

SEC. 14. *And be it further enacted,* That whenever, from any cause, it may be impossible for the district attorney to attend at court, it shall be his duty to see that a meet and proper person, learned in the law, residing as near the place where the court is held as possible, does attend to such business as may appertain to the duties of his office, and in all such cases the fees and charges to be paid shall be only such as the district attorney would have been authorized by law to charge had he personally attended and performed the service: *Provided, however,* That before any such substitution is sanctioned, or payment made, the necessity thereof shall be shown to the satisfaction of the Secretary of the Interior.

District Attorneys may appoint substitutes in certain cases.

How paid.

SEC. 15. *And be it further enacted,* That all provisions of law inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed.

Inconsistent laws repealed.

APPROVED, August 16, 1856.

CHAP. CXXXV.—*An Act providing for a necessary Increase and better Organization of the Medical and Hospital Department of the Army.*

Aug. 16, 1856.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That there be added to the medical department of the army four surgeons and eight assistant surgeons, to be appointed in accordance with existing laws.

Four additional surgeons and eight assistant surgeons to be appointed in the army.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, authorized to appoint, from the enlisted men of the army, or to cause to be enlisted, as many competent hospital stewards as the service may require, not to exceed one for each military post. The said hospital stewards to be mustered and paid on hospital muster rolls, as non-commissioned staff officers, with the rank, pay, and emoluments of a sergeant of ordnance, and to be permanently attached to the medical and hospital department, under such regulations as shall be prescribed by the Secretary of War.

Steward hospital men to be appointed by Secretary of War.

Their rank, pay, &c.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That soldiers acting as cooks and nurses in hospitals, be and are hereby allowed the extra pay authorized to soldiers on fatigue duty, by "An act to increase the pay of the rank and file of the army," approved August fourth, eighteen hundred and fifty-four.

Soldiers acting as cooks and nurses in hospitals to be allowed extra pay. 1854, ch. 247, § 6. Vol. x. p. 576.

APPROVED, August 16, 1856.

CHAP. CXXXVI.—*An Act for continuing the Improvement of the Des Moines Rapids, in the Mississippi River.*

Aug. 16, 1856.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That there be, and is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of two hundred thousand dollars, for continuing the improvement of the Des Moines Rapids, in the Mississippi River, to be expended under the superintendence of the Secretary of War.

Appropriation for continuing the improvement of the Des Moines Rapids.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES,

August 11th, 1856.

The President of the United States having returned to the House of Representatives, in which it originated, the bill entitled "An act for continuing the improvement of the Des Moines Rapids, in the Mississippi River," with his objections thereto, the House of Representatives proceeded, in pursuance of the Constitution, to reconsider the same; and *Resolved,* That the said bill do pass, two thirds of the House of Representatives agreeing to pass the same.

Attest:

WM. CULLOM,  
Clerk of House Representatives.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,

August 16th, 1856.

The Senate having proceeded, in pursuance of the Constitution, to reconsider the bill entitled "An act for continuing the improvement of the Des Moines Rapids, in the Mississippi River," returned to the House of Representatives by the President of the United States, with his objections, and sent by the House of Representatives to the Senate, with the message of the President returning the bill :

Resolved, That the bill do pass, two thirds of the Senate agreeing to pass the same.

Attest :

ASBURY DICKINS, *Secretary.*

Aug. 18, 1856. CHAP. CXXVII.—An Act to regulate the Diplomatic and Consular Systems of the United States.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That ambassadors, envoys extraordinary and ministers plenipotentiary, ministers resident, commissioners, chargés d'affaires, and secretaries of legation, appointed to the countries hereinafter named in Schedule A, shall be entitled to compensation for their services, respectively, at the rates per annum hereinafter specified; that is to say, ambassadors and envoys extraordinary and ministers plenipotentiary, the full amounts specified therefor in said Schedule A; ministers resident and commissioners, seventy-five per centum; chargés d'affaires, fifty per centum; and secretaries of legation, fifteen per centum, of the said amounts, respectively: *Provided*, That the compensation of the secretary of the legation to China, acting as interpreter, shall be at the rate of five thousand dollars, and if not acting as such, at the rate of three thousand dollars, and that of the secretary of legation to Turkey, acting as dragoman, at the rate of three thousand dollars, and if not acting as such, at the rate of two thousand dollars, per annum.

Pay of diplomatic and consular officers.

Pay of secretaries to legations to China and Turkey.

SCHEDULE A.

Great Britain and France, each seventeen thousand five hundred dollars.

Russia, Spain, Austria, Prussia, Brazil, Mexico, and China, each twelve thousand dollars.

All other countries, each ten thousand dollars.

Sub officers of the legations at London and Paris and to China and Turkey.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the President be, and is hereby authorized to appoint for the legations at London and Paris, respectively, an assistant secretary of legation, who shall be entitled to compensation for their services, respectively, at the rate of fifteen hundred dollars per annum; for the legation to China, an interpreter, when the secretary of legation shall not be acting as such, who shall be entitled to compensation at the rate of five thousand dollars; and for the legation to Turkey, a dragoman, when the secretary of legation shall not be acting as such, who shall be entitled to compensation at the rate of one thousand dollars per annum.

Pay of consuls, consuls general, and commercial agents.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That consuls general, consuls, and commercial agents, appointed to the ports and places hereinafter specified in Schedules B and C, shall be entitled to compensation for their services, respectively, at the rates per annum hereinafter specified in said Schedules B and C; and if the President shall think proper to appoint a consul to any port or place named in the said Schedules B and C for a commercial agent, instead of such commercial agent, or *vice versa*, and an appointment shall be made accordingly, the compensation for such consular officer shall be the same in any such case as that fixed for such port or place in the schedule embracing the same; and if he shall