



BY AUTHORITY.

LAW OF THE UNITED STATES, PASSED AT THE SECOND SESSION OF THE TWENTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

AN ACT making provision for the compensation of witnesses, and payment of other expenses attending the trial of the impeachment of James H. Peck.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That to every witness summoned to attend the trial of the impeachment of James H. Peck, there shall be allowed and paid, for every day's attendance upon the said trial, the sum of four dollars; and also for mileage, at the rate of twenty cents for every mile distance coming to the city of Washington, and returning to the usual place of residence of the witnesses respectively, computing the said distance by the usual route of travel by land.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Senate to ascertain and certify the amount due to each witness for attendance and mileage; which certificate shall be a sufficient voucher to entitle the witness to receive from the Treasury of the United States the amount certified to be due, unless otherwise ordered by the Senate.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That to the Marshal of the District of Columbia there shall be allowed and paid, for every day's attendance upon the court of impeachment, during the said trial, the sum of five dollars; and also for mileage, at the rate of twenty cents for every mile distance coming to the city of Washington, and returning to the usual place of residence of the witnesses respectively, computing the said distance by the usual route of travel by land.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That there shall be paid to the Marshal of the State of Missouri, the sum of fifty dollars, and to the Marshal of the Territory of Arkansas, the sum of five dollars, for serving and returning subpoenas for witnesses, issued by order of the said court.

Sec. 5. And be it further enacted, That the sum of thirteen thousand five hundred dollars be, and the same is hereby, appropriated to defray the expenses incurred under the provisions of this act, to be paid out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Approved, February 3, 1831.

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It is merely a matter of duty; but I should be deeply hurt if any one imagined—and no one who has been acquainted with me during the last fifty-four years of my life, can believe—that my conduct had been dictated by any personal feeling. I will go farther and say that this opinion of the Chamber has afforded me an opportunity. The high authority with which I was invested has given umbrage which you, gentlemen must have heard of; and this umbrage has even been felt in certain diplomatic circles. The cause is now at an end, and I have now no other honour than that of being one of your colleagues. One word more, gentlemen, I should not have given in my resignation, which the King has accepted with all that goodness he has ever shown towards me, before the crisis we have now happily got over was at an end. At this time my conscientious love of public order is satisfied, but I cannot say the same of my conscientious love of liberty. We must all recollect the progress announced at the Hotel de Ville—a popular throne supported by republican institutions. It was accepted, but we have not all put the same construction upon it; it has not always been interpreted by the councils of the King, in the same sense in which it was understood by me, who am more impatient than others that it should be realized; and whatever may have been my personal independence in all situations, I feel myself at the present moment more at my ease in discussing my opinions with you. For the rest there are points upon which we shall always be in accord, we shall ever be united against our enemies, whether at home or from abroad. I still think that in the measures taken in the Revolution of July, we not only did that which we verily believed was for the best, but that we did all that was possible to be done. I am the more convinced of this, since I have not become intimately acquainted with the persons we have since met, and who are now in the same uniform. I have changed my motto, "Liberty, Public Order." Besides, how many legal means we have of expressing our thoughts, and making our wishes known; for there is the Tribune of this Chamber, and for every citizen there is the press, which has rendered the country so many services; and then there is the peaceable mode of petitions. Having yielded to my desire of laying all my sentiments before you, I trust I need not ever return your esteem and friendship."

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Government is to maintain peace. This is our policy. Let us be just and prudent; let us avoid discord at home, for this is the only means of making ourselves respected abroad. After a great revolution there are always agitation and disquietude; but France now begins to breathe, and turns her eyes to the future. The present distress of trade and manufactures can not last long, and the country will shortly feel the benefit of the new order of things. Two great difficulties have pre-occupied the public mind: first, the uncertainty of peace or war; and next, the issue of the great trial that has just been concluded. We have triumphed happily over the latter crisis, and the foreign Powers announce to us their desire of maintaining peace. France entertains no idea of conquest, but devotes her attention to her internal prosperity and tranquility. If this were not the opinion of France, she would not be worthy of a good Government.—[Cheers.]

