ACT OF MARCH 3, 1795.

An act providing further for the Mint and regulating the coins of the United States.

Additional mint officers.

SECTION 1. Provides for additional officers of the Mint and prescribes their duties.

SEC. 2. Requires an official oath and the giving of security. Oath and bond.

SEC. 3. Defines their compensation. Salaries.

SEC. 4. Authorizes temporary appointments by the President. Temporary appointments.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That the treasurer of the mint shall, and he is hereby directed, to retain two cents per ounce from every deposit of silver bullion below the standard of the United States, which hereafter shall be made for the purpose of refining and coining; and four cents per ounce from every deposit of gold bullion made as aforesaid, below the standard of the United States, unless the same shall be so far below the standard as to require the operation of the test, in which case, the treasurer shall retain six cents per ounce, which sum so retained shall be accounted for by the said treasurer with the treasury of the United States, as a compensation for melting and refining the same. Treasurer of the mint to retain part of bullion deposited, &c.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That the treasurer of the mint shall not be obliged to receive from any person, for the purpose of refining and coining, any deposit of silver bullion, below the standard of the United States, in a smaller quantity than two hundred ounces; nor a like deposit of gold bullion below the said standard, in a smaller quantity than twenty ounces. Treasurer of the mint shall not be obliged to receive certain deposits of bullion.

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That from and after the passing of this act, it shall and may be lawful for the officers of the mint to give a preference to silver or gold bullion, deposited for coinage, which shall be of the standard of the United States, so far as respects the coining of the same, although bullion below the standard, and not yet refined, may have been deposited for coinage, previous thereto, any law to the contrary notwithstanding; *Provided*, That nothing herein shall justify the officers of the mint, or any one of them, in unnecessarily delaying the refining any silver or gold bullion below the standard, that may be deposited, as aforesaid. Officers of the mint may give a preference to bullion of the standard of the United States. 1792, ch. 16, sec. 15.

SEC. 8. *And be it further enacted*, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby authorized, whenever he shall think it for the benefit of the United States, to reduce the weight of the copper coin of the United States; *Provided*, such reduction shall not, in the whole, exceed two pennyweights in each cent, and in a like proportion in a half cent; of which he shall give notice by proclamation,* and communicate the same to the then next Congress. President may reduce the weight of copper coin.

SEC. 9. *And be it further enacted*, That it shall be the duty of the treasurer of the United States, from time to time, as often as he shall receive copper cents and half cents from the treasurer of the mint, to send them to the bank or branch banks of the United States, in each of the states where such bank is established; and where there is no bank established, then to the collector of the principal town in such state (in the proportion of the number of inhabitants of such state) to be by such bank or collector, paid out to the citizens of the state for cash, in sums not less than ten Mode of distribution of cents and half cents.

* Weight changed by proclamation of the President, January 26, 1796.

dollars value; and that the same be done at the risk and expense of the United States, under such regulations as shall be prescribed by the department of the treasury.