Copyright Enactments Prior to the 1909 Act, Including the English Statute of Anne (1710) and Original State Statutes from 1783

Public Acts Relating to Copyright Passed by the Congress of the United States (1790 to 1905)

[1]--First Congress

[a]--May 31, 1790.

The first copyright law of the United States of America

AN ACT for the encouragement of learning, by securing the copies of maps, charts, and books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies, during the times therein mentioned.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That from and after the passing of this act, the author and authors of any map, chart, book or books already printed within these United States, being a citizen or citizens thereof, or resident within the same, his or their executors, administrators or assigns, who hath or have not transferred to any other person the copyright of such map, chart, book or books, share or shares thereof; and any other person or persons, being a citizen or citizens of these United States, or residents therein, his or their executors, administrators or assigns, who hath or have purchased or legally acquired the copyright of any such map, chart, book or books, in order to print, reprint, publish or vend the same, shall have the sole right and liberty of printing, reprinting, publishing and vending such map, chart, book or books, for the term of fourteen years from the recording the title thereof in the clerk's office, as is herein after directed: And that the author and authors of any map, chart, book or books already made and composed, and not printed or published, or that shall hereafter be made and composed, being a citizen or citizens of these United States, or resident therein, and his or their executors, administrators or assigns, shall have the sole right and liberty of printing, reprinting, publishing and vending such map, chart, book or books, for the like term of fourteen years from the time of recording the title thereof in the clerk's office as aforesaid. And if, at the expiration of the said term, the author or authors, or any of them, be living, and a citizen or citizens of these United States, or resident therein, the same exclusive right shall be continued to him or them, his or their executors, administrators or assigns, for the further term of fourteen years: *Provided*, he or they shall cause the title thereof to be a second time recorded and published in the same manner as is herein after directed, and that within six months before the expiration of the first term of fourteen years aforesaid.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That if any other person or persons, from and after the recording the title of any map, chart, book or books, and publishing the same as aforesaid, and within the times limited and granted by this act, shall print, reprint, publish, or import, or cause to be printed, reprinted, published, or imported from any foreign Kingdom or State, any copy or copies of such map, chart, book or books, without the consent of the author or proprietor thereof, first had and obtained in writing, signed in the presence of two or more credible witnesses; or knowing the same to be so printed, reprinted, or imported, shall publish, sell, or expose to sale, or cause to be published, sold, or exposed to sale, any copy of such map, chart, book or books, without such consent first had and obtained writing as aforesaid, then such offender or offenders shall forfeit all and every copy and copies of such map, chart, book or books, and all and every sheet and sheets, being part of the same, or either of them, to the author or proprietor of such map, chart, book or books, who shall forthwith destroy the same: And every such offender and offenders shall also forfeit and pay the sum of fifty cents for every sheet which shall be found in his or their possession, either printed or printing, published, imported or exposed to sale, contrary to the true intent and meaning of this act, the one moiety thereof to the author or proprietor of such map, chart, book or books who shall sue for the same, and the other moiety thereof to and for the use of the United States, to be recovered by action of debt in any court of record in the United States, wherein the same is cognizable. *Provided always*, That such action be commenced within one year after the cause of action shall arise, and not afterwards.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That no person shall be entitled to the benefit of this act, in cases where any map, chart, book or books, hath or have been already printed and published, unless he shall first deposit, and in all other cases, unless he shall before publication deposit a printed copy of the title of such map, chart, book or books, in the clerk's office of the district court where the author or proprietor shall reside: And the clerk of such court is hereby directed and required to record the same forthwith, in a book to be kept by him for that purpose, in the words following, (giving a copy thereof to the said author or proprietor, under the seal of the court, if he shall require the same). "District of _____ to wit: *Be it remembered*, that on the _____ day of _____ in the _____ year of the independence of the United States of America, A. B. of the said district, hath deposited

in this office the title of a map, chart, book or books, (as the case may be) the right whereof he claims as author or proprietor, (as the case may be) in the words following, to wit: [here insert the title] in conformity to the act of the Congress of the United States, intituled 'An act for the encouragement of learning, by securing the copies of maps, charts, and books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies, during the times therein mentioned.' C. D. clerk of the district of _____." For which the said clerk shall be entitled to receive sixty cents from the said author or proprietor, and sixty cents for every copy under seal actually given to such author or proprietor as aforesaid. And such author or proprietor shall, within two months from the date thereof, cause a copy of the said record to be published in one or more of the newspapers printed in the United States, for the space of four weeks.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That the author or proprietor of any such map, chart, book or books, shall, within six months after the publishing thereof, deliver, or cause to be delivered to the Secretary of State a copy of the same, to be preserved in his office.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That nothing in this act shall be construed to extend to prohibit the importation or vending, reprinting or publishing within the United States, of any map, chart, book or books, written, printed, or published by any person not a citizen of the United States, in foreign parts or places without the jurisdiction of the United States.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That any person or persons who shall print or publish any manuscript, without the consent and approbation of the author or proprietor thereof, first had and obtained as aforesaid, (if such author or proprietor be a citizen of or resident in these United States) shall be liable to suffer and pay to the said author or proprietor all damages occasioned by such injury, to be recovered by a special action on the case founded upon this act, in any court having cognizance thereof.

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That if any person or persons shall be sued or prosecuted for any matter, act or thing done under or by virtue of this act, he or they may plead the general issue, and give the special matter in evidence.

[1 Stat. 124 (May 31, 1790)]

[2]--Seventh Congress

[a]--April 29, 1802.

An amendment to the copyright law of 1790 adding a notice requirement and extending copyright to the art of designing, engraving, and etching historical and other prints

AN ACT supplementary to an act, intituled "An act for the encouragement of learning, by securing the copies of maps, charts, and books to the authors and proprietors of such copies during the time therein mentioned," and extending the benefits thereof to the arts of designing, engraving, and etching historical and other prints.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That every person who shall, from and after the first day of January next, claim to be the author or proprietor of any maps, charts, book or books, and shall thereafter seek to obtain a copyright of the same agreeable to the rules prescribed by law, before he shall be entitled to the benefit of the act, intituled "An act for the encouragement of learning, by securing the copies of maps, charts, books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies, during the time therein mentioned," he shall, in addition to the requisites, enjoined in the third and fourth sections of said act, if a book or books, give information by causing the copy of the record, which, by said act he is required to publish in one or more of the newspapers, to be inserted at full length in the title-page or in the page immediately following the title of every such book or books; and if a map or chart, shall cause the following words to be impressed on the face thereof, viz: "*Entered according to act of Congress, the* _____ *day of* _____ *18* _____ (here insert the date when the same was deposited in the office) *by A. B. of the State of* _____ (here insert the author's or proprietor's name and the State in which he resides).

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That from and after the first day of January next, every person, being a citizen of the United States, or resident within the same, who shall invent and design, engrave, etch or work, or from his own works and inventions, shall cause to be designed and engraved, etched or worked, any historical or other print or prints, shall have the sole right and liberty of printing, re-printing, publishing and vending such print or prints, for the term of fourteen years from the recording the title thereof in the clerk's office, as prescribed by law for maps, charts, book or books: *Provided*, he shall perform all the requisites in relation to such print or prints, as are directed in relation to maps, charts, book or books, in the third and fourth sections of the act to which this is a supplement, and shall moreover cause

the same entry to be truly engraved on such plate, with the name of the proprietor, and printed on every such print or prints as is herein before required to be made on maps or charts.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That if any print-seller or other person whatsoever, from and after the said first day of January next, within the time limited by this act, shall engrave, etch or work as aforesaid, or in any other manner copy or sell, or cause to be engraved, etched, copied or sold, in the whole or in part, by varying, adding to, or diminishing from the main design, or shall print, re-print, or import for sale, or cause to be printed, re-printed, or imported for sale, any such print or prints, or any parts thereof, without the consent of the proprietor or proprietors thereof, first had and obtained, in writing, signed by him or them respectively, in the presence of two or more credible witnesses; or knowing the same to be so printed or re-printed, without the consent of the proprietor or proprietors, shall publish, sell, or expose to sale or otherwise, or in any other manner dispose of any such print or prints, without such consent first had and obtained, as aforesaid, then such offender or offenders shall forfeit the plate or plates on which such print or prints are or shall be copied, and all and every sheet or sheets (being part of or whereon such print or prints are or shall be copied or printed) to the proprietor or proprietors of such original print or prints, who shall forthwith destroy the same; and further, that every such offender or offenders shall forfeit one dollar for every print which shall be found in his, her, or their custody; either printed, published, or exposed to sale, or otherwise disposed of, contrary to the true intent and meaning of this act, the one moiety thereof to any person who shall sue for the same, and the other moiety thereof to and for the use of the United States, to be recovered in any court having competent jurisdiction thereof.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That if any person or persons from and after the passing of this act, shall print or publish any map, chart, book or books, print or prints, who have not legally acquired the copyright of such map, chart, book or books, print or prints, and shall, contrary to the true intent and meaning of this act, insert therein or impress thereon that the same has been entered according to act of Congress, or words purporting the same, or purporting that the copyright thereof has been acquired; every person so offending shall forfeit and pay the sum of one hundred dollars, one moiety thereof to the person who shall sue for the same, and the other moiety thereof to and for the use of the United States, to be recovered by action of debt in any court of record in the United States, having cognizance thereof. *Provided always*, That in every case for forfeitures hereinbefore given, the action be commenced within two years from the time the cause of action may have arisen.

[2 Stat. 171 (April 29, 1802)]

[3]--Fifteenth Congress

[a]--February 15, 1819.

An act to extend the jurisdiction of the circuit courts of the United States to cases arising under the law relating to patents and copyrights

AN ACT to extend the jurisdiction of the circuit courts of the United States to cases arising under the law relating to patents.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the circuit courts of the United States shall have original cognisance, as well in equity as at law, of all actions, suits, controversies, and cases, arising under any law of the United States, granting or confirming to authors or inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings, inventions, and discoveries: and upon any bill in equity, filed by any party aggrieved in any such cases, shall have authority to grant injunctions, according to the course and principles of courts of equity, to prevent the violation of the rights of any authors or inventors, secured to them by any laws of the United States, on such terms and conditions as the said courts may deem fit and reasonable: *Provided, however*, That from all judgments and decrees of any circuit courts, rendered in the premises, a writ of error or appeal, as the case may require, shall lie to the Supreme Court of the United States, in the same manner, and under the same circumstances, as is now provided by law in other judgments and decrees of such circuit courts.