The London Morning Chronicle of the 2d observes, in reference to the speech of M. La Fayette, that it has an evident reference to what is going on in Poland.—The Poles must trust exclusively to themselves.

SENTENCE OF THE EX-FRENCH MINISTER.—The trial of the four ministers of Charles the Tenth terminated on the 25th. On the 26th, the Chamber of Peers deliberated on their sentence. Their deliberations were secret; but it has been ascertained, that only one voice was raised with the word not guilty generally; there were 141 voices for the sentences which were subsequently passed; 30 were for mitigating the sentence against Chantelauze and De Ranville. The sentence is—*Condemnation to perpetual imprisonment in France, with forfeiture of title, rank and honours.* The sentence was read by the President, and the prisoners were taken to the Bastille.

RESIGNATION OF LAFAYETTE.—The sitting of the Chamber of Deputies on the 27th Dec. was numerously attended in consequence of the extraordinary degree of interest excited by recent occurrences. The Chambers were proceeding to the discussion of the law relative to the National Guard, when General Lafayette entered, and was received with universal applause, upwards of one hundred members going up to him and shaking his hand. The General then went to the President, and after a short conversation with him, addressed the Chamber of Deputies.

"In a neighbouring nation it is the custom when a citizen retires from a distinguished office, for him to come before his fellow-citizens, and explain the cause, and I am sure the chamber will grant me the same favour. I always have considered that the post of Commander-in-Chief of the National Guard of France was incompatible with a constitutional monarchy, except under circumstances of the most absolute necessity. It was this conviction that led me, in 1790, when 8,000 of the National Guards wished to elect me their commander, at the Federation by 14,000 Deputies, to apply to the Constituent Assembly, and urge them to issue a decree in opposition to this desire. Such still was my opinion when the Lieutenant-General of the Kingdom, who has since become our King, wished me to accept the same appointment, and I felt myself bound to accept it, but always retaining the intention of laying it down, as soon as I was satisfied with the longer necessary for me to retain it, earlier if peace remained unbroken, but at a later period had war ensued. The declared opinion of the chamber has hastened the period, and out of respect for it I have not waited till the law was submitted to the other branches of the state.

It is merely a matter of duty; but I should be deeply hurt if any one imagined—and no one who has been acquainted with me during the last fifty-four years of my life, can believe—that my conduct had been dictated by any personal feeling. I will go farther and say that this opinion of the Chamber has afforded me an opportunity. The high authority with which I was invested has given umbrage which you, gentlemen must have heard of; and this umbrage has even been felt in certain diplomatic circles. The cause is now at an end, and I have now no other honour than that of being one of your colleagues. One word more, gentlemen, I should not have given in my resignation, which the King has accepted with all that goodness he has ever shown towards me, before the crisis we have now happily got over was at an end. At this time my conscientious love of public order is satisfied, but I cannot say the same of my conscientious love of liberty. We must all recollect the progress announced at the Hotel de Ville—a popular throne supported by republican institutions. It was accepted, but we have not all put the same construction upon it; it has not always been interpreted by the councils of the King, in the same sense in which it was understood by me, who am more impatient than others that it should be realized; and whatever may have been my personal independence in all situations, I feel myself at the present moment more at my ease in discussing my opinions with you. For the rest there are points upon which we shall always be in accord, we shall ever be united against our enemies, whether at home or from abroad. I still think that in the measures taken in the Revolution of July, we not only did that which we verily believed was for the best, but that we did all that was possible to be done. I am the more convinced of this, since I have not become intimately acquainted with the persons we have since met, and who are now in the same uniform. I have changed my motto, "Liberty, Public Order." Besides, how many legal means we have of expressing our thoughts, and making our wishes known; for there is the Tribune of this Chamber, and for every citizen there is the press, which has rendered the country