Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Henry D. Cooke, John B. Hutchinson, H. C. Fahnestock, Thomas Clyde, and William B. Hatcher, and their associates and successors, or a majority of them, are hereby created and constituted a body politic and corporate by the name and style of the Potomac Ferry Company.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That the capital stock of said company shall not be less than one hundred thousand dollars, nor more than five hundred thousand dollars, to be divided into shares of one hundred dollars each.

SEC. 3. And be it further enacted, That said company is authorized and empowered to establish and run a line or lines of vessels, propelled by steam or other power, between the cities of Alexandria and Washington, and other ports in the State of Virginia, on the Potomac River, Chesapeake Bay, or the tributaries of the same.

SEC. 4. And be it further enacted, That said company is also authorized to purchase, hold, and grant such real estate as may be necessary to carry into effect the purposes of this act, and to build all necessary docks, wharves, and buildings thereon for their own use; may transport passengers and freight of every description, subject to the rules and regulations and laws of the United States; may sue and be sued; may have a common seal, and generally may have and possess the rights and privileges usually possessed by similar corporations.

SEC. 5. And be it further enacted, That the affairs of said company shall be managed by such officers as the stockholders in general meeting shall elect, and such agents as may be appointed by the board of directors. The persons named in the first section of this act, or a majority of them, may call a meeting of the stockholders for the purpose of organizing said company, at such time and place as they may determine upon, after advertising the time and place of such meeting for ten days, in one or more newspapers published in the city of Washington. The officers of said company once elected shall hold their offices until their successors are chosen.

SEC. 6. And be it further enacted, That the said board of directors may make all necessary rules and by-laws for the transfer of the stock and the general management of the business of said company; and each stockholder in said company shall be individually liable for all claims against the same at the time such claims accrue.

SEC. 7. And be it further enacted, That this act shall be enforced from the passage thereof.

SEC. 8. And be it further enacted, That congress may at any time hereafter alter, amend, or repeal this act.

APPROVED, July 1, 1864.
pay the county's proportion of the direct tax imposed on the District of Columbia by the act of congress approved August five, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, and the expense and cost of collecting the same, and that the aggregate of said direct tax imposed by the act aforesaid shall be distributed and apportioned between the cities of Washington and Georgetown, and that part of said county of Washington lying outside the limits of said cities, according to the assessed valuation of property made in the jurisdiction of each by the assessment last prior to the date of the passage of said act of August five, eighteen hundred and sixty-one.

APPROVED, July 1, 1864.

July 1, 1864.

CHAP. CXCIII. — An Act to authorize the Corporation of Washington to levy and collect the Direct Tax imposed by Act approved August five, eighteen hundred and sixty-one.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the corporation of the city of Washington be, and they are hereby, authorized to assess and collect a tax not exceeding the rate of fifteen cents on every one hundred dollars of the value of all real and personal property in said city, and on any and all other subjects of taxation as made and returned by the board of assessors of said city, to enable the said corporation to pay to the government of the United States the tax imposed by act approved August five, eighteen hundred and sixty-one: Provided, That any surplus that may accrue from the imposition of the tax as herein provided shall be deposited and applied to the use of the general fund of the said city of Washington.

APPROVED, July 1, 1864.

July 1, 1864.

CHAP. CXCIV. — An Act to expedite the Settlement of Titles to Lands in the State of California.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That whenever the surveyor-general of California shall, in compliance with the thirteenth section of an act entitled "An act to ascertain and settle the private land claims in the State of California," approved March third, eighteen hundred and fifty-one, have caused any private land claim to be surveyed and a plat to be made thereof, he shall give notice that the same has been done by a publication, once a week for four consecutive weeks, in two newspapers, one published in the city of San Francisco, and one published near the land surveyed; and shall retain in his office, for public inspection, the survey and plat until ninety days from the date of the first publication in San Francisco shall have expired; and if no objections are made to said survey, he shall approve the same, and transmit a copy of the survey and plat thereof to the commissioner of the general land-office at Washington, for his examination and approval; but if objections are made to said survey, he shall approve the same, and transmit a copy of the survey and plat thereof to the commissioner of the general land-office at Washington, for his examination and approval; but if objections are made to said survey within the said ninety days, by any party claiming to have an interest in the tract embraced by the survey, or in any part thereof, such objections shall be reduced to writing, stating distinctly the interest of the objector, and signed by him or his attorney, and filed with the surveyor-general, together with such affidavits or other proofs as he may produce in support of the objections. At the expiration of said ninety days the surveyor-general shall transmit to the commissioner of the general land-office at Washington a copy of the survey and plat, and objections, and proofs filed with him in support of the objections, and also of any proofs produced by the claimant and filed with him in support of the survey, together with his opinion thereon; and if the survey and plat are approved by the said commissioner he shall indorse thereon a certificate of his approval. If disapproved by him, or if, in his opinion, the ends of justice would be subserved thereby, he may require a further report from the