CHAP. X. — An Act to fix the Times for the regular Meetings of Congress.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in addition to the present regular times of meeting of Congress, there shall be a meeting of the Fortieth Congress of the United States, and of each succeeding Congress thereafter, at twelve o'clock meridian, on the fourth day of March, the day on which the term begins for which the Congress is elected, except that when the fourth of March occurs on Sunday, then the meeting shall take place at the same hour on the next succeeding day.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That no person who was a member of the previous Congress shall receive any compensation as mileage for going to or returning from the additional session provided for by the foregoing section.

APPROVED, January 22, 1867.

CHAP. XI. — An Act in Regard to the Compensation of Route Agents in the Post-Office Department.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Postmaster-General be authorized to pay route agents in the service of the Post-Office Department any sum not less than nine hundred dollars nor more than twelve hundred dollars per annum.

APPROVED, January 22, 1867.

CHAP. XII. — An Act to incorporate the National Safe Deposit Company of Washington, in the District of Columbia.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That A. R. Shepherd, William S. Huntington, S. P. Brown, G. W. Riggs, Nathaniel Wilson, G. H. Plant, together with the subscribers to the stock of the association hereby created, and their successors and assigns, shall be and they are hereby, declared to be a body politic and corporate, by the name and style of the National Safe Deposit Company of Washington, and by that name shall have succession and be capable in law to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, answer and be answered, defend and be defended in all courts of law and equity and elsewhere, to make and to use a common seal, and the same to alter or renew at pleasure, and generally to do and perform all things relative to the object of this institution, which is now or shall be lawful for any individual or body politic or corporate to do.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That the capital stock of said company shall consist of a sum not exceeding two hundred thousand dollars, divided into two thousand shares, of one hundred dollars each, and that so soon as one fourth of the shares have been subscribed for, and twenty-five dollars per share paid at the time of subscribing, and the balance secured to be paid, then this company shall be competent to transact all kinds of business for which it is established.

SEC. 3. And be it further enacted, That the corporators heretofore named, or any three of them, shall open books of subscription for the capital stock of this company hereby incorporated, at such time and in such suitable place in the city of Washington as they may think proper, and shall receive the instalments on the stock of said company provided for in section second, and shall deliver the money so paid to the board of directors so soon as they shall be appointed and prepared to receive the same.

SEC. 4. And be it further enacted, That the stockholders composing
this company, or their representatives by proxy, shall, on such day as they or a majority of them shall determine, choose by ballot from among said stockholders seven directors to serve for one year, or until others are chosen, each stockholder to have one vote for every five shares of stock, and the directors so chosen shall, at their first meeting, choose by ballot a president and vice-president from among their own body; and in case of death, resignation, or disqualification of the president or vice-president, or a director or directors, shall proceed to elect another or others to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the year.

SEC. 5. And be it further enacted, That the president, vice-president, and directors of said company shall be, and they are hereby, authorized and empowered to receive and keep on special deposit all such valuables, gold, silver, or paper money, bullion, precious metals, jewels, plate, certificates of stock, or evidence of indebtedness, deeds, or muniments of title, or other valuable papers of any kind, or any other article or thing whatsoever, which may be left or deposited for safe-keeping with said company, and shall be entitled to charge such commissions or compensation therefor as may be agreed upon, and for the complete preservation and safe-keeping thereof shall construct, erect, lease, or purchase, such fire-proof and burglar-proof building or buildings, vaults, iron, or composition safes or other means which may become necessary, and generally to transact and perform all the business relating to the safe-keeping or preservation of all such articles or valuables as may be deposited with said company, and also to invest the capital or other funds belonging to the said company, from time to time, in the public funds of the United States, or in any stock or property whatsoever, and to dispose of the said stocks, money, and property in such manner (not contrary to law), as to them shall appear most advantageous to said company.

SEC. 6. And be it further enacted, That the President, Vice-President, and Directors, shall declare dividends of the profits of the corporation, annually or semi-annually, as they may deem best; and in case of any loss or losses, whereby the capital shall be diminished, no subsequent dividend shall be made until a sum equal to such diminution, arising from the profits of the corporation or contributions of stockholders shall be added to the capital.

SEC. 7. And be it further enacted, That the President, Vice-President, and Directors of the corporation hereby created, shall have power to enact and adopt such rules, regulations, and by-laws for the government and management of the affairs of said corporation, as they may deem advantageous to the interest thereof.

SEC. 8. And be it further enacted, That nothing herein contained, shall be taken or construed to give the corporation hereby created, the power to issue or circulate as currency, any bill, note, token, or evidence of indebtedness of its own creation; nor be deemed to authorize the said corporation to pay interest on deposits of money, securities, or any other property deposited with it; and the operations of this corporation shall be confined to the District of Columbia.

APPROVED, January 22, 1867.

CHAP. XV. — An Act to regulate the elective Franchise in the Territories of the United States.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That from and after the passage of this act, there shall be no denial of the elective franchise in any of the Territories of the United States, now, or hereafter to be organized, to any citizen thereof, on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude; and all acts or parts of acts, either of Congress or the Legislative