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DECISIONS OF THE COURTS RELATING TO WAR CLAIMS.

FEBRUARY 24, 1896.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed.

Mr. PERKINS, from the Committee on Printing, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany H. Res. 127.]

The Committee on Printing, to whom was referred the joint resolution (H. Res. 75) to provide for the printing of a digest of the laws and decisions of the courts relating to war claims, have had the same under consideration and report a substitute therefor, with the recommendation that the same do pass, and that the original resolution be indefinitely postponed.

These laws are now scattered in the Revised Statutes, through many volumes of the United States Statutes, and they are often found in appropriation acts. In this shape these laws are not readily available to Members of Congress who have occasion to examine the same, and who, possibly, are not familiar with these laws.

Your committee are of the opinion that they should be compiled in convenient form for reference. Such a compilation would be of great service to the committees of Congress handling war claims, and would enable them to do their work more expeditiously and with greater security to the Government.

A compilation such as herein contemplated has been prepared under the direction of the Committee on War Claims, and includes the decisions of the Executive Departments and the courts relating to war claims, and a statement of the number of claims allowed and disallowed, and other valuable statistics.

The Public Printer estimates the cost of printing 100 copies of such a digest at \$1,480.

Contents of the compilation—laws relating to the following subjects:

- Army and Navy officers, longevity pay of.
- Artificial limbs for soldiers and seamen.
- Assignment of claims against the United States.
- Awards of commission on claims in the Department of the West.
- Boards of survey.
- Bounties, equalization of.
- Bowman Act, the.
- British and American Claims Commission.
- Bureau for the relief of freedmen and refugees.
- Captured and abandoned property.
- Claims for quartermaster stores and commissary supplies of loyal citizens residing in loyal States furnished the Army of the United States and commonly known as the "Fourth of July claims."
- Claims growing out of the occupation of real estate.

Claims for stores and supplies furnished the Army by loyal citizens residing in States declared in rebellion.
 Confiscation acts.
 Contracts.
 Cotton, tax on.
 Court of Claims.
 Derelict property.
 Desertion.
 Drafted men.
 French spoliation claims.
 Horses and horse equipments and other property lost or destroyed in the military service of the United States.
 Indian deprecation claims.
 Interest on claims.
 Laws of war, summary of.
 Medical services, claims for.
 Muster and pay of certain officers and enlisted men of the Army.
 Navy laws relating to vessels of war and steam machinery, and acts for relief of certain naval contractors.
 Nurses, female, in Army.
 Officers and enlisted men, claims for loss of private property.
 Officers of volunteers, claims of, for three months' pay when mustered out.
 Pardon and amnesty.
 Payment bar.
 Prisoners of war, commutation of rations to.
 Prize and prize money. Law of prize.
 Proclamations, schedules of proclamations of Presidents Lincoln and Johnson, respecting the States declared in rebellion.
 Quartermaster's Department, organization of.
 Safeguards and safe conducts.
 Scouts and guides, extra duty pay, etc.
 States and Territories, claims of, for suppression of Indian hostilities.
 Steamboats and other vessels and railroad engines and cars lost or destroyed in the military service of the United States.
 Surgeons, contract, claims of.
 Sutlers.
 The Tucker Act.
 Volunteers, claims connected with collecting, drilling, and organizing of.
 War claims of States—war of 1861-1865, for raising troops.
 War with Mexico.
 War of 1812.
 War of the Revolution.