

any and all rights of such purchaser or his assigns, in respect of such land, or in respect of the failure of such title, or in respect to the liability of said Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company on any such contract, shall survive and may be enforced against such successor company with the same force and effect and in the same manner as against the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company; and such successor company, upon making compensation for such loss of title or failure to comply with the conditions of any such land contract, shall be subrogated to the rights of such purchaser in respect of the lands for which such compensation shall have been made: *And provided further*, That in case any uncompleted contracts for the purchase of land shall be pending at the time of such foreclosure sale, such new company shall, upon payment to it of any unpaid balance of purchase money for such land at the time provided in such contracts for the sale thereof, convey and release to the holders of such contracts all its title, interest, and estate in and to the land embraced in such contracts.

Completion of land sales.

Incorporation under State laws.

SEC. 2. Where the line of such railway is now located within the limits of any state, or where such line is now located within a territory which may hereafter become a state, such state or such territory, when it shall become a state, shall be empowered to require such corporation to become incorporated within such state or states as may be provided by the laws thereof.

Amendment, etc.

SEC. 3. That Congress shall at all times have the power to alter, amend, or repeal this Act.

Approved, March 3, 1897.

March 3, 1897.

**CHAP. 375.**—An Act Declaring the Potomac Flats a public park, under the name of the Potomac Park.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the entire area formerly known as the Potomac Flats and now being reclaimed, together with the tidal reservoirs, be, and the same are hereby, made and declared a public park, under the name of the Potomac Park, and to be forever held and used as a park for the recreation and pleasure of the people.

Approved, March 3, 1897.

District of Columbia.  
Potomac Park established embracing the Potomac Flats.

March 3, 1897.

**CHAP. 376.**—An Act To provide for the representation of the United States by commissioners at any international monetary conference hereafter to be called, and to enable the President to otherwise promote an international agreement.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That whenever after March fourth, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven, the President of the United States shall determine that the United States should be represented at any international conference called by the United States or any other country with a view to securing by international agreement a fixity of relative value between gold and silver as money by means of a common ratio between these metals, with free mintage at such ratio, he is hereby authorized to appoint five or more commissioners to such international conference; and for compensation of said commissioners, and for all reasonable expenses connected therewith, to be approved by the Secretary of State, including the proportion to be paid by the United States of the joint expenses of any such conference, the sum of one hundred thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated.

International monetary conference.  
Appointment of commissioners authorized.

Compensation, etc.

Appropriation.

Call for conference.

SEC. 2. That the President of the United States is hereby authorized, in the name of the Government of the United States, to call, in his discretion, such international conference, to assemble at such point as may

be agreed upon. And he is further authorized, if in his judgment the purpose specified in the first section hereof can thus be better attained, to appoint one or more special commissioners or envoys to such of the nations of Europe as he may designate to seek by diplomatic negotiations an international agreement for the purpose specified in the first section hereof. And in case of such appointment so much of the appropriation herein made as shall be necessary shall be available for the proper expenses and compensation of such commissioners or envoys.

Special commissioner for diplomatic negotiations.

SEC. 3. That so much of an Act approved March second, eighteen hundred and ninety-five, entitled "An Act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-six, and for other purposes," as provided for the appointment of delegates to an international conference and makes an appropriation for their compensation and expenses, be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

Repeal of former provision for international conference. Vol. 23, p. 962.

Approved, March 3, 1897.

CHAP. 377.—An Act To amend section fifty-four hundred and fifty-nine of the Revised Statutes, prescribing the punishment for mutilating United States coins and for uttering or passing or attempting to utter or pass such mutilated coins.

March 3, 1897.

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

Mutilated coins. Punishment for uttering, etc.

"SEC. 5459. Every person who fraudulently, by any art, way, or means, defaces, mutilates, impairs, diminishes, falsifies, scales, or lightens, or causes or procures to be fraudulently defaced, mutilated, impaired, diminished, falsified, scaled, or lightened, or willingly aids or assists in fraudulently defacing, mutilating, impairing, diminishing, falsifying, scaling, or lightening the gold or silver coins which have been, or which may hereafter be, coined at the mints of the United States, or any foreign gold or silver coins which are by law made current or are in actual use or circulation as money within the United States, or who passes, utters, publishes, or sells, or attempts to pass, utter, publish, or sell, or bring into the United States from any foreign place, knowing the same to be defaced, mutilated, impaired, diminished, falsified, scaled, or lightened, with intent to defraud any person whatsoever, or has in his possession any such defaced, mutilated, impaired, diminished, falsified, scaled, or lightened coin, knowing the same to be defaced, mutilated, impaired, diminished, falsified, scaled, or lightened, with intent to defraud any person whatsoever, shall be imprisoned not more than five years and fined not more than two thousand dollars."

Punishment for fraudulently defacing, etc., coins. R. S., sec. 5459, p. 1058, amended.

Passing, etc.

Approved, March 3, 1897.

CHAP. 378.—An Act To amend section forty-eight hundred and seventy-eight of the Revised Statutes relating to burials in national cemeteries.

March 3, 1897.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That section forty-eight hundred and seventy-eight of the Revised Statutes be amended so as to read as follows:

National cemeteries. R. S., sec. 4878, p. 944, amended.

"SEC. 4878. All soldiers, sailors, or marines dying in the service of the United States, or dying in a destitute condition after having been honorably discharged from the service, or who served during the late war, either in the regular or volunteer forces, may be buried in any national cemetery free of cost. The production of the honorable discharge of a deceased man shall be sufficient authority for the superintendent of any cemetery to permit the interment. Army nurses honorably discharged from their service as such may be buried in any

Burials.

Army nurses permitted burial.