

Increase, how long to continue. Assignments to duty.

rector of an army corps in the field, or of a department in which there are United States general hospitals containing less than four thousand beds, shall have the rank, pay, and emoluments of a lieutenant-colonel of cavalry. But this increased rank and pay shall only continue to medical officers while discharging such special duties; and the assignments from time to time to such duty shall be at least two thirds of them made from among the surgeons and assistant surgeons of volunteers.

APPROVED, February 25, 1865.

Feb. 25, 1865.

CHAP. LIV. — *An Act to create the Eastern Judicial District of the State of New York.*

Eastern judicial district in New York created.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the counties of Kings, Queens, Suffolk, and Richmond, in the State of New York, with the waters thereof, are hereby constituted a separate judicial district of the United States, to be styled the eastern district of New York. The President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint a district judge for said district who shall reside therein, and who shall possess the same powers and perform the same duties within said district which are now possessed and performed by the district judge of the southern district of New York. The said judge shall also receive the same compensation as is by law provided for the judge of said southern district. District and circuit courts for the trial of causes shall be held in the city of Brooklyn on the first Wednesday of every month. The courts so to be held shall have the same jurisdiction as is now or may hereafter be vested in other district and circuit courts of the United States. Such officers shall be appointed for said district and court, and in the same manner and with the same fees and emoluments as prescribed by law for other districts and courts of the United States.

Judge. Jurisdiction and pay.

Terms of district and circuit courts.

Other officers of court.

Concurrent jurisdiction of this court.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the district court for the said eastern district shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the district court for the southern district of New York over the waters within the counties of New York, Kings, Queens, and Suffolk, in the State of New York, and over all seizures and matters made or done in such waters; and all writs or other process or orders issued out of either of said courts, or by any judge thereof, shall run and be executed in any part of said waters.

Process.

Judge to hold court in southern district, when, &c.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That, in case of the inability on account of sickness of the judge of the district court of the United States for the southern district of New York, to hold any court therein, it shall be the duty of the judge of the said eastern district of New York to hold such court and do and perform all the acts and duties of the judge of said southern district without any additional compensation; and whenever, from pressure of public business or other cause, it shall be deemed desirable by the judge of said southern district of New York, that the judge of said eastern district perform the duties of a judge in said southern district, an order may be entered to that effect in the records of said district court, and thereupon the judge of said eastern district shall be empowered to do and perform, without additional compensation, within said southern district of New York, and in the district court thereof, all the acts and duties of the district judge thereof.

APPROVED, February 25, 1865.

Feb. 25, 1865.
1863, ch. 52.
Vol. xii. p. 658.

CHAP. LV. — *An Act supplemental to an Act entitled "An Act to annex a Part of the State of New Jersey to the Collection District of New York, and to appoint an Assistant Collector to reside at Jersey City," approved February twenty-one, eighteen hundred and sixty-three.*

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

appointed under the act entitled "An act to annex a part of the State of New Jersey to the collection district of New York, and to appoint an assistant collector to reside at Jersey City," approved February twenty-one, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, be, and he hereby is, authorized to enrol and license, according to the laws of the United States, all vessels engaged in the coasting-trade and fisheries, owned in whole or in part by residents of the counties of Hudson and Bergen, in the State of New Jersey; and all such enrolments and licenses shall be as valid and effectual as if the same had been effected in any other port of the United States; and the said assistant collector, in the enrolment and licensing of vessels, shall be subject to the laws of the United States, and liable to all the penalties and responsibilities imposed upon collectors in like cases.

Enrolment and license of certain vessels owned in Hudson and Bergen Counties, New Jersey.

APPROVED, February 25, 1865.

CHAP. LVI. — *An Act to authorize the Corporation of Georgetown to levy certain Taxes.*

Feb. 25, 1865.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the corporation of Georgetown be, and they are hereby, authorized and empowered to levy and collect, in the same manner in which other taxes are levied and collected in said town, an annual tax, not to exceed in any year fifteen-hundredths of one per centum of the assessed value of the taxable property in said town, to be applied to the payment of the interest and the extinction of the principal of the debt recently contracted by said corporation in filling its quota under the several drafts for troops made during the present war.

Corporation of Georgetown may levy certain taxes.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the said corporation are hereby further authorized and empowered to levy and collect, in manner aforesaid, a sum sufficient to pay the said town's proportion of the direct tax imposed on the District of Columbia by the act of congress approved August fifth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, and the cost and expenses of collecting the same.

Direct tax of 1861.
1861, ch. 45,
§ 8.
Vol. xii. p. 296.

APPROVED, February 25, 1865.

CHAP. LVII. — *An Act authorizing and requiring the Opening of Sixth Street West.*

Feb. 25, 1865.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the corporate authorities of the city of Washington be, and they are hereby, authorized and required to open Sixth Street west, from the canal to Maine Avenue, under the direction of the commissioner of public buildings, in accordance with the plan approved in May, eighteen hundred and twenty-two, by James Monroe, then President of the United States: *Provided, however,* That Sixth Street through the public grounds known as Armory Square shall not be opened until after the removal of the army hospital from such public ground, or until the consent of the surgeon-general of the United States army shall be first had and obtained.

Sixth Street west in Washington, D. C., to be opened.

APPROVED, February 25, 1865.

CHAP. LVIII. — *An Act in Reference to Prosecutions for Libel in the District of Columbia.*

Feb. 25, 1865.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in all prosecutions or indictments for libel instituted, or which may hereafter be instituted, in the District of Columbia, the truth thereof may be given in evidence under the general issue as a justification of the alleged libel; and if it appear that the matter charged as libel[1]ous was true, and was written or published with good motives and for justifiable ends, the defendant shall be acquitted.

In libel suits, &c., in the District of Columbia, the truth may be given in evidence.

APPROVED, February 25, 1865.