[3 Stat. 481 (Feb. 15, 1819)]

[4]--Twenty-first Congress

[a]--February 3, 1831.

An act to amend the several acts respecting copyrights (First general revision of the copyright law)

AN ACT to amend the several acts respecting copyrights.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That from and after the passing of this act, any person or persons, being a citizen or citizens of the United States, or resident therein, who shall be the author or authors of any book or books, map, chart, or musical composition, which may be now made or composed, and not printed and published, or shall hereafter be made or composed, or who shall invent, design, etch, engrave, work, or cause to be engraved, etched, or worked from his own design, any print or engraving, and the executors, administrators, or legal assigns of such person or persons, shall have the sole right and liberty of printing, reprinting, publishing, and vending such book or books, map, chart, musical composition, print, cut, or engraving, in whole or in part, for the term of twenty-eight years from the time of recording the title thereof, in the manner hereinafter directed.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That if, at the expiration of the aforesaid term of years, such author, inventor, designer, engraver, or any of them, where the work had been originally composed and made by more than one person, be still living, and a citizen or citizens of the United States, or resident therein, or being dead, shall have left a widow, or child, or children, either or all then living, the same exclusive right shall be continued to such author, designer, or engraver, or, if dead, then to such widow and child, or children for the further term of fourteen years: *Provided*, That the title of the work so secured shall be a second time recorded, and all such other regulations as are herein required in regard to original copyrights, be complied with in respect to such renewed copyright, and that within six months before the expiration of the first term.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That in all cases of renewal of copyright under this act, such author or proprietor shall, within two months from the date of said renewal, cause a copy of the record thereof to be published in one or more of the newspapers printed in the United States, for the space of four weeks.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That no person shall be entitled to the benefit of this act, unless he shall, before publication, deposit a printed copy of the title of such book, or books, map, chart, musical composition, print, cut, or engraving, in the clerk's office of the district court of the district wherein the author or proprietor shall reside, and the clerk of such court is hereby directed and required to record the same thereof forthwith, in a book to be kept for that purpose, in the words following (giving a copy of the title, under the seal of the court, to the said author or proprietor, whenever he shall require the same:) "District of _____ to wit: Be it remembered, that on the _____ day of _____ anno Domini, _____ A. B., of the said district, hath deposited in this office the title of a book, (map, chart, or otherwise, as the case may be,) the title of which is in the words following, to wit: (here insert the title;) the right whereof he claims as author (or proprietor as the case may be;) in conformity with an act of Congress, entitled 'An act to amend the several acts respecting copyrights.' C. D., clerk of the district." For which record, the clerk shall be entitled to receive, from the person claiming such right as aforesaid, fifty cents; and the like sum for every copy, under seal, actually given to such person or his assigns. And the author or proprietor of any such book, map, chart, musical composition, print, cut, or engraving, shall, within three months from the publication of said book, map, chart, musical composition, print, cut, or engraving, deliver or cause to be delivered a copy of the same to the clerk of said district. And it shall be the duty of the clerk of each district court, at least once in every year, to transmit a certified list of all such records of copyright, including the titles so recorded, and the dates of record, and also all the several copies of books or other works deposited in his office according to this act, to the Secretary of State, to be preserved in his office.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That no person shall be entitled to the benefit of this act, unless he shall give information of copyright being secured, by causing to be inserted, in the several copies of each and every edition published during the term secured on the title-page, or the page immediately following, if it be a book, or, if a map, chart, musical composition, print, cut, or engraving, by causing to be impressed on the face thereof, or if a volume of maps, charts, music, or engravings, upon the title or frontispiece thereof, the following words, viz: "Entered according to act of Congress, in the year _____, by A. B., in the clerk's office of the district court of _____," (as the case may be.)

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That if any other person or persons, from and after the recording the title of any book or books, according to this act, shall, within the term or terms herein limited, print, publish, or import, or cause to be printed, published, or imported, any copy of such book, or books, without the consent of the person legally entitled to the copyright thereof, first had and obtained in writing, signed in the presence of two or more credible witnesses, or shall, knowing the same to be so printed or imported, publish, sell, or expose to sale, or cause to be published, sold, or exposed to sale, any copy of such book without such consent in writing; then such offender shall forfeit every copy of

such book to the person legally, at the time, entitled to the copyright thereof; and shall also forfeit and pay fifty cents for every such sheet which may be found in his possession, either printed, or printing, published, imported, or exposed to sale, contrary to the intent of this act, the one moiety thereof to such legal owner of the copyright as aforesaid, and the other to the use of the United States, to be recovered by action of debt in any court having competent jurisdiction thereof.

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That, if any person or persons after the recording the title of any print, cut, or engraving, map, chart or musical composition, according to the provisions of this act, shall, within the term or terms limited by this act, engrave, etch, or work, sell, or copy, or cause to be engraved, etched, worked, or sold, or copied, either on the whole, or by varying, adding to, or diminishing the main design with intent to evade the law; or shall print or import for sale, or cause to be printed, or imported for sale, any such map, chart, musical composition, print, cut, or engraving, or any parts thereof, without the consent of the proprietor or proprietors of the copyright thereof, first obtained in writing, signed in the presence of two credible witnesses; or, knowing the same to be so printed or imported without such consent, shall publish, sell, or expose to sale, or in any manner dispose of any such map, chart, musical composition, engraving, cut, or print, without such consent, as aforesaid; then such offender or offenders shall forfeit the plate or plates on which such map, chart, musical composition, engraving, cut, or print, shall be copied, and also all and every sheet thereof so copied or printed as aforesaid, to the proprietor or proprietors of the copyright thereof; and shall further forfeit one dollar for every sheet of such map, chart, musical composition, print, cut, or engraving, which may be found in his or their possession, printed or published, or exposed to sale, contrary to the true intent and meaning of this act; the one moiety thereof to the proprietor or proprietors, and the other moiety to the use of the United States, to be recovered in any court having competent jurisdiction thereof.

SEC. 8. *And be it further enacted*, That nothing in this act shall be construed to extend to prohibit the importation or vending, printing, or publishing, of any map, chart, book, musical composition, print or engraving, written, composed, or made, by any person not being a citizen of the United States, nor resident within the jurisdiction thereof.

SEC. 9. *And be it further enacted*, That any person or persons who shall print or publish any manuscript whatever without the consent of the author or legal proprietor first obtained as aforesaid, (if such author or proprietor be a citizen of the United States, or resident therein,) shall be liable to suffer and pay to the author or proprietor, all damages occasioned by such injury, to be recovered by a special action on the case founded upon this act, in any court having cognisance thereof; and the several courts of the United States empowered to grant injunctions to prevent the violation of the rights of authors and inventors, are hereby empowered to grant injunctions, in like manner, according to the principles of equity, to restrain such publication of any manuscript as aforesaid.

SEC. 10. *And be it further enacted*, That, if any person or persons shall be sued or prosecuted, for any matter, act, or thing done under or by virtue of this act, he or they may plead the general issue and give the special matter in evidence.

SEC. 11. *And be it further enacted*, That, if any person or persons, from and after the passing of this act, shall print or publish any book, map, chart, musical composition, print, cut, or engraving, not having legally acquired the copyright thereof, and shall insert or impress that the same hath been entered according to act of Congress, or words purporting the same, every person so offending shall forfeit and pay one hundred dollars; one moiety thereof to the person who shall sue for the same, and the other to the use of the United States, to be recovered by action of debt, in any court of record having cognisance thereof.

SEC. 12. *And be it further enacted*, That, in all recoveries under this act, either for damages, forfeitures, or penalties, full costs shall be allowed thereon, any thing in any former act to the contrary notwithstanding.

SEC. 13. *And be it further enacted*, That no action or prosecution shall be maintained, in any case of forfeiture or penalty under this act, unless the same shall have been commenced within two years after the cause of action shall have arisen.

SEC. 14. *And be it further enacted*, That the "Act for the encouragement of learning, by securing the copies of maps, charts, and books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies during the times therein mentioned," passed May thirty-first, one thousand seven hundred and ninety, and the act supplementary thereto, passed April twenty-ninth, one thousand eight hundred and two, shall be, and the same are hereby, repealed: saving, always, such rights as may have been obtained in conformity to their provisions.

SEC. 15. *And be it further enacted*, That all and several the provisions of this act, intended for the protection and security of copyrights, and providing remedies, penalties, and forfeitures, in case of violation thereof, shall be held and

construed to extend to the benefit of the legal proprietor or proprietors of each and every copyright heretofore obtained, according to law, during the term thereof, in the same manner as if such copyright had been entered and secured according to the directions of this act.

SEC. 16. *And be it further enacted*, That, whenever a copyright has been heretofore obtained by an author or authors, inventor, designer, or engraver, of any book, map, chart, print, cut or engraving, or by a proprietor of the same: if such author or authors, or either of them, such inventor, designer, or engraver, be living at the passage of this act, then such author or authors, or the survivor of them, such inventor, engraver, or designer, shall continue to have the same exclusive right to his book, chart, map, print, cut, or engraving, with the benefit of each and all the provisions of this act, for the security thereof, for such additional period of time as will, together with the time which shall have elapsed from the first entry of such copyright, make up the term of twenty-eight years, with the same right to his widow, child, or children, to renew the copyright, at the expiration thereof, as is above provided in relation to copyrights originally secured under this act. And if such author or authors, inventor, designer, or engraver, shall not be living at the passage of this act, then, his or their heirs, executors and administrators, shall be entitled to the like exclusive enjoyment of said copyright, with the benefit of each and all the provisions of this act for the security thereof, for the period of twenty-eight years from the first entry of said copyright, with the like privilege of renewal to the widow, child, or children of author or authors, designer, inventor, or engraver, as is provided in relation to copyrights originally secured under this act: *Provided*, That this act shall not extend to any copyright heretofore secured, the term of which has already expired.

[4 Stat. 36 (Feb. 3, 1831)]

[5]--Twenty-third Congress

[a]--June 30, 1834.

An act providing for the recordation of assignments of copyright

AN ACT supplementary to the act to amend the several acts respecting copyrights.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That all deeds or instruments in writing for the transfer or assignment of copyrights, being proved or acknowledged in such manner as deeds for the conveyance of land are required by law to be proved or acknowledged in the same State or district, shall and may be recorded in the office where the original copyright is deposited and recorded; and every such deed or instrument that shall in any time hereafter be made and executed, and which shall not be proved or acknowledged and recorded as aforesaid, within sixty days after its execution, shall be judged fraudulent and void against any subsequent purchaser or mortgagee for valuable consideration without notice.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the clerk of the district court shall be entitled to such fees for performing the services herein authorized and required, as he is entitled to for performing like services under existing laws of the United States.

