SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That during any recess of the Senate the President is hereby empowered, in his discretion, to suspend any civil officer appointed by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, except judges of the United States courts, until the end of the next session of the Senate, and to designate some suitable person, subject to be removed in his discretion by the designation of another, to perform the duties of such suspended officer in the mean time; and such person so designated shall take the oaths and give the bonds required by law to be taken and given by the suspended officer, and shall, during the time he performs his duties, be entitled to the salary and emoluments of such office, no part of which shall belong to the officer suspended; and it shall be the duty of the President within thirty days after the commencement of each session of the Senate, except for any office which in his opinion ought not to be filled, to nominate persons to fill all vacancies in office which existed at the meeting of the Senate, whether temporarily filled or not, and also in the place of all officers suspended; and if the Senate during such session shall refuse to advise and consent to an appointment in the place of any suspended officer, then, and not otherwise, the President shall nominate another person as soon as practicable to said session of the Senate for said office.

SEC. 3. And be it further enacted, That section three of the act to which this is an amendment be amended by inserting after the word “resignation,” in line three of said section, the following: “or expiration of term of office.”

APPROVED, April 5, 1869.

CHAP. XI. — An Act to amend an Act entitled “An Act to provide a National Currency secured by a Pledge of United States Bonds, and to provide for the Circulation and Redemption thereof,” approved June third, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, by extending certain Penalties to Accessories.

APPROVED, April 6, 1869.

CHAP. XII. — An Act to carry into Effect the Convention of July four, eighteen hundred and sixty-eight, between the United States and Mexico, for the Adjustment of Claims.

APPROVED, April 7, 1869.
SEC. 3. And be it further enacted, That the President be, and hereby is, authorized to appoint a suitable person as agent on behalf of the United States to attend the commissioners, to present and support claims on behalf of this government, to answer claims made upon it, and to represent it generally in all matters connected with the investigation and decision thereof; the compensation of such agent, not to exceed four thousand dollars, shall be determined and allowed by the President; and the President is hereby authorized to make [such] provision for the contingent expenses of the commission and for the advances contemplated by the sixth article of the convention as to him shall appear reasonable and proper. The salaries, expenses, advances, and the compensation to be paid to the umpire, when determined, shall be paid out of any moneys in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

SEC. 4. And be it further enacted, That the commissioner on the part of the United States, in conjunction with the commissioner on the part of Mexico, is hereby authorized to make all needful rules and regulations for conducting the business of the commission; such rules and regulations not contravening the Constitution of the United States, the provisions of this act, or the convention.

SEC. 5. And be it further enacted, That the Secretary of State is hereby authorized and required to transmit to the commissioner on the part of Mexico such papers and records relating to the commission as he may deem proper, or as may be called for by the commissioners; and at the termination of the commission all the records, documents, and other papers which have been brought before the commissioners, or which may be in possession of their secretaries, shall be deposited in the Department of State: Provided, That this section shall not be so construed as to prevent the commissioner on the part of Mexico from depositing in the department certified copies or duplicates of papers produced on behalf of his government instead of originals.

SEC. 6. And be it further enacted, That upon suggestion by either party that a witness whose testimony is deemed important refuses or is unwilling to testify, it shall be competent for the board of commissioners to issue a commission to some suitable person to take the testimony of such witness, who, if in the United States, may be compelled to appear and testify before such commissioners in the same manner as is now provided by law in the case of commissions issued from the courts of the United States.

APPROVED, April 7, 1869.