

# PUBLIC ACTS OF THE FORTY-FIFTH CONGRESS

OF THE

## UNITED STATES,

*Passed at the third session, which was begun and held at the city of Washington, in the District of Columbia, on Monday, the third day of December, 1878, and was adjourned without day on Tuesday, the fourth day of March, 1879.*

RUTHERFORD B. HAYES, President. WILLIAM A. WHEELER, Vice-President and President of the Senate. THOMAS W. FERRY was elected President of the Senate *pro tempore* on the fourth of March, 1879. SAMUEL J. RANDALL, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

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**CHAP. 2.**—An act establishing the rank of the senior inspector-general.

Dec. 12, 1878.

*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 rank of the senior inspector-general of the United States army shall be brigadier-general; but no pay or allowances shall be made to said officer other than from the date of appointment under this act: And provided, That nothing herein enacted shall authorize any increase in the number or the rank of the other officers of the Inspector-General's Department as fixed by the first section of the act of June twenty-third, eighteen hundred and seventy-four.*

Inspector-General.  
Rank of.

Approved, December 12, 1878.

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**CHAP. 3.**—An act for the relief of William Gibson

Dec. 12, 1878.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized to restore William Gibson, now a commander, from the retired to the active list of the Navy: Provided, however, In case of such restoration, the said Gibson shall be entitled to no higher rank on said active list than that held by him as a lieutenant-commander at the time of his transfer to the retired list: And provided further, That no claim for arrearages of pay shall accrue to said Gibson by reason of restoration under the provisions of this act*

W. Gibson.  
Restored to active list of Navy.

Approved, December 12, 1878.

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**CHAP. 4.**—An act to aid in the protection of the public buildings and property against loss and damage by fire

Dec. 13, 1878.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That a commission composed of the Commissioner of Patents, the Supervising Architect of the Treasury Department, and the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution is hereby constituted and authorized to examine such automatic signal telegraph systems as may be submitted to them by the owners and agents thereof,*

Protection of public buildings from fire.

and to ascertain which of the same is best adapted for the purpose of the earliest and most certain transmission by signal of the occurrence of fire, and also the adaptability, usefulness, and need of the same for the further protection of the buildings and property of the government in the several departments in Washington, and to report the results of their examination to the next session of Congress

Approved, December 13, 1878.

<p>Dec. 16, 1878. 1878, ch. 359, <i>Ante</i>, 230.</p>	<p><b>CHAP. 5.</b>—An act to correct an error of enrollment in bill making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the government for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-nine, and for other purposes.</p>
<p>Appropriation.</p>	<p><i>Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,</i> That the sum of twenty-seven thousand five hundred dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated to pay for clerk hire, engineering, marshal's fees, salaries, and other expenses of the Hot Springs Commission; and the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized to appoint with the advice and consent of the Senate, three discreet, competent, and disinterested persons, who shall constitute a board of commissioners, any two of whom shall constitute a quorum, who shall hold their offices for the period of one year from the date of their appointment, and shall have the same powers and authority in all respects as was provided for the commissioners appointed under the act of Congress approved March third, eighteen hundred and seventy-seven, entitled "An act in relation to the Hot Springs reservation in the State of Arkansas"; which act is hereby revived and continued in full force for the purpose of enabling said board of commissioners to take possession of all records, papers, and proofs, and to determine the claims presented to the board of commissioners appointed under said act, whose term of office has expired, and to do and perform all other acts and duties authorized by said act.</p>
<p>Hot Springs Commission. <i>Appointment.</i></p>	<p>And the Secretary of the Interior is hereby directed to lease to the present proprietors of the Arlington Hotel or their assigns the grounds, not exceeding one acre, now occupied by them, for a period of ten years, unless otherwise provided by law, at an annual rental of one thousand dollars. And he is further directed to lease the bath-houses of a permanent nature now upon the Hot Springs reservation to the owners of the same, and lease to any person or persons upon such terms as may be agreed on, sites for the building of other bath-houses for the term of five years, unless otherwise provided by law, under such rules and regulations as he may prescribe; and the tax imposed shall not exceed fifteen dollars per tub per annum, including land rent: <i>Provided</i>, That said leases shall in no way prejudice any legal right that any person or persons may have acquired under the act hereby revived and continued, to any improvements on said ground: <i>And provided further</i>, That to prevent monopoly, no bath-house or hotel shall be supplied with more than enough water for forty bath-tubs of the usual size, unless there shall be more than enough hot-water to supply all other demands for the same, in which case no single establishment shall be allowed more than forty bath-tubs of the usual size: <i>And provided further</i>, That the superintendent shall provide and maintain a sufficient number of free baths for the use of the indigent, and the expense thereof shall be defrayed out of the rentals hereinbefore provided for.</p>
<p><i>Term of office.</i></p>	<p>In cases where fractions of lots are made by straightening, widening or laying out streets, the commissioners shall have power to determine the disposal of the same, giving the preference to the owners of abutting lots: <i>Provided</i>, That all titles given or to be given by the United States shall explicitly exclude the right to the purchaser of the land, his heirs or assigns, from ever boring thereon for hot water; and the Hot Springs, with the reservation and mountain are hereby dedicated to the United States, and shall remain forever free from sale or alienation.</p>
<p>1877, ch. 108, 19 Stat., 377.</p>	<p>Approved, December 16, 1878.</p>
<p>Arlington Hotel grounds.</p>	
<p>Bath-houses.</p>	
<p>Tax</p>	
<p>Limit to bath-tubs.</p>	
<p>Free baths.</p>	
<p>Fractions of lots.</p>	
<p>Conditions of titles.</p>	