

authorized and directed to pay to said Eads, his lawful assigns or legal representatives, the sums for which said warrants are drawn. All other payments to said James B Eads his lawful assigns or legal representatives are to be made under and in pursuance of the provisions of the hereinbefore recited act; the whole of said act, except as the same is hereby expressly modified or amended, to have the same force and effect as if this act had not been passed.

Remaining payments according to former act.

SEC. 4 The President of the United States is hereby authorized and directed to convene a board of five engineers of the army, which said board shall visit the works in process of construction by said James B. Eads at the South Pass of the Mississippi River, and make an examination of the same, and make a full report of the progress made in the construction of the works, the probable cost of their completion, and the results produced, or that may properly be produced by them, their probable permanency, and of the advisability of any modification of the terms of the act under which said Eads is constructing said works, so far as regards dimensions of channel through the jetties, and of the terms of payment for the same; which said report shall be submitted to the Secretary of War, to be presented at the next session of Congress

Board of engineers to examine and report.

Approved, June 19, 1878.

CHAP. 314.—An act for the relief of settlers on the public lands.

June 19, 1878.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the provisions of an act of Congress, approved March third, eighteen hundred and seventy-seven, entitled "An act for the relief of settlers on the public lands", are hereby extended to those settlers whose crops were destroyed or seriously injured by the grasshoppers during the year eighteen hundred and seventy-six.

Grasshopper ravages.
1877, ch. 127,
19 Stat., 405,
Extended.

Approved, June 19, 1878.

CHAP. 315.—An act to provide for the holding of a term of the district and circuit courts of the United States at Lincoln, Nebraska

June 19, 1878.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there shall be one term of the United States district and circuit courts for the district of Nebraska, held in the city of Lincoln, Nebraska, on the first Monday of January in each year from and after the passage of this act; and one grand jury and one petit jury only shall be summoned and serve in both of said courts at each term thereof

Nebraska.
Terms of courts
in.
Juries.

Approved, June 19, 1878.

CHAP. 316.—An act to create an Auditor of Railroad Accounts and for other purposes.

June 19, 1878.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section twenty of the act entitled "An act to aid in the construction of a railroad and telegraph line from the Missouri River to the Pacific Ocean, and to secure to the government the use of the same for postal, military and other purposes", approved July first anno Domini eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and the act entitled "An act relative to filing reports of railroad companies" approved June twenty-fifth, anno Domini eighteen hundred and sixty-eight, be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

1862, ch. 120, §20,
12 Stat., 498.
1868, ch. 77,
15 Stat., 79,
Repealed.

SEC. 2. That the office of Auditor of Railroad Accounts is hereby established as a bureau of the Interior Department. The said Auditor shall be appointed by the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. The annual salary of the said Auditor shall be, and is hereby, fixed at the sum of five thousand dollars. To assist the said Auditor to perform the duties of said office,

Auditor of Railroad Accounts.
Salary.

Clerks. Salaries. the Secretary of the Interior shall appoint one bookkeeper at an annual salary of two thousand four hundred dollars, one assistant bookkeeper at an annual salary of two thousand dollars, one clerk at an annual salary of one thousand four hundred dollars, and one copyist at an annual salary of nine hundred dollars. Actual and necessary traveling and other expenses incurred in visiting the offices of the railroad companies hereinafter described, and for which vouchers shall be rendered, are hereby allowed, not to exceed the sum of two thousand dollars per annum; and it is hereby specially provided that each of said railroad companies shall furnish transportation over its own road, without expense to the United States, for the said Auditor or any person acting under his direction. Incidentals. Incidentals expenses for books, stationery and other material necessary for the use of said bureau are hereby allowed not to exceed the sum of seven hundred dollars per annum. And the sum of twelve thousand dollars is hereby appropriated for the uses and purposes of this act for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, anno Domini eighteen hundred and seventy-nine.

Traveling expenses. Free transportation. Appropriation. Duties of Auditor. SEC. 3 That the duties of the said Auditor under and subject to the direction of the Secretary of the Interior shall be, to prescribe a system of reports to be rendered to him by the railroad companies whose roads are in whole or in part west, north, or south of the Missouri River, and to which the United States have granted any loan of credit or subsidy in bonds or lands; to examine the books and accounts of each of said railroad companies once in each fiscal year, and at such other times as may be deemed by him necessary to determine the correctness of any report received from them; to assist the government directors of any of said railroad companies in all matters which come under their cognizance whenever they may officially request such assistance; to see that the laws relating to said companies are enforced; to furnish such information to the several departments of the government in regard to tariffs for freight and passengers and in regard to the accounts of said railroad companies as may be by them required, or, in the absence of any request therefor, as he may deem expedient for the interest of the government; and to make an annual report to the Secretary of the Interior, on the first day of November, on the condition of each of said railroad companies, their road, accounts, and affairs, for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth immediately preceding.