[4 Stat. 728 (June 30, 1834)]

[6]--Twenty-ninth Congress

[a]--August 10, 1846.

Provisions for the deposit of copies of copyrighted works, contained in an act to establish the "Smithsonian Institution"

AN ACT to establish the "Smithsonian Institution," for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men.

SEC. 10. *And be it further enacted*, That the author or proprietor of any book, map, chart, musical composition, print, cut, or engraving, for which a copyright shall be secured under the existing acts of Congress, or those which shall hereafter be enacted respecting copyrights, shall, within three months from the publication of said book, map, chart, musical composition, print, cut, or engraving, deliver, or cause to be delivered, one copy of the same to the librarian of the Smithsonian Institution, and one copy to the Librarian of Congress Library, for the use of said libraries.

[9 Stat. 106 (Aug. 10, 1846)]

[7]--Thirty-third Congress

[a]--March 3, 1855.

Provisions for the free transmission of copyright deposits through the mails, contained in an act making appropriations for the Post Office Department

AN ACT making appropriations for the service of the Post-Office Department during the fiscal year, ending the thirtieth of June, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-six.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That all books, maps, charts, or other publications, entered for copyright, and which, under the act of August tenth, eighteen hundred and forty-six, are required to be deposited in the Library of Congress, and in the Smithsonian Institution, may be sent through the mails free of postage, under such regulations as the Postmaster-General may prescribe.

[10 Stat. 685 (March 3, 1855)]

[8]--Thirty-fourth Congress

[a]--August 18, 1856.

A supplemental act providing for performance rights in dramatic compositions

AN ACT supplemental to an act entitled "An act to amend the several acts respecting copyright," approved February third, eighteen hundred and thirty-one.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That any copyright hereafter granted under the laws of the United States to the author or proprietor of any dramatic composition, designed or suited for public representation, shall be deemed and taken to confer upon the said author or proprietor, his heirs or assigns, along with the sole right to print and publish the said composition, the sole right also to act, perform, or represent the same, or cause it to be acted, performed, or represented, on any stage or public place during the whole period for which the copyright is obtained; and any manager, actor, or other person acting, performing, or representing the said composition, without or against the consent of the said author or proprietor, his heirs or assigns, shall be liable to damages to be sued for and recovered by action on the case or other equivalent remedy, with costs of suit in any court of the United States, such damages in all cases to be rated and assessed at such sum not less than one hundred dollars for the first, and fifty dollars for every subsequent performance, as to the court having cognizance thereof shall appear to be just: *Provided, nevertheless*, That nothing herein enacted shall impair any right to act, perform, or represent a dramatic composition as aforesaid, which right may have been acquired, or shall in future be acquired by any manager, actor, or other person previous to the securing of the copyright for the said composition, or to restrict in any way the right of such author to process in equity in any court of the United States for the better and further enforcement of his rights.

[11 Stat. 138 (Aug. 18, 1856)]

[9]--Thirty-fifth Congress

[a]--February 5, 1859.

An act transferring all copyright deposits and records from the Department of State to the Department of the Interior

AN ACT providing for keeping and distributing all public documents.

SECTION. 8. *And be it further enacted*, That all books, maps, charts, and other publications of every nature whatever, heretofore deposited in the Department of State according to the laws regulating copyrights, together with all the records of the Department of State in regard to the same, shall be removed to and be under the control of the Department of the Interior, which is hereby charged with all the duties connected with the same, and with all matters pertaining to copyright, in the same manner and to the same extent that the Department of State is now charged with the same; and hereafter all such publications of every nature whatever shall, under present laws and regulations, be left with, and kept by him.

[11 Stat. 380 (Feb. 5, 1859)]

THE STATUTES AT LARGE AND TREATIES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, FROM DECEMBER 3, 1855, TO MARCH 3, 1859. EDITED BY GEORGE MINOT AND GEORGE P. SANGER. 380-81 (Boston, 1859).

[10]--Thirty-sixth Congress

[a]--February 18, 1861.

An act extending the right of appeal from decisions of circuit courts to the Supreme Court of the United States in patent and copyright cases

AN ACT to extend the right of appeal from decisions of circuit courts to the Supreme Court of the United States.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That from all judgments and decrees of any circuit court rendered in any action, suit, controversy, or case, at law or in equity, arising under any law of the United States granting or confirming to authors the exclusive right to their respective writings, or to inventors the exclusive right to their inventions or discoveries, a writ of error or appeal, as the case may require, shall lie, at the instance of either party, to the Supreme Court of the United States, in the same manner and under the same circumstances as is now provided by law in other judgments and decrees of such circuit courts, without regard to the sum or value in controversy in the action.

[12 Stat. 130 (Jan. 18, 1861)]

[11]--Thirty-eighth Congress

[a]--March 3, 1865.

A supplemental act providing for the protection of photographs and for the deposit of copyrighted works in the Library of Congress including free transmission through the mails

AN ACT supplemental to an act entitled, "An Act to amend the several acts respecting copyright," approved February third, eighteen hundred and thirty-one, and to the acts in addition thereto and amendment thereof.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the provisions of said act shall extend to and include photographs and the negatives thereof which shall hereafter be made, and shall enure to the benefit of the authors of the same in the same manner, and to the same extent, and upon the same conditions as to the authors of prints and engravings.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That a printed copy of every book, pamphlet, map, chart, musical composition, print, engraving, or photograph, for which a copyright shall be secured under said acts, shall be transmitted free of postage or other expense by the author or proprietor thereof, within one month of the date of publication, to the Library of Congress at Washington for the use of said library; and the Librarian of Congress is hereby required to give a receipt in writing for the same.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That if any proprietor of a book, pamphlet, map, chart, musical composition, print, engraving, or photograph, for which a copyright shall be secured as aforesaid, shall neglect to deliver the same pursuant to the requirement of this act, it shall be the duty of the Librarian of Congress to make demand thereof in writing, at any time within twelve months after the publication thereof; and in default of the delivery thereof within one month after the demand shall have been made, the right of exclusive publication secured to such proprietor under the acts of Congress respecting copyright shall be forfeited.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That in the construction of this act the word "book" shall be construed to mean every volume and part of a volume, together with all maps, prints or other engravings belonging thereto; and shall include a copy of any second or subsequent edition which shall be published with any additions, whether the first edition of such book shall have been published before or after the passing of this act: *Provided, however*, That it shall not be requisite to deliver to the said library any copy of the second or any subsequent edition of any book, unless the same shall contain additions as aforesaid, nor of any book which is not the subject of copyright.

[13 Stat. 540 (March 3, 1865)]

[12]--Thirty-ninth Congress

[a]--February 18, 1867.

An amendatory act relating to the deposit of copyrighted works in the Library of Congress and their free transmission through the mails

AN ACT amendatory of the several acts respecting copyrights.

1867, February 18:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That every proprietor of a book, pamphlet, map, chart, musical composition, print, engraving, or photograph, for which a copyright shall have been secured, who shall fail to deliver to the Library of Congress at Washington, a printed copy of every such book, pamphlet, map, chart, musical composition, print, engraving, or photograph, within one month after publication thereof, shall, for every such default, be subject to a penalty of twenty-five dollars, to be collected by the Librarian of Congress, in the name of the United States, in any district or circuit court of the United States within the jurisdiction of which the delinquent may reside or be found.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That every such proprietor may transmit any book, pamp[h]let, map, chart, musical composition, print, engraving, or photograph, for which he may have secured a copyright, to the Librarian of Congress, by mail free of postage, provided the words "copyright matter" be plainly written or printed on the outside of the package containing the same; and it shall be the duty of the several postmasters and deputy postmasters, to give a receipt for the same, if requested, and when such package shall be delivered to them, or any of them, to see that the same is safely forwarded to its destination by mail, without cost or charge to said proprietor.

[14 Stat. 395 (Feb. 18, 1867)]

[13]--Forty-first Congress

[a]--July 8, 1870.

An act to revise, consolidate, and amend the statutes relating to patents and copyrights (Second general revision of the copyright law)

AN ACT to revise, consolidate, and amend the statutes relating to patents and copyrights.

SEC. 85. *And be it further enacted*, That all records and other things relating to copyrights and required by law to be preserved, shall be under the control of the Librarian of Congress, and kept and preserved in the Library of Congress; and the Librarian of Congress shall have the immediate care and supervision thereof, and, under the supervision of the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library, shall perform all acts and duties required by law touching copyrights. The Librarian shall cause a seal to be provided for said office, with such device as the Joint Committee on the Library may approve, with which all records or papers issued from said office, and to be used in evidence, shall be authenticated. He shall also give an additional bond, with sureties, to the Treasurer of the United States, in the sum of five thousand dollars, with the condition that he will render to the proper officers of the Treasury a true account of all moneys received by virtue of his office. He shall also make an annual report to Congress of the number and description of copyright publications for which entries have been made during the year. And the Librarian of Congress shall receive a yearly compensation of four thousand dollars, to commence when this act shall take effect.

SEC. 86. *And be it further enacted*, That any citizen of the United States, or resident therein, who shall be the author, inventor, designer, or proprietor of any book, map, chart, dramatic or musical composition, engraving, cut, print, or photograph or negative thereof, or of a painting, drawing, chromo, statue, statuary, and of models or designs intended to be perfected as works of the fine arts, and his executors, administrators, or assigns, shall, upon complying with the provisions of this act, have the sole liberty of printing, reprinting, publishing, completing, copying, executing, finishing, and vending the same; and in the case of a dramatic composition, of publicly performing or representing it, or causing it to be performed or represented by others; and authors may reserve the right to dramatize or to translate their own works.

SEC. 87. *And be it further enacted*, That copyrights shall be granted for the term of twenty-eight years from the time of recording the title thereof, in the manner hereinafter directed.

SEC. 88. *And be it further enacted*, That the author, inventor or designer, if he be still living, and a citizen of the United States or resident therein, or his widow or children, if he be dead, shall have the same exclusive right continued for the further term of fourteen years, upon recording the title of the work or description of the article so secured a second time, and complying with all other regulations in regard to original copyrights, within six months before the expiration of the first term. And such person shall, within two months from the date of said renewal, cause a copy of the record thereof to be published in one or more newspapers, printed in the United States, for the space of four weeks.

SEC. 89. *And be it further enacted*, That copyrights shall be assignable in law, by any instrument of writing, and such assignment shall be recorded in the office of the Librarian of Congress within sixty days after its execution, in

default of which it shall be void as against any subsequent purchaser or mortgagee for a valuable consideration, without notice.

