

## CHAPTER 309.

[Published April 15, 1861.]

AN ACT to declare the rights and privileges of such persons as may enroll themselves into the service of the country.

*The People of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows :*

SECTION 1. All persons who shall volunteer or enroll themselves as members of any military company which shall be received into the service of the United States, pursuant to any call which has been or shall hereafter be made by the president of the United States, shall, during such service, be exempt from all civil process; and it shall the duty of any court or judge thereof, and of any justice of the peace, whenever it shall be made to appear, in the course of any civil proceeding whatever, that any party defendant is a member or officer of any company, regiment, corps or division in the service of the United States, to cause such action or civil proceeding to be stricken from the calendar, and to suspend all proceedings in such action or proceeding, until it shall be made to appear that such party defendant is no longer a member or officer of such company, regiment, corps or division.

Persons enrolling themselves into service, exempt from civil process.

SECTION 2. The privilege of all such persons to be exempt from all civil process and proceedings, may be presented to any such court by plea, answer or verbal suggestion, and any fact necessary or proper to establish such fact, may be proved by parol, and the fact of any such party defendant having been a member or officer of any such company, regiment, corps or division, and the fact of any such company, regiment, corps or division having been mustered or received into the service of the United States, shall be received as *prima facie* evidence to establish the right to exemption under the provisions of this act.

Plea, proofs, &c.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved April 17, 1861.