Annual report. Railroads to make reports and submit books, etc. SEC. 4. That each and every railroad company aforesaid which has received from the United States any bonds of the said United States, issued by way of loan to aid in constructing or furnishing its road, or which has received from the United States any lands granted to it for a similar purpose, shall make to the said Auditor any and all such reports as he may require from time to time and shall submit its books and records to the inspection of said Auditor or any person acting in his place and stead, at any time that the said Auditor may request, in the office where said books and records are usually kept; and the said Auditor, or his authorized representative, shall make such transcripts from the said books and records as he may desire.

Neglect of railroad to report, etc. Forfeiture. SEC. 5. That if any railroad company aforesaid shall neglect or refuse to make such reports as may be called for, or refuse to submit its books and records to inspection, as provided in section four of this act, such neglect or refusal shall operate as a forfeiture, in each case of such neglect or refusal, of a sum not less than one thousand nor more than five thousand dollars, to be recovered by the Attorney-General of the United States in the name and for the use and benefit of the United States; and it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Interior, in all such cases of neglect or refusal as aforesaid, to inform the Attorney-General of the facts, to the end that such forfeiture or forfeitures may be judicially enforced.

Application of act. SEC. 6. This act shall apply to any and all persons or corporations into whose hands either of said railroads may lawfully come, as well as to the original companies.

SEC 7. This act shall take effect on and after the first day of July, anno Domini eighteen hundred and seventy-eight. Date of effect.

Approved, June 19, 1878.

CHAP. 317.—An act to protect public libraries in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes June 19, 1878.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That any person who shall steal, wrongfully deface, injure, mutilate, tear, or destroy any book, pamphlet, or manuscript, or any portion thereof, belonging to the Library of Congress, or to any public library in the District of Columbia, whether the property of the United States or of any individual or corporation in said District, or who shall steal, wrongfully deface, injure, mutilate, tear, or destroy any book, pamphlet, document, manuscript, print, engraving, medal, newspaper, or work of art, the property of the United States, shall be held guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction thereof, shall, when the offense is not otherwise punishable by some statute of the United States, be punished by a fine of not less than ten dollars nor more than one thousand dollars, and by imprisonment for not less than one nor more than twelve months, or both, for every such offense.

Public libraries,
District of Colum-
bia.

Stealing, etc.,
books of.

Penalty.

Approved, June 19, 1878.

CHAP. 318.—An act to amend section twenty-nine hundred and thirty-one of the Revised Statutes of the United States so as to allow repayment by the Secretary of the Treasury of the tonnage-tax where it has been exacted in contravention of treaty provisions June 19, 1878.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the provisions of section twenty-nine hundred and thirty-one, of chapter six, title thirty-four, of the Revised Statutes, shall not apply to cases of the payment of tonnage-tax on vessels where the Secretary of the Treasury and Attorney-General shall be satisfied that the exaction of such tax was in contravention of treaty provisions; and he may draw his warrant for the refund of the tax so illegally exacted, as is provided in section three thousand twelve and one half of said statutes: *Provided,* That this act shall not be construed to authorize the refunding of any tonnage-duties whatever exacted prior to the first day of June eighteen hundred and sixty-two, nor shall it apply to cases of the payment of tonnage-tax heretofore made on vessels other than those of the Hanseatic Republics and Sweden and Norway.

Refund of ton-
nage-dues.
R. S. 2931, p. 570.
R. S. 3012½, p. 583.

Proviso.

Approved, June 19, 1878.

CHAP. 319.—An act supplementary to the act entitled "An act to carry into effect the convention between the United States and China concluded on the eighth day of November, eighteen hundred and fifty-eight, at Shanghai", approved March third eighteen hundred and fifty-nine and to give the Court of Claims jurisdiction in certain cases June 19, 1878.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That any person or persons, or body corporate holding and making any claim upon the balance of the fund usually designated and known as "the Chinese indemnity fund", under the control of the Department of State of the United States and now unappropriated, for loss sustained by the plunder and destruction, in the year eighteen hundred and fifty-four, of the bark Caldera, and property on board of said vessel, may, at any time within twelve months after the passage of this act commence proceedings in the United States Court of Claims against the United States, in the same manner as other suits are brought, pursuant to and in virtue of the statutes of the United

Bark "Caldera."
Claims for loss,
etc., on, referred to
Court of Claims.
1859, ch. 77,
11 Stat., 403.