SEC. 90. *And be it further enacted*, That no person shall be entitled to a copyright unless he shall, before publication, deposit in the mail a printed copy of the title of the book or other article, or a description of the painting, drawing, chromo, statue, statuary, or model or design for a work of the fine arts, for which he desires a copyright, addressed to the Librarian of Congress, and, within ten days from the publication thereof, deposit in the mail two copies of such copyright book or other article, or in case of a painting, drawing, statue, statuary, model or design for a work of the fine arts, a photograph of the same, to be addressed to said Librarian of Congress, as hereinafter to be provided.

SEC. 91. *And be it further enacted*, That the Librarian of Congress shall record the name of such copyright book, or other article, forthwith in a book to be kept for that purpose, in the words following: "Library of Congress, to wit. Be it remembered that on the _____ day of _____, anno Domini _____, A. B., of _____, hath deposited in this office the title of a book, (map, chart, or otherwise, as the case may be, or description of the article,) the title or description of which is in the following words, to wit; (here insert the title or description,) the right whereof he claims as author, originator, (or proprietor, as the case may be,) in conformity with the laws of the United States respecting copyrights. C. D., Librarian of Congress." And he shall give a copy of the title or description, under the seal of the Librarian of Congress, to said proprietor whenever he shall require it.

SEC. 92. *And be it further enacted*, That for recording the title or description of any copyright book or other article, the Librarian of Congress shall receive, from the person claiming the same, fifty cents; and for every copy under seal actually given to such person or his assigns, fifty cents; and for recording any instrument of writing for the assignment of a copyright, fifteen cents for every one hundred words; and for every copy thereof, ten cents for every one hundred words, which moneys, so received, shall be paid into the Treasury of the United States.

SEC. 93. *And be it further enacted*, That the proprietor of every copyright book or other article shall mail to the Librarian of Congress at Washington, within ten days after its publication, two complete printed copies thereof, of the best edition issued, or description or photograph of such article as hereinbefore required, and a copy of every subsequent edition wherein any substantial changes shall be made.

SEC. 94. *And be it further enacted*, That in default of such deposit in the post-office, said proprietor shall be liable to a penalty of twenty-five dollars, to be collected by the Librarian of Congress, in the name of the United States, in an action of debt, in any district court of the United States within the jurisdiction of which the delinquent may reside or be found.

SEC. 95. *And be it further enacted*, That any such copyright book or other article may be sent to the Librarian of Congress by mail, free of postage, provided the words "Copyright matter" are plainly written or printed on the outside of the package containing the same.

SEC. 96. *And be it further enacted*, That the postmaster to whom such copyright book, title, or other article is delivered, shall, if requested, give a receipt therefor; and when so delivered he shall mail it to its destination, without cost to the proprietor.

SEC. 97. *And be it further enacted*, That no person shall maintain an action for the infringement of his copyright unless he shall give notice thereof by inserting in the several copies of every edition published, on the title page or the page immediately following, if it be a book; or if a map, chart, musical composition, print, cut, engraving, photograph, painting, drawing, chromo, statue, statuary, or model or design intended to be perfected and completed as a work of the fine arts, by inscribing upon some portion of the face or front thereof, or on the face of the substance on which the same shall be mounted, the following words, viz.: "Entered according to act of Congress, in the year _____, by A. B., in the office of the Librarian of Congress, at Washington."

SEC. 98. *And be it further enacted*, That if any person shall insert or impress such notice, or words of the same purport, in or upon any book, map, chart, musical composition, print, cut, engraving, or photograph, or other articles herein named, for which he has not obtained a copyright, every person so offending shall forfeit and pay one hundred dollars; one moiety thereof to the person who shall sue for the same, and the other to the use of the United States, to be recovered by action in any court of competent jurisdiction.

SEC. 99. *And be it further enacted*, That if any person, after the recording of the title of any book as herein provided, shall within the term limited, and without the consent of the proprietor of the copyright first obtained in writing, signed in presence of two or more witnesses, print, publish, or import, or, knowing the same to be so printed,

published, or imported, shall sell or expose to sale any copy of such book, such offender shall forfeit every copy thereof to said proprietor, and shall also forfeit and pay such damages as may be recovered in a civil action by such proprietor in any court of competent jurisdiction.

SEC. 100. *And be it further enacted*, That if any person, after the recording of the title of any map, chart, musical composition, print, cut, engraving, or photograph, or chromo, or of the description of any painting, drawing, statue, statuary, or model or design intended to be perfected and executed as a work of the fine arts, as herein provided, shall, within the term limited, and without the consent of the proprietor of the copyright first obtained in writing, signed in presence of two or more witnesses, engrave, etch, work, copy, print, publish, or import, either in whole or in part, or by varying the main design with intent to evade the law, or, knowing the same to be so printed, published, or imported, shall sell or expose to sale any copy of such map or other article, as aforesaid, he shall forfeit to the said proprietor all the plates on which the same shall be copied, and every sheet thereof, either copied or printed, and shall further forfeit one dollar for every sheet of the same found in his possession, either printing, printed, copied, published, imported, or exposed for sale; and in case of a painting, statue, or statuary, he shall forfeit ten dollars for every copy of the same in his possession, or which have by him been sold or exposed for sale; one moiety thereof to the proprietor and the other to the use of the United States, to be recovered by action in any court of competent jurisdiction.

SEC. 101. *And be it further enacted*, That any person publicly performing or representing any dramatic composition for which a copyright has been obtained, without the consent of the proprietor thereof, or his heirs or assigns, shall be liable for damages therefor, to be recovered by action in any court of competent jurisdiction; said damages in all cases to be assessed at such sum, not less than one hundred dollars for the first, and fifty dollars for every subsequent performance, as to the court shall appear to be just.

SEC. 102. *And be it further enacted*, That any person who shall print or publish any manuscript whatever, without the consent of the author or proprietor first obtained, (if such author or proprietor be a citizen of the United States, or resident therein,) shall be liable to said author or proprietor for all damages occasioned by such injury, to be recovered by action on the case in any court of competent jurisdiction.

SEC. 103. *And be it further enacted*, That nothing herein contained shall be construed to prohibit the printing, publishing, importation, or sale of any book, map, chart, dramatic or musical composition, print, cut, engraving, or photograph, written, composed, or made by any person not a citizen of the United States nor resident therein.

SEC. 104. *And be it further enacted*, That no action shall be maintained in any case of forfeiture or penalty under the copyright laws, unless the same is commenced within two years after the cause of action has arisen.

SEC. 105. *And be it further enacted*, That in all actions arising under the laws respecting copyrights the defendant may plead the general issue, and give the special matter in evidence.

SEC. 106. *And be it further enacted*, That all actions, suits, controversies, and cases arising under the copyright laws of the United States shall be originally cognizable, as well in equity as at law, whether civil or penal in their nature, by the circuit courts of the United States, or any district court having the jurisdiction of a circuit court, or in the supreme court of the District of Columbia, or any Territory. And the court shall have power, upon bill in equity, filed by any party aggrieved, to grant injunctions to prevent the violation of any right secured by said laws, according to the course and principles of courts of equity, on such terms as the court may deem reasonable.

SEC. 107. *And be it further enacted*, That a writ of error or appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States shall lie from all judgments and decrees of any court, in any action, suit, controversy, or case touching copyrights in the same manner and under the same circumstances as in other judgments and decrees of such courts, without regard to the sum or value in controversy.

SEC. 108. *And be it further enacted*, That in all recoveries under the copyright laws, either for damages, forfeitures, or penalties, full costs shall be allowed thereon.

SEC. 109. *And be it further enacted*, That all books, maps, charts, and other publications of every nature whatever, heretofore deposited in the Department of the Interior, according to the laws regulating copyrights, together with all the records of said Department, and all records concerning the same which were removed by the Department of the Interior from the Department of State, shall be removed to and be under the control of the Librarian of Congress, who is hereby charged with all the duties pertaining to copyrights required by law.

SEC. 110. *And be it further enacted*, That the clerk of each of the district courts of the United States shall transmit forthwith to the Librarian of Congress all books, maps, prints, photograp[h]s, music, and other publications of every nature whatever, deposited in the said clerk's office, and not heretofore sent to the Department of the Interior, at Washington, together with all records of copyright in his possession, including the titles so recorded, and the dates of record: *Provided*, That where there are duplicate copies of legal, scientific, or mechanical works, one copy of each may be deposited in the library of the Patent Office, for which a receipt shall be given by the Commissioner of Patents to the Librarian of Congress.

SEC. 111. *And be it further enacted*, That the acts and parts of acts set forth in the schedule of acts cited, hereto annexed, are hereby repealed, without reviving any acts or parts of acts repealed by any of said acts, or by any clause or provisions therein: *Provided, however*, That the repeal hereby enacted shall not affect, impair, or take away any right existing under any of said laws; but all actions and causes of action, both in law and in equity, which have arisen under any of said laws, may be commenced and prosecuted, and if already commenced may be prosecuted to final judgment and execution, in the same manner as though this act had not been passed, excepting that the remedial provisions of this act shall be applicable to all suits and proceedings hereafter commenced: *And provided also*, That all applications for patents pending at the time of the passage of this act, in cases where the duty has been paid, shall be proceeded with and acted on in the same manner as though filed after the passage thereof: *And provided further*, That all offences which are defined and punishable under any of said acts, and all penalties and forfeitures created thereby, and incurred before this act takes effect, may be prosecuted, sued for, and recovered, and such offences punished according to the provisions of said acts, which are continued in force for such purpose.

Schedule of Statutes Cited and Repealed as Printed in the Statutes at Large.

COPYRIGHTS.

Act of February 15, 1819, chapter 19, volume 3, page 481.

February 3, 1831, chapter 16, volume 4, page 436.

June 30, 1834, chapter 157, volume 4, page 728.

August 18, 1856, chapter 169, volume 11, page 138.

February 5, 1859, chapter 22, volume 11, page 380.

February 18, 1861, chapter 37, volume 12, page 130.

March 3, 1865, chapter 126, volume 18, page 540.

February 18, 1867, chapter 43, volume 14, page 395.

[16 Stat. 212 (July 8, 1870)]

[14]--Forty-second Congress

[a]--June 8, 1872.

