agent, or member, or person, so interested, who shall so act, shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished by a fine of not more than two thousand dollars nor less than five hundred dollars, and by imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years.

SEC. 9. And be it further enacted, That all acts and parts of acts inconsistent with or repugnant to any of the provisions of this act are hereby repealed, saving, however, and excepting any and all suits or prosecutions now commenced pending, and all rights of suit or prosecution under any prior act of Congress, on account of the doing or committing of any act hereby prohibited; and all rights and claims which the United States, or any person or persons, now have, growing out of such prior act; all which pending suits and prosecutions shall proceed and be determined, and all which rights and claims shall remain and be as valid and effectual as if this present act had not been passed; nor shall this act be so construed as in any way to impair or affect the obligation, duty, or liability of any person who now is or shall hereafter become the surety of any person contracting with the United States, or any officer or agent thereof; but every such surety shall be liable and answerable for the default of his principal in the same manner as if this act had not been passed, save to the extent to which his principal has performed the contract, or, if damages have been so recovered, to the extent of one half of the damages so recovered and paid; which last amount may be shown in reduction of damages in any suit brought against the principal and surety, or principals and sureties, on their contract.

APPROVED, March 2, 1863.

CHAP. LXVIII. — An Act to authorize an Increase in the Number of Major-Generals and Brigadier Generals for Forces in the Service of the United States.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in addition to the four major-generals and nine brigadier-generals for the regular army, and the forty major-generals and two hundred brigadier-generals for the volunteer service, authorized by the existing laws, there may be appointed thirty major-generals and seventy-five brigadier-generals for forces in the service of the United States other than the regular army: Provided, That the officers to be appointed under this act shall be selected from those who have been conspicuous for gallant or meritorious conduct in the line of duty.

APPROVED, March 2, 1863.

CHAP. LXIX. — An Act to fix the Terms of the Circuit and District Courts in the Districts of Wisconsin and Iowa.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, instead of the times here-tofore fixed by law, the Circuit Court of the United States for the district of Wisconsin (after the January term, eighteen hundred and sixty-three) shall be held as follows: At Milwaukee on the third Monday in April and first Monday in July, and at Madison on the second Monday in November, and all writs, suits, pleas, recognizances, indictments, or other proceedings, civil or criminal, issued, commenced, or pending in said court, shall be returnable to, be entered, and have day in court, and be heard and tried according to the provisions of this act.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That, instead of the times here-tofore provided by law, the terms of the circuit and district courts for the district of Iowa, to be held at Des Moines, shall be held on the second Tuesday of May and third Tuesday in October in each year, and the fall term