

Corporation of District continued for certain purposes.

SEC. 15. That the corporation of the District of Columbia is continued for all the purposes of this act and other acts for the collection of taxes, for suing and being sued, for causes arising prior to June twentieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-four, and for acquiring and holding real estate for school and municipal purposes.

Designation of lots by number and letter to be revised.

SEC. 16. That hereafter no two lots or subdivisions of original or other lots in any square of ground in the District of Columbia shall be designated by the same number or by the same letter of the alphabet, and the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, or their successors in office, shall cause the numbers and letters designating lots in all the squares of ground in said District to be revised and changed to conform to this requirement; and they shall make such further changes in the existing numbers or letters designating lots in any of the squares in the cities and villages in said District as may, in their opinion, facilitate and simplify the labor of assessing real estate therein.

Advances by Secretary of Treasury to Commissioners.

SEC. 17. That the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby directed to advance to said Commissioners, between the first day of July and the first day of November, eighteen hundred and seventy-seven, such sums as may be from time to time required for the payment of interest on the old funded debt, and for the current expenses of the District government, the aggregate sum so advanced not to exceed four hundred thousand dollars; and the Commissioners shall re-imburse the Treasury the amount so advanced out of the revenues of the District on or before the expiration of the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-eight.

This act permanent.

SEC. 18. That this act shall remain in force as the tax law of the District of Columbia for each subsequent year after June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-eight, until repealed.

Approved, March 3, 1877.

March 3, 1877.

**CHAP. 118.**—An act making an appropriation for the expenses of the Electoral Commission.

Appropriation.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the sum of seven thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury, not otherwise appropriated, to pay the expenses of the Electoral Commission provided for by the act approved January twenty-ninth, eighteen hundred and seventy-seven, entitled "An act to provide for and regulate the counting of votes for President and Vice President, and the decision of questions arising thereon, for the term commencing March fourth, anno Domini, eighteen hundred and seventy-seven," said sum to be disbursed upon the certificate of the President of said Commission: *Provided,* That any person employed by said Commission may receive such compensation as may be allowed by said Commission in addition to any other compensation or salary he may be receiving as an officer of the government.

Expenses of Electoral Commission.

Proviso.

Approved, March 3, 1877.

March 3, 1877.

**CHAP. 119.**—An act to authorize the Secretary of War to open and re-adjust the settlement made by the United States Government with the Western and Atlantic Railroad of Georgia.

Settlement with Western and Atlantic Railroad of Georgia may be re-adjusted.

Basis of readjustment.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Secretary of War is hereby authorized to re-open the settlement made by the United States Government with the Western and Atlantic Railroad of the State of Georgia, and to adjust the same upon the basis and the plan of settlement which was adopted in the settlement made by the Secretary of War with the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad Company, the East

Tennessee and Georgia Railroad Company, and the Nashville and Decatur Railroad Company, under the authority of the act of Congress approved March third, eighteen hundred and seventy one.

SEC 2. That when said claims have been adjusted in pursuance of the provisions of this act, the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, authorized to issue his warrant on the Treasury of the United States to the governor of Georgia or his order for the amount of money it is found ought to be refunded to said railroad on account of said settlement.

Payment of balance authorized.

Approved, March 3, 1877.

CHAP. 120.—An act amending the pension-law so as to remove the disability of those who, having participated in the rebellion, have, since its termination, enlisted in the Army of the United States, and become disabled.

March 3, 1877.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the law prohibiting the payment of any money on account of pensions to any person, or to the widow, children, or heirs of any deceased person, who, in any manner, engaged in or aided or abetted the late rebellion against the authority of the United States, shall not be construed to apply to such persons as afterward voluntarily enlisted in the Army of the United States, and who, while in such service, incurred disability from a wound or injury received or disease contracted in the line of duty.

Law prohibiting pensions to persons aiding rebellion modified.

Approved, March 3, 1877.

CHAP. 121.—An act equalizing pensions of certain officers in the Navy

March 3, 1877.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That from and after the passage of this act, the pension for total disability of passed assistant engineers, assistant engineers, and cadet engineers in the naval service, respectively, shall be the same as the pensions allowed to officers of the line in the naval service with whom they have relative rank; and that all acts or parts of acts inconsistent herewith be, and are hereby, repealed.

Pensions to engineers in Navy according to relative rank.

Approved, March 3, 1877.

CHAP. 122.—An act to amend section twenty-two hundred and ninety-one of the Revised Statutes of the United States, in relation to proof required in homestead entries.

March 3, 1877.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the proof of residence, occupation, or cultivation, the affidavit of non-alienation, and the oath of allegiance, required to be made by section twenty-two hundred and ninety-one of the Revised Statutes, may be made before the judge, or, in his absence, before the clerk, of any court of record of the county and State, or district and Territory, in which the lands are situated; and if said lands are situated in any unorganized county, such proof may be made in a similar manner in any adjacent county in said State or Territory; and the proof, affidavit, and oath, when so made and duly subscribed, shall have the same force and effect as if made before the register or receiver of the proper land-district; and the same shall be transmitted by such judge, or the clerk of his court, to the register and the receiver, with the fee and charges allowed by law to him; and the register and receiver shall be entitled to the same fees for examining and approving said testimony as are now allowed by law for taking the same.

Homesteader's affidavit of occupation, etc., before whom made. R. S., 2291, p. 422.

Affidavit transmitted to register; fees.