Provisions for the free transmission through the mails of copyright matter to the Librarian of Congress, contained in an act relating to the Post Office Department

AN ACT to revise, consolidate, and amend the statutes relating to the Post-Office Department.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, * * *

SEC. 184. That the following mail-matter shall be allowed to pass free in the mail: * * *

Fifth. Copyright matter to the librarian of Congress, if marked on the package, "copyright matter." * * *

[17 Stat. 283, 306, 307, 330(June 8, 1872)]

[15]--Forty-third Congress

[a]--December 1, 1873.

An act containing provisions relating to the jurisdiction of and procedures in the United States Courts in cases arising under the patent and copyright laws

CHAPTER 7. - CIRCUIT COURT - JURISDICTION.

SEC. 629. The circuit courts shall have original jurisdiction as follows: * * * Ninth. Of all suits at law or in equity arising under the patent or copyright laws of the United States. (Rev. Stat., 1878, pp. 110, 111.)

CHAPTER 11. - SUPREME COURT - JURISDICTION.

SEC. 699. A writ of error may be allowed to review any final judgment at law, and an appeal shall be allowed from any final decree in equity hereinafter mentioned, without regard to the sum or value in dispute:

First. Any final judgment at law or final decree in equity of any circuit court, or of any district court acting as a circuit court, or of the supreme court of the District of Columbia, or of any Territory, in any case touching patents-rights or copyrights. (Rev. Stat., 1878, p. 130.)

CHAPTER 12. - PROVISIONS COMMON TO MORE THAN ONE COURT OR JUDGE.

SEC. 711. The jurisdiction vested in the courts of the United States in the cases and proceedings hereinafter mentioned, shall be exclusive of the courts of the several states: * * * Fifth. Of all cases arising under the patent-right or copyright laws of the United States. (Rev. Stat., 1878, pp. 134, 135.)

CHAPTER 18. - PROCEDURE.

SEC. 972. In all recoveries under the copyright laws, either for damages, forfeitures, or penalties, full costs shall be allowed thereon. (Rev. Stat., 1878, p. 183.)

REVISED STATUTES OF THE UNITED STATES, PASSED AT THE FIRST SESSION OF THE FORTY-THIRD Congress, 1873-74. 110-11, 130, 134-35, 183 (Washington, 1878).

[b]--December 1, 1873.

The copyright law as incorporated in Title 60 of the Revised Statutes of the United States

REVISED STATUTES, TITLE 60, PATENTS, TRADE-MARKS AND COPYRIGHTS

CHAPTER 3. --COPYRIGHTS.

SEC. 4948. All records and other things relating to copyrights and required by law to be preserved, shall be under the control of the Librarian of Congress, and kept and preserved in the Library of Congress; and the Librarian of Congress shall have the immediate care and supervision thereof, and, under the supervision of the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library, shall perform all acts and duties required by law touching copyrights.

SEC. 4949. The seal provided for the office of the Librarian of Congress shall be the seal thereof, and by it all records and papers issued from the office and to be used in evidence shall be authenticated.

SEC. 4950. The Librarian of Congress shall give a bond, with sureties, to the Treasurer of the United States, in the sum of five thousand dollars, with the condition that he will render to the proper officers of the Treasury a true account of all moneys received by virtue of his office.

SEC. 4951. The Librarian of Congress shall make an annual report to Congress of the number and description of copyright publications for which entries have been made during the year.

SEC. 4952.

Any citizen of the United States or resident therein, who shall be the author, inventor, designer, or proprietor of any book, map, chart, dramatic or musical composition, engraving, cut, print, or photograph or negative thereof, or of a painting, drawing, chromo, statue, statuary, and of models or designs intended to be perfected as works of the fine arts, and the executors, administrators, or assigns of any such person shall, upon complying with the provisions of this chapter, have the sole liberty of printing, reprinting, publishing, completing, copying, executing, finishing, and vending the same; and, in the case of a dramatic composition, of publicly performing or representing it, or causing it to be performed or represented by others. And authors may reserve the right to dramatize or to translate their own works.

SEC. 4953. Copyrights shall be granted for the term of twenty-eight years from the time of recording the title thereof, in the manner hereinafter directed.

SEC. 4954. The author, inventor, or designer, if he be still living and a citizen of the United States or resident therein, or his widow or children, if he be dead, shall have the same exclusive right continued for the further term of fourteen years, upon recording the title of the work or description of the article so secured a second time, and complying with all other regulations in regard to original copyrights, within six months before the expiration of the first term. And such person shall, within two months from the date of said renewal, cause a copy of the record thereof to be published in one or more newspapers, printed in the United States, for the space of four weeks.

SEC. 4955. Copyrights shall be assignable in law, by any instrument of writing, and such assignment shall be recorded in the office of the Librarian of Congress within sixty days after its execution; in default of which it shall be void as against any subsequent purchaser or mortgagee for a valuable consideration, without notice.

SEC. 4956.

No person shall be entitled to a copyright unless he shall, before publication, deliver at the office of the Librarian of Congress or deposit in the mail addressed to the Librarian of Congress, at Washington, District of Columbia, a printed copy of the title of the book or other article, or a description of the painting, drawing, chromo, statue, statuary, or a model or design for a work of the fine arts, for which he desires a copyright, nor unless he shall also, within ten days from the publication thereof, deliver at the office of the Librarian of Congress or deposit in the mail addressed to the Librarian of Congress, at Washington, District of Columbia, two copies of such copyright book or other article, or in case of a painting, drawing, statue, statuary, model, or design for a work of the fine arts, a photograph of the same.

SEC. 4957.

The Librarian of Congress shall record the name of such copyright book or other article, forthwith, in a book to be kept for that purpose, in the words following: "Library of Congress, to wit: Be it remembered that on the _____ day of _____, A. B., of _____, hath deposited in this office the title of a book, (map, chart, or otherwise, as the case may be, or description of the article,) the title or description of which is in the following words, to wit: (here insert the title or description,) the right whereof he claims as author, (originator, or proprietor, as the case may be,) in conformity with the laws of the United States respecting copyrights. C. D., Librarian of Congress." And he shall give a copy of the title or description, under the seal of the Librarian of Congress, to the proprietor whenever he shall require it.

SEC. 4958. The Librarian of Congress shall receive, from the persons to whom the services designated are rendered, the following fees:

First. For recording the title or description of any copyright book or other article, fifty cents.

Second. For every copy under seal of such record actually given to the person claiming the copyright, or his assigns, fifty cents.

Third. For recording any instrument of writing for the assignment of a copyright, fifteen cents for every one hundred words.

Fourth. For every copy of an assignment, ten cents for every one hundred words.

All fees so received shall be paid into the Treasury of the United States.

SEC. 4959. The proprietor of every copyright book or other article shall deliver at the office of the Librarian of Congress, or deposit in the mail addressed to the Librarian of Congress at Washington, District of Columbia, within ten days after its publication, two complete printed copies thereof, of the best edition issued, or description or photograph of such article as hereinbefore required, and a copy of every subsequent edition wherein any substantial changes shall be made.

SEC. 4960. For every failure on the part of the proprietor of any copyright to deliver or deposit in the mail either of the published copies, or description or photograph, required by sections four thousand nine hundred and fifty-six, and four thousand nine hundred and fifty-nine, the proprietor of the copyright shall be liable to a penalty of twenty-five dollars, to be recovered by the Librarian of Congress, in the name of the United States, in an action in the nature of an action of debt, in any district court of the United States within the jurisdiction of which the delinquent may reside or be found.

SEC. 4961. The postmaster to whom such copyright book, title, or other article is delivered, shall, if requested, give a receipt therefor; and when so delivered he shall mail it to its destination.

SEC. 4962.

No person shall maintain an action for the infringement of his copyright unless he shall give notice thereof by inserting in the several copies of every edition published, on the title-page or the page immediately following, if it be a book; or if a map, chart, musical composition, print, cut, engraving, photograph, painting, drawing, chromo, statue, statuary, or model or design intended to be perfected and completed as a work of the fine arts, by inscribing upon some portion of the face or front thereof, or on the face of the substance on which the same shall be mounted, the following words, "Entered according to act of Congress, in the year _____, by A. B., in the office of the Librarian of Congress, at Washington."

SEC. 4963. Every person who shall insert or impress such notice, or words of the same purport, in or upon any book, map, chart, musical composition, print, cut, engraving, or photograph, or other article, for which he has not obtained a copyright, shall be liable to a penalty of one hundred dollars, recoverable one-half for the person who shall sue for such penalty, and one-half to the use of the United States.

SEC. 4964. Every person who, after the recording of the title of any book as provided by this chapter, shall within the term limited, and without the consent of the proprietor of the copyright first obtained in writing, signed in presence of two or more witnesses, print, publish, or import, or knowing the same to be so printed, published, or imported, shall sell or expose to sale any copy of such book, shall forfeit every copy thereof to such proprietor, and shall also forfeit and pay such damages as may be recovered in a civil action by such proprietor in any court of competent jurisdiction.

SEC. 4965.

If any person, after the recording of the title of any map, chart, musical composition, print, cut, engraving, or photograph, or chromo, or of the description of any painting, drawing, statue, statuary, or model or design intended to be perfected and executed as a work of the fine arts, as provided by this chapter, shall, within the time limited, and without the consent of the proprietor of the copyright first obtained in writing, signed in presence of two or more witnesses, engrave, etch, work, copy, print, publish, or import, either in whole or in part, or by varying the main design with intent to evade the law, or, knowing the same to be so printed, published, or imported, shall sell or expose to sale any copy of such map or other article, as aforesaid, he shall forfeit to the proprietor all the plates on which the same shall be copied, and every sheet thereof, either copied or printed, and shall further forfeit one dollar for every sheet of the same found in his possession, either printing, printed, copied, published, imported, or exposed for sale; and in case of a painting, statue, or statuary, he shall forfeit ten dollars for every copy of the same in his possession, or by him sold or exposed for sale; one-half thereof to the proprietor and the other half to the use of the United States.

SEC. 4966. Any person publicly performing or representing any dramatic composition for which a copyright has been obtained, without the consent of the proprietor thereof, or his heirs or assigns, shall be liable for damages therefor, such damages in all cases to be assessed at such sum, not less than one hundred dollars for the first, and fifty dollars for every subsequent performance, as to the court shall appear to be just.

SEC. 4967. Every person who shall print or publish any manuscript whatever, without the consent of the author or proprietor first obtained, if such author or proprietor is a citizen of the United States, or resident therein, shall be liable to the author or proprietor for all damages occasioned by such injury.

SEC. 4968. No action shall be maintained in any case of forfeiture or penalty under the copyright laws, unless the same is commenced within two years after the cause of action has arisen.

SEC. 4969. In all actions arising under the laws respecting copyrights, the defendant may plead the general issue, and give the special matter in evidence.

