THIRTY-EIGHTH CONGRESS. Sess. I. Ch. 21, 22. 1864.

Limitation of investments. That the whole amount of stock held by the institution at one time in any one bank, both by way of investment and as a surety for loans, shall not exceed one half of its capital stock of such bank, and that not more than three quarters of the whole sum deposited in the institution shall be at any one time invested in mortgages of real estate. The income or interest of all deposits shall be divided among the depositors, or their legal representatives, according to the terms of interest stipulated; and the principal may be withdrawn at such times, or in such manner, as the corporation shall in its by-laws direct.

SEC. 5. And be it further enacted, That no officer, director, or committee charged with the duty of investing the deposits, shall borrow any portion thereof, or use the same, except in payment of the expenses of the corporation; and if any officer, director, agent, or other person connected with said bank, and interested with the funds or deposits thereof, shall embezzle or fraudulently convert the same to his own use, he shall be deemed guilty of larceny, and shall, on conviction thereof, by any court competent to try the offence, be imprisoned in the penitentiary not less than one, nor more than ten, years.

SEC. 6. And be it further enacted, That the subordinate officers and agents of said corporation shall respectively give such security for their fidelity and good conduct as the board of managers may from time to time require, and said board shall fix the salaries of such officers and agents.

SEC. 7. And be it further enacted, That the persons named as corporators in the first section of this act shall be authorized to meet and organize said bank by the election of one of their number as president, and one as vice-president, and thereupon shall proceed to elect such persons as they shall select, not herein named as corporators, to be added to their board of managers, so that the whole number of trustees, or managers, including the president and vice-president, shall not exceed nine persons.

SEC. 8. And be it further enacted, That this corporation shall make an annual report to congress of their funds and investments. Said returns shall specify the following particulars, namely: The number of depositors; total amount of deposits; amount invested in bank stock and deposited in bank on interest; amount secured by bank stock; amount invested in public funds; loans on security of public funds; loans on mortgage of real estate; loans on personal securities; amount of cash on hand; total dividends of the year; annual expenses of the institution; all of which shall be certified and sworn to by the treasurer; and five or more of the managers shall also certify and make oath that the said return is correct according to their best knowledge and belief.

SEC. 9. And be it further enacted, That the books of said corporation shall, at all times during their hours of business, be open for inspection and examination to the comptroller of the currency or depositors.

SEC. 10. And be it further enacted, That said corporation may make by-laws for the more orderly management of their business, not repugnant to law; may have a common seal, which they may change at pleasure; that all deeds, grants, covenants, and agreements, made by their treasurer, or any other person by their authority, shall be good and valid; and said corporation shall have power to sue and may be sued, defend, and be held to answer by the name aforesaid.

SEC. 11. And be it further enacted, This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

APPROVED, March 8, 1864.

March 8, 1864. CHAP. XXII. — An Act to enable Guardians and Committees of Lunatics, appointed in the several States, to act within the District of Columbia.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That it shall be lawful for any
person, appointed the committee of a lunatic, or the guardian of a minor or lunatic, by the proper authority in any state or territory of the United States, to institute and prosecute to final judgment any suit or action in the courts of the District of Columbia, as he might have done if his authority as such guardian or committee had been derived from the proper tribunals of said district; and such committee or guardian may in the same manner collect and receive any sum of money due to such lunatic or minor, and may by deed, duly executed, release and convey to any party entitled to the same, whether by purchase or otherwise, any lands or estates situated in the District of Columbia, the property of such lunatic or minor, or to or upon which such lunatic or minor may have a claim or mortgage, in the same manner as he might have done if his authority had been derived from the tribunals of said district: Provided, That such committee or guardian, before making any conveyance of real estate or release of claim, or mortgage thereon, shall file in the orphans' court of said district the official certificate of the judge of the court from which such committee or guardian derived his appointment, that he has given a sufficient bond to account to the minor or lunatic for all sums of money received by virtue of the authority conferred by this act.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That all payments heretofore made within the District of Columbia to the committee or guardian of a lunatic or the guardian of a minor duly appointed at the domicil of the lunatic or minor out of the District of Columbia, in the United States, shall be good and sufficient: Provided, That said guardian or committee shall file in the orphans' court in said district, the official certificate of the judge of the court from which such committee or guardian derived his appointment, that he has given sufficient bond to account to the minor or lunatic for all payments so made: And provided further, That in all cases the evidence of the appointment and authority of such committee or guardian shall be first recorded in the office of the orphans' court of said district.

APPROVED, March 8, 1864.