

Military use of the road not to be interfered with.

herein granted shall confer no authority or right to interfere with the United States military use or possession of said road or contemplated extension during the present rebellion, or to any claim for damages or indemnification therefor.

Real and personal estate of corporation.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That the said company may acquire and hold such real and personal estate as the practical use and working of said road may require, under such regulations, and subject to such taxation, as is imposed by law on similar property located in the city of Washington.

When act takes effect.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That this act take effect from the time of its passage.

APPROVED, March 3, 1863.

March 3, 1863.

CHAP. CXI.—*An Act to Incorporate the National Academy of Sciences.*

National Academy of Sciences incorporated. Corporators.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That Louis Agassiz, Massachusetts; J. H. Alexander, Maryland; S. Alexander, New Jersey; A. D. Bache, at large; F. B. Barnard, at large; J. G. Barnard, United States army, Massachusetts; W. H. C. Bartlett, United States Military Academy, Missouri; U. A. Boyden, Massachusetts; Alexis Caswell, Rhode Island; William Chauvenet, Missouri; J. H. C. Coffin, United States Naval Academy, Maine; J. A. Dahlgren, United States navy, Pennsylvania; J. D. Dana, Connecticut; Charles H. Davis, United States navy, Massachusetts; George Engelmann, St. Louis, Missouri; J. F. Frazer, Pennsylvania; Wolcott Gibbs, New York; J. M. Gilliss, United States navy, District of Columbia; A. A. Gould, Massachusetts; B. A. Gould, Massachusetts; Asa Gray, Massachusetts; A. Guyot, New Jersey; James Hall, New York; Joseph Henry, at large; J. E. Hilgard, at large, Illinois; Edward Hitchcock, Massachusetts; J. S. Hubbard, United States naval observatory, Connecticut; A. A. Humphreys, United States army, Pennsylvania; J. L. Le Conte, United States army, Pennsylvania; J. Leidy, Pennsylvania; J. P. Lesley, Pennsylvania; M. F. Longstreth, Pennsylvania; D. H. Mahan, United States Military Academy, Virginia; J. S. Newberry, Ohio; H. A. Newton, Connecticut; Benjamin Peirce, Massachusetts; John Rodgers, United States navy, Indiana; Fairman Rogers, Pennsylvania; R. E. Rogers, Pennsylvania; W. B. Rogers, Massachusetts; L. M. Rutherford, New York; Joseph Saxton, at large; Benjamin Silliman, Connecticut; Benjamin Silliman, junior, Connecticut; Theodore Strong, New Jersey; John Torrey, New York; J. G. Totten, United States army, Connecticut; Joseph Winlock, United States Nautical Almanac, Kentucky; Jeffries Wyman, Massachusetts; J. D. Whitney, California, their associates and successors duly chosen, are hereby incorporated, constituted, and declared to be a body corporate, by the name of the National Academy of Sciences.

Number of ordinary members.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the National Academy of Sciences shall consist of not more than fifty ordinary members, and the said corporation hereby constituted shall have power to make its own organization, including its constitution, by-laws, and rules and regulations; to fill all vacancies created by death, resignation, or otherwise; to provide for the election of foreign and domestic members, the division into classes, and all other matters needful or usual in such institution, and to report the same to Congress.

Power of corporation.

Election of members, &c.

Annual meeting.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That the National Academy of Sciences shall hold an annual meeting at such place in the United States as may be designated, and the academy shall, whenever called upon by any department of the Government, investigate, examine, experiment, and report upon any subject of science or art, the actual expense of such investigations, examinations, experiments, and reports, to be paid from appro-

Investigations, examinations, &c., on subjects of science or art.

priations which may be made for the purpose, but the academy shall receive no compensation whatever for any services to the Government of the United States. Expenses thereof.

APPROVED, March 3, 1863.

CHAP. CXII. — *An Act to establish the Gauge of the Pacific Railroad and its Branches.* March 3, 1863.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the gauge of the Pacific railroad and its branches throughout their whole extent, from the Pacific coast to the Missouri River, shall be, and hereby is, established at four feet eight and one half inches. Gauge of Pacific railroad and branches. *Ante*, p. 495.

APPROVED, March 3, 1863.

CHAP. CXIII. — *An Act to enable the District Courts of the United States to issue Executions and other final Process in certain Cases.* March 3, 1863.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That in all cases wherein the district courts of the United States within and for the several districts of Texas, Florida, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, and Kansas had rendered final judgments or decrees prior to the passage of an act entitled "An act to amend the act of the third of March, eighteen hundred and thirty-seven, entitled 'An act supplementary to the act entitled an act to amend the judicial system of the United States,'" approved July fifteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, which cases might have been brought, and could have been originally cognizable in a circuit court, said district courts shall have power to issue writs of execution or other final process, or to use such other powers and proceedings as may be in accordance with law, to enforce the judgments and decrees aforesaid, anything in said act of the fifteenth of July, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, to the contrary notwithstanding. Certain district courts to issue executions, &c., in certain cases. 1837, ch. 34. Vol. v. p. 176. 1862, ch. 178. *Ante*, p. 576.

APPROVED, March 3, 1863.

CHAP. CXIV. — *An Act to provide for issuing an American Register to the Steam-vessel "Maple Leaf."* March 3, 1863.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That there be issued, under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, an American register to the British colonial built steam-vessel "Maple Leaf," now owned by Charles Spear and J. H. B. Lang, of Boston, in the State of Massachusetts. American register to issue to steamer "Maple Leaf."

APPROVED, March 3, 1863.

CHAP. CXV. — *An Act relating to the Validity of Deeds of Public Squares and Lots in the City of Washington.* March 3, 1863.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That no deed or conveyance heretofore made, in pursuance of law, of squares or lots of public land in the city of Washington, by the commissioner of public buildings, or any other authorized officer, shall be deemed invalid in law, for the want of an acknowledgment by said commissioner or other authorized officer before such judicial officers as deeds of real property made between individuals are required by law to be acknowledged. Deeds of public squares, &c., by any authorized public officer, not to be invalid for want of acknowledgment.

APPROVED, March 3, 1863.