SEC. 4970. The circuit courts, and district courts having the jurisdiction of circuit courts, shall have power, upon bill in equity, filed by any party aggrieved, to grant injunctions to prevent the violation of any right secured by the laws respecting copyrights, according to the course and principles of courts of equity, on such terms as the court may deem reasonable.

SEC. 4971. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit the printing, publishing, importation, or sale of any book, map, chart, dramatic or musical composition, print, cut, engraving, or photograph, written, composed, or made by any person not a citizen of the United States nor resident therein.

Legislative History

[Rev. Stat., pp. 957-960 (1873)]

[c]--June 18, 1874.

An amendatory act containing provisions relating to the copyright notice, the fee for recording assignments, and the registration in the Patent Office of copyright claims in commercial prints and labels

AN ACT to amend the law relating to patents, trade marks, and copyrights.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That no person shall maintain an action for the infringement of his copyright unless he shall give notice thereof by inserting in the several copies of every edition published, on the title page or the page immediately following, if it be a book; or if a map, chart, musical composition, print, cut, engraving, photograph, painting, drawing, chromo, statue, statuary, or model or design intended to be perfected and completed as a work of the fine arts, by inscribing upon some visible portion thereof, or of the substance on which the same shall be mounted, the following words, viz: "Entered according to act of Congress, in the year _____, by A. B., in the office of the Librarian of Congress, at Washington;" or, at his option the word "Copyright," together with the year the copyright was entered, and the name of the party by whom it was taken out; thus--"Copyright, 18_____, by A. B."

SEC. 2. That for recording and certifying any instrument of writing for the assignment of a copyright, the Librarian of Congress shall receive from the persons to whom the service is rendered, one dollar; and for every copy of an assignment, one dollar; said fee to cover, in either case, a certificate of the record, under seal of the Librarian of Congress; and all fees so received shall be paid into the Treasury of the United States.

SEC. 3. That in the construction of this act, the words "Engraving," "cut" and "print" shall be applied only to pictorial illustrations or works connected with the fine arts, and no prints or labels designed to be used for any other articles of manufacture shall be entered under the copyright law, but may be registered in the Patent Office. And the Commissioner of Patents is hereby charged with the supervision and control of the entry or registry of such prints or labels, in conformity with the regulations provided by law as to copyright of prints, except that there shall be paid for recording the title of any print or label not a trade mark, six dollars, which shall cover the expense of furnishing a copy of the record under the seal of the Commissioner of Patents, to the party entering the same.

SEC. 4. That all laws and parts of laws inconsistent with the foregoing provisions be and the same are hereby repealed.

SEC. 5. That this act shall take effect on and after the first day of August, eighteen hundred and seventy-four.

[18 Stat. 78 (June 18, 1874)]

[16]--Forty-fifth Congress

[a]--March 3, 1879.

Provision prohibiting the transmission through the mails of any publication which violates any "copyright granted by the United States", contained in a Post Office Department appropriations act

AN ACT making appropriations for the service of the Post-Office Department for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and eighty, and for other purposes.

SEC. 15. That foreign newspapers and other periodicals of the same general character as those admitted to the second class in the United States may, under the direction of the Postmaster General, on application of the publishers thereof, or their agents, be transmitted through the mails at the same rates as if published in the United States. Nothing in this act shall be so construed as to allow the transmission through the mails of any publication which violates any copyright granted by the United States.

[20 Stat. 359 (March 8, 1879)]

[17]--Forty-seventh Congress

[a]--August 1, 1882.

An amendatory act regarding the position of the copyright notice upon molded decorative articles, tiles, plaques, or articles of pottery or metal subject to copyright

AN ACT to amend the statutes in relation to copyright.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That manufacturers of designs for molded decorative articles, tiles, plaques, or articles of pottery or metal subject to copyright may put the copyright mark prescribed by section forty-nine hundred and sixty-two of the Revised Statutes, and acts additional thereto upon the back or bottom of such articles, or in such other place upon them as it has heretofore been usual for manufacturers of such articles to employ for the placing of manufacturers, merchants, and trade marks thereon.

[22 Stat. 363 (Aug. 1, 1882)]

[18]--Fifty-first Congress

[a]--March 3, 1891.

An act amending various sections of the Revised Statutes relating to copyright and including provisions for international copyright. (The so-called "International Copyright Act".)

AN ACT to amend title sixty, chapter three, of the Revised Statutes of the United States, relating to copyrights.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section forty-nine hundred and fifty-two of the Revised Statutes be, and the same is hereby, amended so as to read as follows:

SEC. 4952. The author, inventor, designer, or proprietor of any book, map, chart, dramatic or musical composition, engraving, cut, print, or photograph or negative thereof, or of a painting, drawing, chromo, statue, statuary, and of models or designs intended to be perfected as works of the fine arts, and the executors, administrators, or assigns of any such person shall, upon complying with the provisions of this chapter, have the sole liberty of printing, reprinting, publishing, completing, copying, executing, finishing, and vending the same; and, in the case of a dramatic composition, of publicly performing or representing it, or causing it to be performed or represented by others; and authors or their assigns shall have exclusive right to dramatize and translate any of their works for which copyright shall have been obtained under the laws of the United States."

SEC. 2. That section forty-nine hundred and fifty-four of the Revised Statutes be, and the same is hereby, amended so as to read as follows:

"SEC. 4954. The author, inventor, or designer, if he be still living, or his widow or children, if he be dead, shall have the same exclusive right continued for the further term of fourteen years, upon recording the title of the work or description of the article so secured a second time, and complying with all other regulations in regard to original copyrights, within six months before the expiration of the first term; and such persons shall, within two months from the date of said renewal, cause a copy of the record thereof to be published in one or more newspapers printed in the United States for the space of four weeks."

SEC. 3. That section forty-nine hundred and fifty-six of the Revised Statutes of the United States be, and the same is hereby, amended so that it shall read as follows:

"SEC. 4956. No person shall be entitled to a copyright unless he shall, on or before the day of publication in this or any foreign country, deliver at the office of the Librarian of Congress, or deposit in the mail within the United States, addressed to the Librarian of Congress, at Washington, District of Columbia, a printed copy of the title of the book, map, chart, dramatic or musical composition, engraving, cut, print, photograph, or chromo, or a description of the painting, drawing, statue, statuary, or a model or design for a work of the fine arts for which he desires a copyright, nor unless he shall also, not later than the day of the publication thereof in this or any foreign country, deliver at the office of the Librarian of Congress, at Washington, District of Columbia, or deposit in the mail within the United States, addressed to the Librarian of Congress, at Washington, District of Columbia, two copies of such copyright book, map, chart, dramatic or musical composition, engraving, chromo, cut, print, or photograph, or in case of a painting, drawing, statue, statuary, model, or design for a work of the fine arts, a photograph of the same: *Provided*, That in the case of a book, photograph, chromo, or lithograph, the two copies of the same required to be delivered or deposited as above shall be printed from type set within the limits of the United States, or from plates made therefrom, or from negatives, or

drawings on stone made within the limits of the United States, or from transfers made therefrom. During the existence of such copyright the importation into the United States of any book, chromo, lithograph, or photograph, so copyrighted, or any edition or editions thereof, or any plates of the same not made from type set, negatives, or drawings on stone made within the limits of the United States, shall be, and it is hereby, prohibited, except in the cases specified in paragraphs five hundred and twelve to five hundred and sixteen, inclusive, in section two of the act entitled 'An act to reduce the revenue and equalize the duties on imports, and for other purposes,' approved October first, eighteen hundred and ninety, and except in the case of persons purchasing for use and not for sale, who import subject to the duty thereon, not more than two copies of such book at any one time; and except in the case of newspapers and magazines, not containing in whole or in part matter copyrighted under the provisions of this act, unauthorized by the author, which are hereby exempted from prohibition of importation: *Provided, nevertheless*, That in the case of books in foreign languages, of which only translations in English are copyrighted the prohibition of importation shall apply only to the translation of the same, and the importation of the books in the original language shall be permitted."

SEC. 4. That section forty-nine hundred and fifty-eight of the Revised Statutes be, and the same is hereby, amended so that it will read as follows:

"SEC. 4958. The Librarian of Congress shall receive from the persons to whom the services designated are rendered the following fees:

"First. For recording the title or description of any copyright book or other article, fifty cents.

"Second. For every copy under seal of such record actually given to the person claiming the copyright, or his assigns, fifty cents.

"Third. For recording and certifying any instrument of writing for the assignment of a copyright, one dollar.

"Fourth. For every copy of an assignment, one dollar.

"All fees so received shall be paid into the Treasury of the United States: *Provided*, That the charge for recording the title or description of any article entered for copyright, the production of a person not a citizen or resident of the United States, shall be one dollar, to be paid as above into the Treasury of the United States, to defray the expenses of lists of copyrighted articles as hereinafter provided for.

"And it is hereby made the duty of the Librarian of Congress to furnish to the Secretary of the Treasury copies of the entries of titles of all books and other articles wherein the copyright has been completed by the deposit of two copies of such book printed from type set within the limits of the United States, in accordance with the provisions of this act and by the deposit of two copies of such other article made or produced in the United States; and the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby directed to prepare and print, at intervals of not more than a week, catalogues of such title-entries for distribution to the collectors of customs of the United States and to the postmasters of all post-offices receiving foreign mails, and such weekly lists, as they are issued, shall be furnished to all parties desiring them, at a sum not exceeding five dollars per annum; and the Secretary and the Postmaster-General are hereby empowered and required to make and enforce such rules and regulations as shall prevent the importation into the United States, except upon the conditions above specified, of all articles prohibited by this act."

SEC. 5. That section forty-nine hundred and fifty-nine of the Revised Statutes be, and the same is hereby, amended so as to read as follows:

"SEC. 4959. The proprietor of every copyright book or other article shall deliver at the office of the Librarian of Congress, or deposit in the mail, addressed to the Librarian of Congress, at Washington, District of Columbia, a copy of every subsequent edition wherein any substantial changes shall be made: *Provided, however*, That the alterations, revisions, and additions made to books by foreign authors, heretofore published, of which new editions shall appear subsequently to the taking effect of this act, shall be held and deemed capable of being copyrighted as above provided for in this act, unless they form a part of the series in course of publication at the time this act shall take effect."

