certifying each affidavit or deposition in proof of debt as satisfactory, twenty-five cents.

The fees paid by creditors for establishing their debts as above, shall be entitled to priority of payment under section twenty-eight.

For computation of dividends, five dollars, and ten cents for each creditor to whom a dividend is declared. For every certificate of question to the district court or judge, under the fourth and fifth sections of the act, one dollar, which may be increased in any case by order of the judge.

When the proceedings are not conducted in the usual office of the register, the traveling and incidental expenses of the register, and of any clerk or other officer attending him, shall be allowed, and five dollars for each day employed in going, attending, and returning, and such expenses and fees shall be apportioned among the cases as provided in section five.

No other allowance shall be made for clerk-hire.

For each notice which the register may be required to send to creditors, fifteen cents, which shall include postage and stationery.

For each memorandum sent by the register to the clerk, ten cents for each folio, and fifteen cents for the certificate.

No fees shall be allowed to the register except those hereinbefore enumerated.

The fifty dollars deposited, under rule forty-seven, with the clerk for the register, shall be delivered by the clerk to the register to whom the case is referred.

Ten days before the day fixed for the consideration of the assignee's final account, or at any other time fixed by the court on its own motion, or on the application of any person interested, the clerk, marshal, and register shall file with a master commissioner of the court, or some other fit person who shall be appointed by the court for that purpose as a standing auditor, a statement of fees, including prospective fees for final distribution, which shall exhibit, by items, each service and the fee charged for it, and the amount received. Said auditor shall tax each fee-bill, allowing none but such as are provided for by the statute or by these rules, which taxation shall be conclusive, reserving to the party interested exceptions to the report, which shall be decided by the court.

The reasonable compensation of the master or auditor for taxing these fee-bills, not exceeding ten dollars in any one case of bankruptcy, shall be paid out of any funds in the hands of the assignee, and if there be no such funds, by the clerk, marshal, and register, in proportion to the amount of their bills so taxed and allowed.

Any money received by either of the officers mentioned in excess of lawful fees or compensation, shall be ordered by the judge to be paid into court, and such order may be enforced, if necessary, by attachment as for contempt.

No bankrupt's discharge shall be refused or delayed by reason of the non-payment of any fees except the fee for his certificate of discharge.

## XXXI.

### COSTS IN CONTESTED ADJUDICATIONS.

In cases of involuntary bankruptcy, where the debtor resists an adjudication, and the court, after hearing, shall adjudge the debtor a bankrupt, the petitioning creditor shall recover, to be paid out of the fund, the same costs that are allowed by law to a party recovering in a suit in equity; and in case the petition shall be dismissed, the debtor may recover like costs from the petitioner.

## XXXII.

### AS TO FORMS AND SCHEDULES.

The several forms specified in the schedules annexed to these orders for the several purposes therein stated shall be observed and used, with such alterations as may be necessary to suit the circumstances of any particular case. In all cases where, by the provisions of the act, a special order is required to be made in any proceeding, or in any case instituted under the act in a district court of the United States, such order shall be framed by the court to suit the circumstances of the particular case; and the forms hereby prescribed shall be followed as nearly as may be, and so far as the same are applicable to the circumstances requiring such special order. In proceedings in equity, instituted for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of the act, or for enforcing the rights and remedies given by it, the rules of equity practice established by the Supreme Court of the United States shall be followed as nearly as may be. In proceedings at law, instituted for the same purpose, the rules of the circuit court regulating the practice and procedure in

cases at law shall be followed as nearly as may be. But the court, as the judge thereof, may, by special rule in any case, vary the time allowed for return of process, for appearance and pleading, and for taking testimony and publication, and may otherwise modify the rules for the preparation of any particular case so as to facilitate a speedy hearing.

## XXXIII.

### OMISSIONS AND AMENDMENTS.

Whenever a debtor shall omit to state in the schedules annexed to his petition any of the facts required to be stated concerning his debts or his property, he shall state, either in its appropriate place in the schedules or in a separate affidavit to be filed with the petition, the reason for the omission, with such particularity as will enable the court to determine whether to admit the schedules as sufficient, or to require the debtor to make further efforts to complete the same according to the requirements of the law; and in making any application for amendment to the schedules the debtor shall state under oath the substance of the matters proposed to be included in the amendment, and the reasons why the same had not been incorporated in his schedules as originally filed, or as previously amended. In like manner, he may correct any statement made during the course of his examination.

