

executive committee, whose duty it shall be to carry into effect the plans and purposes for which said association was formed, all of which officers shall be elected on the fifteenth day of March next, and hold their offices till the second Tuesday of January, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, on which day, and annually on the second Tuesday of January in each succeeding year, at the annual meeting of said association, which shall be held on said day, their successors shall be elected and hold their offices for the term of one year, and until their successors shall be duly elected. And in case of a vacancy it shall be filled by the other members of the executive committee.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That said society may receive into a house or building to be provided by it, any destitute child or children at the request of the parents or guardians, or next friend, or the mother, if the father be dead, or has abandoned his family, or does not provide for their support, or is an habitual drunkard, such parents, guardians, or next friend, or mother, making a written surrender of such child or children. The superintendent or other officer in immediate charge may, with the concurrence of the executive committee, or of a board of trustees to be appointed by said committee, and to consist of three persons, citizens of Washington City, govern the inmates, preserve order, enforce discipline, impart instruction in useful knowledge and some regular course of labor, and establish rules for the preservation of health, and for their proper physical, intellectual, and moral improvement. The trustees may, with the consent of the executive committee, bind out by indenture, such children as may be deemed capable of learning trades or of becoming useful in other occupations to such persons as will give them the benefit of good examples, wholesome instruction, and other means of improvement in virtue and knowledge, and the opportunity of becoming intelligent, moral, and useful members of society.

Society may receive destitute children.

Government of the institution.

Children may be bound out.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That it shall be lawful for said association, by and with the advice and consent of the Secretary of War, to occupy for the objects of said association any lands, not exceeding one hundred acres, and the improvements thereon, which the Government may now own or may hereafter acquire, contiguous to the city of Washington, by confiscation or purchase, such occupation to continue for such a number of years as the Secretary of War may, in writing, prescribe.

What lands association may occupy.

APPROVED, February 14, 1863.

CHAP. XXXIV. — *An Act to establish the Office of Register of Deeds for the District of Columbia.* Feb. 14, 1863.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That there shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, a register of deeds for the District of Columbia, who shall perform all the duties respecting the recording of deeds and other instruments of writing, and all other services connected therewith, authorized to be performed by the clerk of the Circuit Court of said District by the fifth section of the act approved March three, eighteen hundred and one, entitled "An act supplementary to the act entitled 'An act concerning the District of Columbia,'" and shall receive the same fees and emoluments for the same. And the said register shall receive and have the charge and custody of all the records, papers, and property which may be in the custody or possession of said clerk of the Circuit Court, properly appertaining to and belonging to the office of the register of deeds; and the said clerk is hereby required to deliver the same to said register upon proper application therefor.

Register of Deeds for the District of Columbia.

1801, ch. 24, § 5.  
Vol. ii. p. 115.

Duty of Register.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the Secretary of the Interior be directed to appropriate such rooms in any of the public buildings under

Secretary of Interior to furnish rooms.

his charge for the use of said register as may be necessary for his accommodation, unless it shall appear to said Secretary that such rooms cannot be so appropriated without interfering with the business of his Department; and in that event the said register shall procure, with the approbation of said Secretary, such rooms, in the city of Washington, as may be necessary for the security of the records and the convenient transaction of the business of said office.

Repealing clause. SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That all acts and parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

APPROVED, February 14, 1863.

Feb. 16, 1863.

CHAP. XXXVI. — *An Act to issue an American Register to the Steamship Karnak.*

Register to steamship Karnak.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby directed to issue an American register to the steamship or vessel known as the Karnak, of the collection district of the port of New York, the same being a British built vessel, but now owned by American citizens.

APPROVED, February 16, 1863.

Feb. 16, 1863.

CHAP. XXXVII. — *An Act for the Relief of Persons for Damages sustained by Reason of Depredations and Injuries by certain Bands of Sioux Indians.*

Damages by Sioux Indians. Preamble.

1863, ch. 107. Post, p. 803.

Whereas the United States heretofore became bound by treaty stipulations to the Sisseton, Wahpaton, Medawakanton, and Wa[h]pakoota bands of the Dakota or Sioux Indians to pay large sums of money and annuities, the greater portion of which remains unpaid according to the terms of said treaty stipulations; and whereas during the past year the aforesaid bands of Indians made an unprovoked, aggressive, and most savage war upon the United States, and massacred a large number of men, women, and children within the State of Minnesota, and destroyed and damaged a large amount of property, and thereby have forfeited all just claim to the said moneys and annuities to the United States; and whereas it is just and equitable that the persons whose property has been destroyed or damaged by the said Indians, or destroyed or damaged by the troops of the United States in said war, should be indemnified in whole or in part out of the indebtedness and annuities so forfeited as aforesaid: Therefore —

Treaties with certain Sioux Indians annulled in part.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That all treaties heretofore made and entered into by the Sisseton, Wahpaton, Medawakanton, and Wahpakoota bands of Sioux or Dakota Indians, or any of them, with the United States, are hereby declared to be abrogated and annulled, so far as said treaties or any of them purport to impose any future obligation on the United States, and all lands and rights of occupancy within the State of Minnesota, and all annuities and claims heretofore accorded to said Indians, or any of them, to be forfeited to the United States.

Two thirds of unexpended annuities to be paid to commissioners, and apportioned among survivors of massacres.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That two thirds of the balance remaining unexpended of annuities due and payable to said Indians for the present fiscal year, not exceeding one hundred thousand dollars, and the further sum of one hundred thousand dollars, being two thirds of the annuities becoming due and payable to said Indians during the next fiscal year, is hereby appropriated, and shall be paid from the Treasury of the United States, out of any moneys not otherwise appropriated, to the commissioners hereinafter provided for, to be apportioned by them among the heads of families, or, in case of their decease, among the surviving members of