

or cause the same to be taken, from the mails for the purpose of circulating or disposing of, or of aiding in the circulation or disposition of the same, shall, for each and every offense, be fined upon conviction thereof not more than five thousand dollars, or imprisoned at hard labor not more than five years, or both, at the discretion of the court. And all offenses committed under the section of which this is amendatory, prior to the approval of this act, may be prosecuted and punished under the same in the same manner and with the same effect as if this act had not been passed: *Provided*, That nothing in this act shall authorize any person to open any letter or sealed matter of the first-class not addressed to himself."

*Proviso.*  
First-class matter.

Approved, September 26, 1888.

**CHAP. 1040.**—An act to change the time of the sessions of the circuit and district courts for the Western Division of the Western District of Missouri.

September 26, 1888.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the terms of the circuit court of the United States for the Western Division of the Western District of Missouri shall begin and be held at Kansas City in said State on the first Mondays in March and September annually.

Missouri, western judicial district.

Terms at Kansas City.

That the terms of the district court of the United States for the Western Division of the Western District of Missouri shall begin and be held at Kansas City in said State on the first Mondays in May and October annually.

That the terms of both the circuit and district courts of the United States for the Saint Joseph Division of the Western District of Missouri, shall begin and be held at Saint Joseph in said State on the first Mondays in April and November annually.

Saint Joseph Division.

That the terms of both the circuit and district courts of the United States for the Central Division of the Western District of Missouri shall begin and be held at Jefferson City in said State on the third Mondays in April and November annually.

Central Division.

That the terms of the district court of the United States for the Southern Division of the Western District of Missouri shall be held at Springfield in said State on the third Mondays in May and October annually.

Southern Division.  
R. S., secs. 572, p. 100; 658, p. 121.  
Vol. 24, p. 425.

All acts or parts of acts inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

**SEC. 2.** All process issued from the clerk's offices of said courts when this act takes effect shall be taken and considered as returnable to the term or terms hereby established in lieu of the term or terms existing at the time such process was issued.

Return of process.

Approved, September 26, 1888.

**CHAP. 1041.**—An act to amend an act entitled "An act making appropriations for the construction, repair and preservation of certain public works on rivers and harbors, and for other purposes," approved July fifth, eighteen hundred and eighty-four.

September 26, 1888.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That section seven of the "Act making appropriations for the construction, repair, and preservation of certain public works on rivers and harbors, and for other purposes," approved July fifth, eighteen hundred and eighty-four be, and the same is hereby, amended, so that the same shall read as follows :

United States canals.  
Vol. 23, p. 148.

"**SEC. 7.** That it shall be the duty of the Secretary of War to prescribe such rules and regulations in respect to the use and administration of the Des Moines Rapids Canal, the Saint Mary's Falls Canal, the Louisville and Portland Canal, and the Saint Clair Flats

Regulations for use of, extended to Saint Clair Flats Ship Canal.

Ship Canal as in his judgment the public necessity may require, which rules and regulations shall be posted in some conspicuous place for the information of the public; any person knowingly and willfully violating such rules and regulations shall be liable to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, or imprisonment not exceeding six months, to be enforced in any district court in the United States within whose territorial jurisdiction such offense may have been committed."

Effect.

SEC. 2. That this act shall take effect immediately.

Approved, September 26, 1888.

October 1, 1888.

**CHAP. 1056.**—An act to amend an act to detach the county of Audrain, in the State of Missouri, from the eastern and attach it to the western judicial district of said State.

Audrain County, Mo.  
Ante, p. 153.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That an act entitled "An act to detach the county of Audrain, in the State of Missouri, from the eastern and attach it to the western judicial district of Missouri," approved May twenty-first, eighteen hundred and eighty-eight, be so amended as to read as follows:

Attached to central  
division, western judi-  
cial district of Mis-  
souri.

"That the county of Audrain, in the State of Missouri, be detached from the northern division of the eastern judicial district of Missouri and attached to the central division of the western judicial district of the State of Missouri."

Pending causes.

SEC. 2. That all civil and criminal causes or proceedings pending in the courts of the United States for the northern division of the eastern district of Missouri which originated in said county of Audrain shall remain within the jurisdiction of said courts for that division until finally disposed of, and all offenses committed in said county against the laws of the United States before the passage of this act shall also be cognizable in the United States courts for the northern division of said eastern district until final disposition of the same.

Approved, October 1, 1888.

October 1, 1888.

**CHAP. 1057.**—An act for the investigation of the mining debris question in the State of California.

Mining debris in Cal-  
ifornia.  
Secretary of War to  
appoint commission to  
investigate.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Secretary of War is hereby authorized and directed to detail three officers from the Engineer Corps of the United States Army as a commission for the purpose of making a thorough examination and investigation of the mining debris question in the State of California, for the purpose of ascertaining whether some plan can be devised whereby the present conflict between the mining and farming sections may be adjusted and the mining industry rehabilitated; and for a complete examination of the injured navigable river channels, their tributaries and lands adjacent thereto, with a view to the improvement and rectification of said rivers. And that the sum of ten thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of this act, said sum to be expended at the discretion of the Secretary of War; the said commission to report as early as practicable to the Secretary of War the result of their investigation, and the Secretary of War shall make report thereof to Congress.

Appropriation.

Report.

Approved, October 1, 1888.