

such further regulations as may be necessary to complete the transfer of the existing business from the present justices of the peace to those appointed under this act, and for the return of any writ, execution, or other process by the present justices of the peace to those appointed under this act, and may remove constables from office for willful violation of law, or for misconduct, or for incompetency.

Transfer of business.

Removal of constables.

Commissioners of deeds.
Appointment.

SEC. 5. The President of the United States is hereby authorized to appoint as many commissioners of deeds throughout the United States as he may deem necessary, with powers to take the acknowledgment of deeds for the conveyance of property within the said District, administer oaths, and take depositions in cases pending in the courts of said District in the manner prescribed by law; to whose acts, properly attested by their hands and seals of office, full faith and credit shall be given. The President shall also have power to appoint such number of notaries public, residents of said District, as in his discretion the business of the District may require; said commissioners of deeds and notaries public to hold their offices for the period of five years, removable at discretion.

Notaries public.

Term.

SEC. 6. All laws and parts of laws inconsistent with any of the provisions of this act be, and the same are hereby repealed.

Approved, June 7, 1878.

CHAP. 168.—An act explanatory of section eighteen hundred and eighty-nine of the Revised Statutes of the United States, and to ratify and confirm certain Territorial legislation, and for other purposes.

June 8, 1878.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the words "the legislative assemblies of the several Territories shall not grant private charters or special privileges" in section eighteen hundred and eighty-nine of the Revised Statutes of the United States shall not be construed as prohibiting the legislative assemblies of the several Territories of the United States from creating towns, cities, or other municipal corporations, and providing for the government of the same, and conferring upon them the corporate powers and privileges, necessary to their local administration, by either general or special acts; and that all general and special acts of such legislative assemblies heretofore passed creating and providing for the government of towns, cities, or other municipal corporations, and conferring such rights, powers and privileges upon the same, as were necessary to their local administration, be, and the same are hereby, ratified and confirmed and declared to be valid, any law to the contrary notwithstanding, subject, however, to amendment or repeal hereafter by such Territorial assemblies. But nothing herein shall have the effect to create any private right, except that of holding and executing municipal offices, or to divest any such right, or to make valid or invalid any contract or obligation heretofore made by or on behalf of any such town, city or other municipal corporation, or to authorize any such corporation to incur hereafter any debt or obligation other than such as shall be necessary to the administration of its internal affairs.

Municipal corporations in Territories.
R. S. 1889, p. 333,
Construed.

Private rights.

Contracts.
Corporation debts.

Approved, June 8, 1878.

CHAP. 169.—An act to provide for circuit and district courts of the United States at Toledo, Ohio.

June 8, 1878.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That a term of the circuit court and district court for the northern district of Ohio shall be held at Toledo, in said State, on the first Tuesday of the months of June and December in each year; and one grand jury and one petit jury only shall be summoned, and serve in both of said courts at each term thereof. And the existing provisions of law fixing the times of holding the district court at Toledo are hereby repealed.

Circuit and district courts at Toledo, Ohio.
Terms.
Juries.

Northern district divided.

SEC. 2. Said northern district shall be, and hereby is, divided into two divisions, to be known as the eastern and the western division of the northern district of Ohio. The western division shall consist of twenty-four counties, to wit; Williams, Defiance, Paulding, Van Wert, Mercer, Auglaize, Allen, Putnam, Henry, Fulton, Lucas, Wood, Hancock, Hardin, Logan, Union, Delaware, Marion, Wyandot, Seneca, Sandusky, Ottawa, Erie, and Huron; and the eastern division shall consist of the remaining counties in said district. But no additional clerk or marshal shall be appointed in said district.

Suits, where to be brought.

SEC. 3. All suits not of a local nature in the circuit and district courts, against a single defendant, inhabitant of such State, must be brought in the division of the district where he resides; but if there are two or more defendants, residing in different divisions of the district, such suits may be brought in either division. All issues of fact in such suits shall be tried at a term of the court held in the division where the suit is so brought.

Place of trial.

Offenses, where to be tried.

SEC. 4. All offenses committed in either of the subdivisions shall be cognizable and indictable within said division.

Transfer of pending causes.

SEC. 5. Actions or proceedings now pending at Cleveland, in said district, which would under this act be brought in the western division of said district, may be transferred, by consent of all the parties, to said western division; and in case of such transfer, all papers and files therein, with copies of all journal entries, shall be transferred to the deputy clerk's office at Toledo; and the same shall be proceeded with in all respects as though it originally commenced in the western division.

Jurors' residence. Service of process.

SEC. 6. All grand and petit jurors summoned for service in each division shall be residents of such division. All mesne and final process, subject to the provisions hereinbefore contained, issued in either of said divisions, may be served and executed in either or both of the divisions.

Taking effect of act.

SEC. 7. This act shall be in force from and after the first day of September, anno Domini eighteen hundred and seventy-eight. And all acts and parts of acts inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved, June 8, 1878.

June 8, 1878.

CHAP. 170.—An act to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to constitute Superintendents of Mints or Assayers in Assay-offices, Assistant Treasurers of the United States.

Superintendents of mints, etc. May be assistant treasurers.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury be and he is hereby authorized to constitute any superintendent of a mint or assayer of any assay-office, an assistant treasurer of the United States without additional compensation, to receive gold coin and bullion on deposit for the purposes provided for in section two hundred and fifty-four of the Revised Statutes.

Approved, June 8, 1878.

June 11, 1878.

CHAP. 180.—An act providing a permanent form of government for the District of Columbia.

District of Columbia a corporation.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all the territory which was ceded by the State of Maryland to the Congress of the United States for the permanent seat of the government of the United States shall continue to be designated as the District of Columbia. Said District and the property and persons that may be therein shall be subject to the following provisions for the government of the same, and also to any existing laws applicable thereto not hereby repealed or inconsistent with the provisions of this act. The District of Columbia shall remain and continue a municipal corporation, as provided in section two of the Revised

Existing laws.