## XXXIV.

### PROOF OF DEBTS.

Depositions to prove claims against a bankrupt's estate shall be correctly entitled in the court and in the cause. When made to prove a debt due to a co-partnership, it

must appear on oath that the deponent is a member of the creditor firm; when made by an agent, the reason the deposition is not made by the claimant in person must be stated; and when made to prove a debt due to a corporation, and the corporation has no such officer as cashier or treasurer, the deposition may be made by the officer whose duties most nearly correspond to those of cashier or treasurer. Depositions to prove debts existing in open account shall state when the debt became or will become due; and if it consists of items maturing at different dates the average due date shall be stated; in default of which it shall not be necessary to compute interest upon it. All such depositions shall contain an averment that no note has been received for such account nor any judgment rendered thereon. Proofs of debt received by any assignee shall be delivered to the register to whom the cause is referred. The register may decline to file any deposition until the fee for filing the same is paid. When a proof of debt is sent by mail to the register, and it shall be accompanied by the fee for filing it, and the fee for sending a notice to a creditor, the register shall acknowledge the receipt of it, and state the amount at which he has entered it, and if it shall be insufficient or unsatisfactory to the register he shall state the reason.

Any creditor may file with the register a request that all notices to which he may be entitled shall be addressed to him at any place, to be designated by the post-office box or street number, as he may appoint, and thereafter and until some other designation shall be made by such creditor, all notices shall be so addressed; and in other cases notices shall be addressed as specified in the proof of debt.

Claims which have been assigned before proof, shall be supported by a deposition of the owner at the time of the commencement of proceedings, setting forth the true consideration of the debt, and that it is entirely unsecured, or if secured, such deposition shall set forth the security, as is required in proving secured claims.

Upon filing with the register satisfactory proof of the assignment of a claim proved and entered on the register's docket, the register shall immediately give notice by mail, to the original claimant, of the filing of such proof of assignment.

And if no objection be entered within ten days, he shall make an order subrogating the assignee to the original claimant.

If objection be made within the time specified, or within such further time as may be granted for that purpose, the register shall certify the objection into court for determination. The claims of persons contingently liable for the bankrupt, may be proved in the name of the creditor, when known by the party contingently liable.

When the name of the creditor is unknown, such claims may be proved in the name of the party contingently liable; but no dividend shall be paid upon such claim, except upon satisfactory proof that it will diminish, *pro tanto*, the original debt. The execution of any letter of attorney to represent a creditor, or of an assignment of claim after proof, or of the consent of a creditor to a bankrupt's discharge, may be proved or acknowledged before a register in bankruptcy, or a United States Circuit Court Commissioner. When executed on behalf of

a co-partnership, or of a corporation, the person executing the instrument shall make oath that he is a member of the firm, or duly authorized officer of the corporation, on whose behalf he acts.

When the party executing is not personally known to the officer taking the proof or acknowledgement, his identity shall be established by satisfactory proof.

When the assignee or any creditor shall desire the re-examination of any claim filed against the bankrupt's estate, he may apply by petition to the register to whom the cause is referred, for an order for such re-examination; and thereupon the register shall make an order fixing a time for hearing the petition, of which due notice shall be given by mail, addressed to the creditor.

At the time appointed, the register shall take the examination of the creditor, and of any witnesses that may be called by either party; and if it shall appear from such examination that the claim ought to be expunged or diminished, the register, if no objection be made, may order accordingly. If objection be made, the register shall require the parties then, or within a time to be fixed for that purpose, to form an issue to be certified into court for determination.

If the petitioner is in default in making up said issue, the petition shall be dismissed; if the creditor whose claim is re-examined is in default in making said issue, the claim may be diminished or expunged by the register.

All orders thus made by the register may be reviewed by the court on special petition, and upon showing satfactory cause for such review.