

made for the payment of pensions, in the same manner as the ordinary fees of appointed surgeons are or may be authorized to be paid.

SEC. 38. That the Secretary of the Interior be, and is hereby, authorized to appoint a duly qualified surgeon as medical referee, who, under the control and direction of the commissioner of pensions, shall have charge of the examination and revision of the reports of examining surgeons, and such other duties touching medical and surgical questions in the pension-office, as the interests of the service may demand; and his salary shall be two thousand five hundred dollars per annum. And the Secretary of the Interior is further authorized to appoint such qualified surgeons (not exceeding four) as the exigencies of the service may require, who may perform the duties of examining surgeons when so required, and who shall be borne upon the rolls as clerks of the fourth class: *Provided*, That such appointments shall not increase the clerical force of said bureau.

Medical referee to be appointed, to have charge and revision of reports of examining surgeons, &c.

Salary. Certain qualified surgeons may be appointed as clerks of fourth class, and act as examining surgeons.

SEC. 39. That all acts and parts of acts inconsistent or in conflict with the foregoing provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

Repealing clause.

APPROVED, March 3, 1873.

CHAP. CCXXXV. — *An Act to declare the true Intent and Meaning of the Act approved June eight, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, amendatory of the General Bankrupt Law.* March 3, 1873. 1872, ch. 339. Ante, p. 334.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled*, That it was the true intent and meaning of an act approved June eighth, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to establish a uniform system of bankruptcy throughout the United States,' approved March second, eighteen hundred and sixty-seven," that the exemptions allowed the bankrupt by the said amendatory act should, and it is hereby enacted that they shall, be the amount allowed by the constitution and laws of each State, respectively, as existing in the year eighteen hundred and seventy-one; and that such exemptions be valid against debts contracted before the adoption and passage of such State constitution and laws, as well as those contracted after the same, and against liens by judgment or decree of any State court, any decision of any such court rendered since the adoption and passage of such constitution and laws to the contrary notwithstanding.

Exemptions allowed a bankrupt to be the same as allowed in any State in 1871, and to be valid against, &c.

APPROVED, March 3, 1873.

CHAP. CCXXXVI. — *An Act to extend for four Years the Act establishing the Board of Commissioners of Claims, and the Acts relating thereto.* March 3, 1873.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled*, That the second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth sections of the act entitled "An act making appropriations for the support of the army for the year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, and for other purposes," approved March third, eighteen hundred and seventy-one, and the act entitled "An act to authorize the commissioners of claims to appoint special commissioners to take testimony and for other purposes," approved May eleventh, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, be, and the same are hereby, extended and continued in force for four years from the tenth day of March, anno Domini eighteen hundred and seventy-three.

Act establishing the board of commissioners of claims extended for four years from March 10, 1873.

1871, ch. 116, §§ 2-6.

Vol xvi, pp. 524, 525.

1872, ch. 156. Ante, p. 97.

SEC. 2. That the commissioners of claims shall not receive any petition for the allowance of any claim or claims unless such petition shall be presented to and filed with them on or before the third day of March, eighteen hundred and seventy-three; and all claims not so presented shall be deemed to be barred forever thereafter.

No petition to be received unless filed on or before March 3, 1873.

Claims not so presented to be barred.

APPROVED, March 3, 1873.

VOL. XVII. PUB. — 37