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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MARCH 9, 1870.

Read twice, ordered to be printed, and recommitted to the Committee on Education and Labor.

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Mr. ARNELL, from the Committee on Education and Labor, reported the following bill :

**A BILL**

Amendatory of an act establishing the Office of Education, discontinuing the Freedmen's Bureau, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3       That the Office of Education in the Department of the  
4       Interior shall hereafter be named the Bureau of Education  
5       in the Department of the Interior.

1       SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That all laws and  
2       parts of laws prescribing duties for the officers of the Bureau  
3       of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands, so far as the  
4       said duties have not yet been fully executed, be, and the  
5       same are hereby, repealed; and all funds now in the treasury  
6       of the United States, placed to the account of the Commis-  
7       sioner of said bureau for the education and support of

8 refugees and freedmen, be, and the same are hereby, trans  
9 ferred to the account of the Bureau of Education, and that  
10 the said funds be expended exclusively for educational pur-  
11 poses, having special reference to aiding in the establishment  
12 and usefulness of common schools among freedmen and  
13 refugees.

1       SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That the Bureau of  
2 Education is hereby authorized to exercise the same powers  
3 as those hitherto exercised by the Freedmen's Bureau in its  
4 educational division, and especially in co-operating with be-  
5 nevolent societies, or bodies incorporated for educational pur-  
6 poses; and the same co-operation may be extended to State  
7 and municipal authorities for similar purposes, under such  
8 rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the President  
9 of the United States.

1       SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That all buildings re-  
2 paired or constructed, in whole or in part, under the direction  
3 of the Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau, and now  
4 held by municipal or State authorities, societies, corporate  
5 bodies, or trustees, for educational purposes, or funds arising  
6 from their rental or sale, shall be forever applied to and used  
7 for such purpose. And said bodies and institutions shall make  
8 an annual report to the Commissioner of the Bureau of Edu-  
9 cation, exhibiting the number of teachers and pupils during  
10 the year, and such other facts as the said Commissioner may,  
11 from time to time, require.

1        SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That the collection  
2 and payment of bounties, arrears of pay, prize money, and  
3 other moneys due to colored soldiers, sailors, and marines,  
4 and their heirs, shall be conducted under the direction of the  
5 Secretary of War, as heretofore authorized by law to be made  
6 by the Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau, and that all  
7 hospitals and asylums now under charge of the Commissioner  
8 of said bureau, and all funds belonging thereto, shall hereafter  
9 be under the supervision of the Secretary of War.

1        SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted,* That the Secretary  
2 may designate some officer of the army to discharge the  
3 duties arising under the foregoing section.

1        SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted,* That all clerks, mes-  
2 sengers, and employees of the Freedmen's Bureau, except  
3 such as the Secretary of War shall retain for the purposes of  
4 this act, are hereby discharged: *Provided,* That the clerks in  
5 the educational division of the said bureau be transferred to  
6 and retained in the Bureau of Education until their services  
7 can be dispensed with, or others be appointed, by the Com-  
8 missioner of Education, in their stead.

1        SEC. 8. *And be it further enacted,* That the Commis-  
2 sioner of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned  
3 Lands shall be allowed three months, after the passage of this  
4 act, to fulfill all legal obligations and contracts, and to settle  
5 his accounts at the treasury of the United States.

# H. R. 1486.

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