SEC. 6. That section forty-nine hundred and sixty-three of the Revised Statutes be, and the same is hereby, amended so as to read as follows:

"SEC. 4963. Every person who shall insert or impress such notice, or words of the same purport, in or upon any book, map, chart, dramatic, or musical composition, print, cut, engraving, or photograph, or other article, for which he has not obtained a copyright, shall be liable to a penalty of one hundred dollars, recoverable one-half for the person who shall sue for such penalty and one-half to the use of the United States."

SEC. 7. That section forty-nine hundred and sixty-four of the Revised Statutes be, and the same is hereby, amended so as to read as follows:

"SEC. 4964. Every person, who after the recording of the title of any book and the depositing of two copies of such book, as provided by this act, shall, contrary to the provisions of this act, within the term limited, and without the consent of the proprietor of the copyright first obtained in writing, signed in presence of two or more witnesses, print, publish, dramatize, translate, or import, or knowing the same to be so printed, published, dramatized, translated, or imported, shall sell or expose to sale any copy of such book, shall forfeit every copy thereof to such proprietor, and shall also forfeit and pay such damages as may be recovered in a civil action by such proprietor in any court of competent jurisdiction."

SEC. 8. That section forty-nine hundred and sixty-five of the Revised Statutes be, and the same is hereby, so amended as to read as follows:

"SEC. 4965. If any person, after the recording of the title of any map, chart, dramatic or musical composition, print, cut, engraving, or photograph, or chromo, or of the description of any painting, drawing, statute, statuary, or model or design intended to be perfected and executed as a work of the fine arts, as provided by this act, shall within the term limited, contrary to the provisions of this act, and without the consent of the proprietor of the copyright first obtained in writing, signed in presence of two or more witnesses, engrave, etch, work, copy, print, publish, dramatize, translate, or import, either in whole or in part, or by varying the main design with intent to evade the law, or, knowing the same to be so printed, published, dramatized, translated, or imported, shall sell or expose to sale any copy of such map or other article as aforesaid, he shall forfeit to the proprietor all the plates on which the same shall be copied and every sheet thereof, either copied or printed, and shall further forfeit one dollar for every sheet of the same found in his possession, either printing, printed, copied, published, imported, or exposed for sale, and in case of a painting, statue, or statuary, he shall forfeit ten dollars for every copy of the same in his possession, or by him sold or exposed for sale; one-half thereof to the proprietor and the other half to the use of the United States."

SEC. 9. That section forty-nine hundred and sixty-seven of the Revised Statutes be, and the same is hereby, amended so as to read as follows:

"SEC. 4967. Every person who shall print or publish any manuscript whatever without the consent of the author or proprietor first obtained, shall be liable to the author or proprietor for all damages occasioned by such injury."

SEC. 10. That section forty-nine hundred and seventy-one of the Revised Statutes be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

SEC. 11. That for the purpose of this act each volume of a book in two or more volumes, when such volumes are published separately and the first one shall not have been issued before this act shall take effect, and each number of a periodical shall be considered an independent publication, subject to the form of copyrighting as above.

SEC. 12. That this act shall go into effect on the first day of July, anno Domini eighteen hundred and ninety-one.

SEC. 13. That this act shall only apply to a citizen or subject of a foreign state or nation when such foreign state or nation permits to citizens of the United States of America the benefit of copyright on substantially the same basis as [to] its own citizens; or when such foreign state or nation is a party to an international agreement which provides for reciprocity in the granting of copyright, by the terms of which agreement the United States of America may, at its pleasure, become a party to such agreement. The existence of either of the conditions aforesaid shall be determined by the President of the United States by proclamation made from time to time as the purposes of this act may require.

[26 Stat. 1106 (March 3, 1891)]

[19]--Fifty-second Congress

[a]--February 9, 1893.

Provision, in an act to establish a court of appeals for the District of Columbia, for review by the Supreme Court of the United States of cases involving the validity of any patent or copyright

AN ACT to establish a court of appeals for the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

SEC. 8. That any final judgment or decree of the said court of appeals [of the District of Columbia] may be re-examined and affirmed, reversed, or modified by the Supreme Court of the United States, upon writ of error or appeal,

in all causes in which the matter in dispute, exclusive of costs, shall exceed the sum of five thousand dollars, in the same manner and under the same regulations as heretofore provided for in cases of writs of error on judgment or appeals from decrees rendered in the supreme court of the District of Columbia; and also in cases, without regard to the sum or value of the matter in dispute, wherein is involved the validity of any patent or copyright, or in which is drawn in question the validity of a treaty or statute of or an authority exercised under the United States.

[27 Stat. 436 (Feb. 9, 1893)]

[b]--March 3, 1893.

An act relating to certain delayed deposits of copyrighted works

AN ACT relating to copyrights.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That any author, inventor, designer, or proprietor of any book, or other article entitled to copyright, who has heretofore failed to deliver in the office of the Librarian of Congress, or in the mail addressed to the Librarian of Congress, two complete copies of such book, or description or photograph of such article, within the time limited by title sixty, chapter three, of the Revised Statutes relating to copyrights, and the acts in amendment thereof, and has complied with all other provisions thereof, who has, before the first day of March, anno Domini eighteen hundred and ninety-three, delivered at the office of the Librarian of Congress, or deposited in the mail addressed to the Librarian of Congress two complete printed copies of such book or description, or photograph of such article, shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges of said title sixty, chapter three, of the Revised Statutes and the acts in amendment thereof.

[27 Stat. 743 (March 3, 1893)]

[20]--Fifty-third Congress

[a]--January 12, 1895.

Provision that no "Government publication shall be copyrighted", contained in an act relating to public printing

AN ACT providing for the public printing and binding and the distribution of public documents.

SEC. 52. The Public Printer shall sell, under such regulations as the Joint Committee on Printing may prescribe, to any person or persons who may apply additional or duplicate stereotype or electrotype plates from which any Government publication is printed, at a price not to exceed the cost of composition, the metal and making to the Government and ten per centum added: *Provided*, That the full amount of the price shall be paid when the order is filed: *And provided further*, That no publication reprinted from such stereotype or electrotype plates and no other Government publication shall be copyrighted.

[28 Stat. 608 (Jan. 12, 1895)]

[b]--March 2, 1895.

An amendatory act relating to damages and penalties in cases of copyright infringement

AN ACT to amend section forty-nine hundred and sixty-five, chapter three, title sixty, of the Revised Statutes of the United States, relating to copyrights.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section forty-nine hundred and sixty-five, chapter three, title sixty, of the Revised Statutes, be, and the same is hereby, amended so as to read as follows:

"SEC. 4965. If any person, after the recording of the title of any map, chart, dramatic or musical composition, print, cut, engraving, or photograph, or chromo, or of the description of any painting, drawing, statue, statuary, or model or design intended to be perfected and executed as a work of the fine arts, as provided by this act, shall, within the term limited, contrary to the provisions of this act, and without the consent of the proprietor of the copyright first obtained in writing, signed in presence of two or more witnesses, engrave, etch, work, copy, print, publish, dramatize, translate, or import, either in whole or in part, or by varying the main design, with intent to evade the law, or, knowing the same to be so printed, published, dramatized, translated, or imported, shall sell or expose to sale any copy of such map or other article, as aforesaid, he shall forfeit to the proprietor all the plates on which the same shall be copied, and every sheet thereof, either copied or printed, and shall further forfeit one dollar for every sheet of the same found in his possession,

either printing, printed, copied, published, imported, or exposed for sale; and in case of a painting, statue, or statuary, he shall forfeit ten dollars for every copy of the same in his possession, or by him sold or exposed for sale: *Provided, however*, That in case of any such infringement of the copyright of a photograph made from any object not a work of fine arts, the sum to be recovered in any action brought under the provisions of this section shall be not less than one hundred dollars, nor more than five thousand dollars, and: *Provided, further*, That in case of any such infringement of the copyright of a painting, drawing, statue, engraving, etching, print, or model or design for a work of the fine arts or of a photograph of a work of the fine arts, the sum to be recovered in any action brought through the provisions of this section shall be not less than two hundred and fifty dollars, and not more than ten thousand dollars. One-half of all the foregoing penalties shall go to the proprietors of the copyright and the other half to the use of the United States."

[28 Stat. 965 (March 2, 1895)]

[21]--Fifty-fourth Congress

[a]--January 6, 1897.

An amendatory act relating to the remedies for unauthorized public performance of dramatic and musical compositions

AN ACT to amend title sixty, chapter three, of the Revised Statutes relating to copyrights.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section forty-nine hundred and sixty-six of the Revised Statutes be, and the same is hereby, amended so as to read as follows:

"SEC. 4966. Any person publicly performing or representing any dramatic or musical composition for which a copyright has been obtained, without the consent of the proprietor of said dramatic or musical composition, or his heirs or assigns, shall be liable for damages therefor, such damages in all cases to be assessed at such sum, not less than one hundred dollars for the first and fifty dollars for every subsequent performance, as to the court shall appear to be just. If the unlawful performance and representation be willful and for profit, such person or persons shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction be imprisoned for a period not exceeding one year. Any injunction that may be granted upon hearing after notice to the defendant by any circuit court of the United States, or by a judge thereof, restraining and enjoining the performance or representation of any such dramatic or musical composition may be served on the parties against whom such injunction may be granted anywhere in the United States, and shall be operative and may be enforced by proceedings to punish for contempt or otherwise by any other circuit court or judge in the United States; but the defendants in said action, or any or either of them, may make a motion in any other circuit in which he or they may be engaged in performing or representing said dramatic or musical composition to dissolve or set aside the said injunction upon such reasonable notice to the plaintiff as the circuit court or the judge before whom said motion shall be made shall deem proper; service of said motion to be made on the plaintiff in person or on his attorneys in the action. The circuit courts or judges thereof shall have jurisdiction to enforce said injunction and to hear and determine a motion to dissolve the same, as herein provided, as fully as if the action were pending or brought in the circuit in which said motion is made."

"The clerk of the court, or judge granting the injunction, shall, when required to do so by the court hearing the application to dissolve or enforce said injunction, transmit without delay to said court a certified copy of all the papers on which the said injunction was granted that are on file in his office."

[29 Stat. 481 (Jan. 6, 1897)]

[b]--February 19, 1897.

Provisions establishing the Copyright Office (then called Copyright Department) and the position of Register of Copyrights, contained in an appropriation act

AN ACT making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and for other purposes.

