

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That during any recess of the Senate the President is hereby empowered, in his discretion, to suspend any civil officer appointed by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, except judges of the United States courts, until the end of the next session of the Senate, and to designate some suitable person, subject to be removed in his discretion by the designation of another, to perform the duties of such suspended officer in the mean time; and such person so designated shall take the oaths and give the bonds required by law to be taken and given by the suspended officer, and shall, during the time he performs his duties, be entitled to the salary and emoluments of such office, no part of which shall belong to the officer suspended; and it shall be the duty of the President within thirty days after the commencement of each session of the Senate, except for any office which in his opinion ought not to be filled, to nominate persons to fill all vacancies in office which existed at the meeting of the Senate, whether temporarily filled or not, and also in the place of all officers suspended; and if the Senate during such session shall refuse to advise and consent to an appointment in the place of any suspended officer, then, and not otherwise, the President shall nominate another person as soon as practicable to said session of the Senate for said office.

President, during recess of Senate, may suspend any civil officer, except, &c. until, &c. and designate another to do his duties.

Persons designated to give bonds and take oath, &c.

President to nominate to fill vacancies within thirty days after commencement of each session of Senate.

Proceedings if Senate refuse to confirm.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That section three of the act to which this is an amendment be amended by inserting after the word "resignation," in line three of said section, the following: "or expiration of term of office."

Vacancies happening during recess, from death, resignation, &c. may be filled by President.

APPROVED, April 5, 1869.

CHAP. XI. — *An Act to amend an Act entitled "An Act to provide a National Currency secured by a Pledge of United States Bonds, and to provide for the Circulation and Redemption thereof," approved June third, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, by extending certain Penalties to Accessories.*

April 6, 1869.

1864, ch. 106, § 55.

Vol. xiii. p. 116.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That every person who shall aid or abet any officer or agent of any association in doing any of the acts enumerated in section fifty-five of an act entitled "An act to provide a national currency secured by a pledge of United States bonds, and to provide for the circulation and redemption thereof," approved June third, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, with intent to defraud or deceive, shall be liable to the same punishment therein provided for the principal.

Penalty for aiding and abetting officers, &c. of national banks in embezzling, &c. funds of bank.

APPROVED, April 6, 1869.

CHAP. XII. — *An Act to carry into Effect the Convention of July four, eighteen hundred and sixty-eight, between the United States and Mexico, for the Adjustment of Claims.*

April 7, 1869.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the President shall nominate and, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint a commissioner, on the part of the United States, to hear and decide, conjointly with the commissioner to be appointed on the part of the Republic of Mexico, the claims comprehended in the provisions of the convention of July fourth, eighteen hundred and sixty-eight, between the United States and Mexico.

President to appoint a commissioner under convention with Mexico.

Vol. xv. p. 679.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the compensation of the commissioner shall be at such rate, not exceeding four thousand five hundred dollars a year in the currency of the United States, as may be determined by agreement between the executive departments of this government and of Mexico. The compensation of the secretary to be appointed on the part of the United States under the provisions of the convention shall be at such rate, not exceeding twenty-five hundred dollars a year in the currency of the United States, as shall be determined in the manner aforesaid.

Pay of commissioner;

of secretary.

President may  
appoint an agent  
for the United  
States;

his pay.

Contingent  
expenses.  
1870, ch. 251, § 4.  
Post, p. 250.

Umpire.  
Appropriation.

Rules, &c. for  
conducting the  
business of the  
commission.

Secretary of  
State to transmit  
certain papers  
and records to  
commissioner.  
Records, &c. of  
commission,  
when terminat-  
ed, to be left  
with Secretary  
of State.

Papers pro-  
duced by Mex-  
ico.

Testimony of  
refusing or un-  
willing witness-  
es, how to be  
obtained.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That the President be, and hereby is, authorized to appoint a suitable person as agent on behalf of the United States to attend the commissioners, to present and support claims on behalf of this government, to answer claims made upon it, and to represent it generally in all matters connected with the investigation and decision thereof; the compensation of such agent, not to exceed four thousand dollars, shall be determined and allowed by the President; and the President is hereby authorized to make [such] provision for the contingent expenses of the commission and for the advances contemplated by the sixth article of the convention as to him shall appear reasonable and proper. The salaries, expenses, advances, and the compensation to be paid to the umpire, when determined, shall be paid out of any moneys in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That the commissioner on the part of the United States, in conjunction with the commissioner on the part of Mexico, is hereby authorized to make all needful rules and regulations for conducting the business of the commission; such rules and regulations not contravening the Constitution of the United States, the provisions of this act, or the convention.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That the Secretary of State is hereby authorized and required to transmit to the commissioner on the part of the United States such papers and records relating to the commission as he may deem proper, or as may be called for by the commissioners; and at the termination of the commission all the records, documents, and other papers which have been brought before the commissioners, or which may be in possession of their secretaries, shall be deposited in the Department of State: *Provided*, That this section shall not be so construed as to prevent the commissioner on the part of Mexico from depositing in the department certified copies or duplicates of papers produced on behalf of his government instead of originals.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That upon suggestion by either party that a witness whose testimony is deemed important refuses or is unwilling to testify, it shall be competent for the board of commissioners to issue a commission to some suitable person to take the testimony of such witness, who, if in the United States, may be compelled to appear and testify before such commissioners in the same manner as is now provided by law in the case of commissions issued from the courts of the United States.

APPROVED, April 7, 1869.

April 7, 1869.  
1868, ch. 48.  
Vol. xv. p. 61.

Sections one  
and six of act of  
1868, ch. 48, to  
continue in force  
one year;

rest of act re-  
pealed.

CHAP. XIII. — *An Act to continue in Force an Act entitled "An Act to extend the Charter of Washington City," and so forth.*

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the first and sixth sections of the act entitled "An act to extend the charter of Washington city, also to regulate the selection of officers, and for other purposes," of the twenty-sixth [twenty-eighth] of May, eighteen hundred and sixty-eight, be, and the same are hereby, continued in force for the period of one year and until Congress shall otherwise determine; and that all the other sections of said act are hereby repealed.

APPROVED, April 7, 1869.

April 7, 1869.

Commissioner  
to continue  
freedmen's hos-  
pitals at Rich-  
mond, Vicks-  
burg, District of  
Columbia.

CHAP. XIV. — *An Act relating to Freedmen's Hospitals.*

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the commissioner of the bureau of refugees and freedmen is authorized and directed to continue the freedmen's hospitals at Richmond, Virginia; Vicksburg, Mississippi; and in the District of Columbia, including the asylum for aged and infirm