

1874, c. 337, ante, p. 116, construed.

in the streets, alleys, and avenues of the cities of Washington and Georgetown, and the repairs and cleaning of the sewers, are necessary municipal objects, which belong to the current expenses of the same, to be paid for in money as other ordinary municipal expenses; and the proper District authorities are hereby directed to pay the parties that have heretofore performed this class of work, from the treasury of said District, out of any money not otherwise appropriated, the amount and value of said work done since the passage of the act, with legal interest from the time the same fell due under the contract, but not till after their accounts have been approved and audited as the law directs.

Approved, March 1, 1875.

March 2, 1875.

CHAP. 118.—An act fixing the number of paymasters in the Army of the United States.

Paymasters, number of.
1866, c. 299, s. 18, v. 14, p. 335.
R. S., 1182, p. 211.
Post 524.

Selection of paymasters.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the number of paymasters is hereby established at fifty, instead of sixty, as was designated in the eighteenth section of the act of July twenty-eighth, eighteen hundred and sixty-six; said paymasters to have the rank, pay, and emoluments of majors of cavalry.

SEC. 2. That so much of said eighteenth section as relates to the persons from whom said paymasters shall be selected be, and is hereby, repealed.

Approved, March 2, 1875.

March 2, 1875.

CHAP. 119.—An act further supplemental to the various acts prescribing the mode of obtaining evidence in cases of contested elections.

Opening depositions in contested election cases.

R. S., 127, p. 20, repealed.

R. S., 107, p. 18, construed.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That so much of section one hundred and twenty-seven of the Revised Statutes as requires the Clerk of the House of Representatives to open, upon the written request of either party, any deposition, in cases of contested election, after he shall have received the same, and prior to the meeting of Congress, be, and the same is hereby repealed.

SEC. 2. That section one hundred and seven of the Revised Statutes of the United States shall be construed as requiring all testimony in cases of contested election to be taken within ninety days from the day on which the answer of the returned member is served upon the contestant.

Approved, March 2, 1875.

March 2, 1875.

CHAP. 120.—An act to declare the true intent and meaning of the twentieth section of an act passed by the legislature of the Territory of Dakota, passed January fourteenth, eighteen hundred and seventy-five, entitled "An act making the conveyance of homesteads not valid unless the wife joins in the conveyance."

Act of Dakota, Jan. 14, 1875, construed.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the twentieth section of the act named in the title shall not be construed as an absolute repeal of chapter thirty-seven of the laws of Dakota, approved May twelfth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, but only as repealing so much of said chapter thirty-seven as is inconsistent with the first named act, and no other effect shall be given to said twentieth section.

Approved, March 2, 1875.

March 3, 1875.

CHAP. 126.—An act in relation to the Quartermaster's Department, fixing its status, reducing its numbers, and regulating appointments and promotions therein.

Quartermaster's Department, composition of.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Quartermaster's Department of the Army shall hereafter consist of the Quartermaster