COPYRIGHT DEPARTMENT: For the following under the direction of the Librarian of Congress, necessary for the execution of the copyright law, namely: Register of copyrights, three thousand dollars, who shall, on and after July first, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven, under the direction and supervision of the Librarian of Congress, perform all the duties relating to copyrights, and shall make weekly deposits with the Secretary of the Treasury, and make monthly

reports to the Secretary of the Treasury and to the Librarian of Congress, and shall, on and after July first, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven, give bond to the Librarian of Congress in the sum of twenty thousand dollars, with approved sureties, for the faithful discharge of his duties; two clerks, at one thousand eight hundred dollars each; two clerks, at one thousand six hundred dollars each; three clerks, at one thousand four hundred dollars each; ten clerks, at one thousand two hundred dollars each; ten clerks at nine hundred dollars each; two clerks, at seven hundred and twenty dollars each; in all, thirty-six thousand four hundred and forty dollars.

The Librarian of Congress shall on and after July first, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven, give bond, payable to the United States, in the sum of twenty thousand dollars, with sureties approved by the Secretary of the Treasury, for the faithful discharge of his duties according to law.

The Librarian of Congress shall make to Congress at the beginning of each regular session, a report for the preceding fiscal year, as to the affairs of the Library of Congress, including the copyright business, and said report shall also include a detailed statement of all receipts and expenditures on account of the Library and said copyright business.

[29 Stat. 545 (Feb. 19, 1897)]

[c]--March 3, 1897.

An amendatory act relating to false notices of copyright and prohibited importations

AN ACT to amend title sixty, chapter three, of the Revised Statutes of the United States relating to copyrights.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section forty-nine hundred and sixty-three of the Revised Statutes of the United States be, and the same is hereby, amended so as to read as follows:

"SEC. 4963. Every person who shall insert or impress such notice, or words of the same purport, in or upon any book, map, chart, dramatic or musical composition, print, cut, engraving or photograph, or other article, whether such article be subject to copyright or otherwise, for which he has not obtained a copyright, or shall knowingly issue or sell any article bearing a notice of United States copyright which has not been copyrighted in this country; or shall import any book, photograph, chromo, or lithograph or other article bearing such notice of copyright or words of the same purport, which is not copyrighted in this country, shall be liable to a penalty of one hundred dollars, recoverable one-half for the person who shall sue for such penalty and one-half to the use of the United States; and the importation into the United States of any book, chromo, lithograph, or photograph, or other article bearing such notice of copyright, when there is no existing copyright thereon in the United States, is prohibited; and the circuit courts of the United States sitting in equity are hereby authorized to enjoin the issuing, publishing, or selling of any article marked or imported in violation of the United States copyright laws, at the suit of any person complaining of such violation: *Provided*, That this act shall not apply to any importation of or sale of such goods or articles brought into the United States prior to the passage hereof."

SEC. 2. That all laws and parts of laws inconsistent with the foregoing provision be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

[29 Stat. 694 (March 3, 1897)]

[22]--Fifty-sixth Congress

[a]--April 17, 1900.

Provisions for the Copyright Office and staff, contained in an appropriation act

AN ACT making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred and one, and for other purposes.

COPYRIGHT OFFICE, under the direction of the Librarian of Congress: Register of copyrights, three thousand dollars; four clerks, at one thousand eight hundred dollars each; four clerks, at one thousand six hundred dollars each; two clerks, at one thousand four hundred dollars each, nine clerks, at one thousand two hundred dollars each; three clerks, at one thousand dollars each; eight clerks, at nine hundred dollars each; seven clerks at seven hundred and twenty dollars each; one clerk, six hundred dollars; one messenger boy, three hundred and sixty dollars; Arrears, special service: Three clerks, at one thousand two hundred dollars each; one porter, seven hundred and twenty dollars; one messenger boy, three hundred and sixty dollars; in all, fifty-one thousand and eighty dollars.

[31 Stat. 95 (April 17, 1900)]

[23]--Fifty-eighth Congress

[a]--January 7, 1904.

An act to afford protection to exhibitors of foreign literary, artistic or musical works at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition

AN ACT to afford protection to exhibitors of foreign literary, artistic, or musical works at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the author of any book, map, chart, dramatic composition, musical composition, engraving, cut, print, chromo, lithograph, or photograph published abroad prior to November thirtieth, nineteen hundred and four, but not registered for copyright protection in the United States copyright office, or the heirs and assigns of such author, shall have in the case of any such book, map, chart, dramatic composition, musical composition, engraving, cut, print, chromo, lithograph, or photograph intended for exhibition at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition the sole liberty of printing, reprinting, publishing, copying, and vending the same within the limits of the United States for the term herein provided for upon complying with the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 2. That one copy of such book, map, chart, dramatic composition, musical composition, engraving, cut, print, chromo, lithograph, or photograph to be exhibited as herein provided shall be delivered at the copyright office, Library of Congress, at Washington, District of Columbia, with a statement duly subscribed to in writing that the book or other article is intended for such exhibition and that the copyright protection herein provided for is desired by the copyright proprietor, whose full name and legal residence is to be stated in the application.

SEC. 3. That the register of copyrights shall record the title of each volume of any such book or other article herein provided for, or if the article lacks a title, shall record a brief description of it sufficient to identify it, in a special series of record books to be designated the "Interim copyright record books," and shall furnish to the copyright claimant a copy of record under seal of such recorded title or description, and the said title or description is to be included in the Catalogue of Title Entries provided for in section four of the act of March third, eighteen hundred and ninety-one.

SEC. 4. That a fee of one dollar and fifty cents shall be paid to the register of copyrights for each title or description to be recorded and a certified copy of the record of the same, and in the case of a work in more than one volume the same amount, one dollar and fifty cents, shall be paid for each volume, and the register of copyrights shall deposit all such fees paid in the Treasury of the United States, and report and account for the same in accordance with the provisions in relation to copyright fees of the appropriation act approved February nineteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven.

SEC. 5. That the copyright protection herein provided for shall be for the term of two years from the date of the receipt of the book or other article in the copyright office.

SEC. 6. That if at any time during the term of the copyright protection herein provided for, two copies of the original text of any such book, or of a translation of it in the English language, printed from type set within the limits of the United States or from plates made therefrom, or two copies of any such photograph, chromo, or lithograph printed from negatives or drawings on stone made within the limits of the United States or from transfers made therefrom, are deposited in the copyright office, Library of Congress, at Washington, District of Columbia, such deposit shall be held to extend the term of copyright protection to such book, photograph, chromo, or lithograph for the full terms provided for in title sixty, chapter three, of the Revised Statutes of the United States, computed from the date of the receipt of the book, photograph, chromo, or lithograph and the registration of the title or description as herein provided for.

SEC. 7. That in the case of an original work of the fine arts (a painting, drawing, statue, statuary, and a model or design intended to be perfected as a work of the fine arts) which has been produced without the limits of the United States prior to the thirtieth day of November, nineteen hundred and four, and is intended for exhibition at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, the author of such work of art, or his heirs and assigns, shall be granted copyright protection therefor during a period of two years from the date of filing in the copyright office, Library of Congress, at Washington, District of Columbia, a description of the said work of art and a photograph of it, and upon paying to the register of copyrights one dollar and fifty cents for the registration of such description, and a copy of record under seal of such recorded description.

SEC. 8. That, except in so far as this Act authorizes and provides for temporary copyright protection during the period and for the purposes herein provided for, it shall not be construed or held to in any manner affect or repeal any of the provisions of the Revised Statutes relating to copyrights and the Acts amendatory thereof. That no registration under this Act shall be made after the thirtieth day of November, nineteen hundred and four.

[33 Stat. 4 (Jan. 7, 1904)]

[24]--Fifty-eighth Congress

[a]--March 3, 1905.

An amendatory act relating to the protection of books in foreign languages first published abroad

AN ACT to amend section forty-nine hundred and fifty-two of the Revised Statutes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section forty-nine hundred and fifty-two of the Revised Statutes be, and the same is hereby, amended so as to read as follows:

"SEC. 4952. The author, inventor, designer, or proprietor of any book, map, chart, dramatic or musical composition, engraving, cut, print, or photograph, or negative thereof, or of a painting, drawing, chromo, statue, statuary, and of models or designs intended to be perfected as works of the fine arts, and the executors, administrators, or assigns of any such person shall, upon complying with the provisions of this chapter, have the sole liberty of printing, reprinting, publishing, completing, copying, executing, finishing, and vending the same; and, in the case of a dramatic composition, of publicly performing or representing it, or causing it to be performed or represented by others. And authors or their assigns shall have exclusive right to dramatize or translate any of their works for which copyright shall have been obtained under the laws of the United States.

"Whenever the author or proprietor of a book in a foreign language, which shall be published in a foreign country before the day of publication in this country, or his executors, administrators, or assigns, shall deposit one complete copy of the same, including all maps and other illustrations, in the Library of Congress, Washington, District of Columbia, within thirty days after the first publication of such book in a foreign country, and shall insert in such copy, and in all copies of such book sold or distributed in the United States, on the title page or the page immediately following, a notice of the reservation of copyright in the name of the proprietor, together with the true date of first publication of such book, in the following words: 'Published _____, nineteen hundred and _____ Privilege of copyright in the United States reserved under the Act approved _____, nineteen hundred and five, by _____,' and shall, within twelve months after the first publication of such book in a foreign country, file the title of such book and deposit two copies of it in the original language or, at his option, of a translation of it in the English language, printed from type set within the limits of the United States, or from plates made therefrom, containing a notice of copyright, as provided by the copyright laws now in force, he and they shall have during the term of twenty-eight years from the date of recording the title of the book or of the English translation of it, as provided for above, the sole liberty of printing, reprinting, publishing, vending, translating and dramatizing the said book: *Provided*, That this Act shall only apply to a citizen or subject of a foreign State or nation when such foreign State or nation permits to citizens of the United States of America the benefit of copyright on substantially the same basis as to its own citizens."

[33 Stat. 1000-10001 (March 3, 1905)]

[Editor's Note: The 1909 Copyright Act, presented in *Appendix 6*, was the next statute.]

*. Editor's Note: Except for the Statute of Anne, this appendix is primarily derived from a portion of the document *Laws passed in the United States Since 1983 Relating to Copyright*, which was published as Copyright Office Bulletin No. 3, and revised until 1963. The Preface to that document reads as follows:"This loose-leaf compilation of United States copyright laws and related matter, which has been prepared for public as well as official use, is essentially a revision and expansion of Copyright Office Bulletin No. 3, originally compiled in 1900 by Thorvald Solberg, who was then Register of Copyrights."A previous compilation which covered the years 1783-1952 and was prepared under the supervision of Louis Charles Smith, former Senior Attorney in the Copyright Office, was internally processed in 1952 as a working paper for the Copyright Office staff. This new edition has been brought up to date through the year 1962."