Bridge trains, &c. For bridge trains and equipage for armies in the field, five hundred thousand dollars.

Defence of Washington. For completing fortifications and erecting new ones for the defence of Washington, two hundred thousand dollars.

APPROVED, February 20, 1863.

Feb. 20, 1863. CHAP. XLIV. - An Act to provide for the Appointment of an Assistant Register in the Treasury Department and a Solicitor for the War Department, and for other Purposes.

President may appoint Assistant Register of the Treasury. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President be, and he is hereby authorized, to appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, for the term of one year, an officer in the office of the Register of the Treasury, to be called the assistant register, at an annual salary of two thousand dollars.

Duty. SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That the duties of said assistant shall be such as may be devolved on him by the Register of the Treasury, and, in the absence of the Register, said assistant shall act in his place and stead; and any official record, certificate, or other document, excepting warrants, bonds, and drafts, if signed by the assistant register, shall have the same legal force and validity as if signed by the Register of the Treasury.

Solicitor of War Department. SEC. 3. And be it further enacted, That the President be, and he is hereby authorized, to appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, an officer in the War Department, to be called the Solicitor of the War Department, at an annual salary of twenty-five hundred dollars.

Appropriation. SEC. 4. And be it further enacted, That the amount necessary to pay the salaries of the officers authorized to be appointed by this act, for the current and next fiscal years, be paid out of any moneys in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

APPROVED, February 20, 1863.

Feb. 20, 1863. CHAP. XLV. - An Act temporarily to supply Vacancies in the Executive Departments in Certain Cases.

Vacancies in Executive Departments, how filled. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in case of the death, resignation, absence from the seat of Government, or sickness, of the head of any Executive Department of the Government, or of any officer of either of the said Departments whose appointment is not in the head thereof, whereby they cannot perform the duties of their respective offices, it shall be lawful for the President of the United States, in case he shall think it necessary, to authorize the head of any other Executive Department, or other officer in either of said Departments, whose appointment is vested in the President, at his discretion, to perform the duties of the said respective offices until a successor be appointed, or until such absence or inability by sickness shall cease: Provided, That no one vacancy shall be supplied in manner aforesaid for a longer term than six months.

Repealing clause. SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That all acts or parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

APPROVED, February 20, 1863.


Pardons and remission of penalties in criminal cases. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That (to remove doubts as to the true meaning of former laws) hereafter, whenever by the judgment of any court or judicial officer of the United States, in any criminal
proceeding, any person shall be sentenced, or shall have been sentenced heretofore, to two kinds of punishment, the one pecuniary and the other corporal, the President shall have full discretionary power to pardon or remit, in whole or in part, either one of the two kinds, without in any manner impairing the legal validity of the other kind, or of any portion of either kind, not pardoned or remitted.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That in all criminal cases in which there has been or shall be a judgment or sentence against any person, as a fine or penalty, whether alone or along with any other kind of punishment, the same shall be deemed a judgment debt, and (unless pardoned or remitted by the President) may be collected on execution in the common form of law.

Approved, February 20, 1863.

CHAP. XLVII. — An Act to change the Times of holding the Circuit and District Courts of the United States for the District of Indiana.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, instead of the times now fixed by law, the circuit and district courts of the United States for the district of Indiana shall be held on the first Tuesdays of May and November. And all recognizances, indictments, or other proceedings, civil and criminal, now pending in either of said courts, shall be entered and have day in court, and be heard and tried, according to the times of holding such courts as herein provided.

Approved, February 20, 1863.

CHAP. XLIX. — An Act to change the Times of holding the Circuit and District Courts of the United States in the several Districts in the Seventh Circuit.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, instead of the times now fixed by law, the circuit and district courts of the United States for the several districts in the States composing the seventh judicial circuit shall in Ohio.

Ohio. — At Cleveland, for the northern district of Ohio, on the first Tuesdays in the months of January, May, and September in each year.

At Cincinnati, for the southern district of Ohio, on the first Tuesdays in the months of February, April, and October in each year.

Michigan. — At Detroit, for the district of Michigan, on the first Tuesdays in June, November, and March in each year.

And all recognizances, indictments, or other proceedings, civil and criminal, now pending in either of said courts, shall be entered and have day in court, and be heard and tried, according to the times of holding such courts as herein provided.

Approved, February 21, 1863.

CHAP. L. — An Act to allow the United States to prosecute Appeals and Writs of Error without giving Security.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That whenever any writ of error, appeal, or other process in law, admiralty, or equity shall issue from or be brought up to the Supreme Court of the United States, either by the United States or by direction of any Department of the Government thereof, no bond, obligation, or security shall be required from the United States, or from any party acting under the direction aforesaid, by any judge or clerk of court, either to prosecute said suit or to answer in damages or costs. In case of an adverse decision, such costs as by law are taxable against the United States shall be paid out of the contingent costs, how paid.