allotted to the circuit, or by the circuit judge of the circuit, or by the
district judge of the district sitting alone, or by the justice of the Supreme
Court and circuit judge sitting together, in which case the justice of the
Supreme Court shall preside, or in the absence of either of them by the
other, (who shall preside,) and the district judge. And such courts may
be held at the same time in the different districts of the same circuits,
cases may be heard and tried by each of the judges holding any
such court sitting apart by direction of the presiding justice or judge,
who shall designate the business to be done by each. The circuit judges
shall each receive an annual salary of five thousand dollars.

SEC. 3. And be it further enacted, That nothing in this act shall affect
the powers of the justices of the Supreme Court as judges of the circuit
court, except in the appointment of clerks of the circuit courts, who in
each circuit shall be appointed by the circuit judge of that circuit, and
the clerks of the district courts shall be appointed by the judges thereof
respectively: Provided, That the present clerks of said courts shall con-
tinue in office till other appointments be made in their place, or they be
otherwise removed.

SEC. 4. And be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of the
Chief Justice and of each justice of the Supreme Court to attend at least
one term of the circuit court in each district of his circuit during every
period of two years.

SEC. 5. And be it further enacted, That any judge of any court of the
United States, who, having held his commission as such at least ten years,
shall, after having attained to the age of seventy years, resign his office;
shall thereafter, during the residue of his natural life, receive the same
salary which was by law payable to him at the time of his resignation.
SEC. 6. And be it further enacted, That this act shall take effect on the
first Monday of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-nine.

APPROVED, April 10, 1869.

CHAP. XXIII. — An Act regulating the Rights of Property of Married Women 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 in the District of Columbia
the right of any married woman to any property, personal or real, be-
longing to her at the time of marriage, or acquired during marriage in
any other way than by gift or conveyance from her husband, shall be as
absolute as if she were femme sole, and shall not be subject to the dis-
position of her husband, nor be liable for his debts; but such married
woman may convey, devise, and bequeath the same, or any interest thereof.
in the same manner and with like effect as if she were unmarried.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That any married woman may con-
tract, and sue and be sued in her own name, in all matters having rela-
tion to her sole and separate property in the same manner as if she were
unmarried; but neither her husband nor his property shall be bound by
any such contract nor liable for any recovery against her in any such
suit, but judgment may be enforced by execution against her sole and
separate estate in the same manner as if she were sole.

APPROVED, April 10, 1869.

CHAP. XXIV. — An Act to renew certain Grants of Land to the State of Alabama.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United
States of America in Congress assembled, That so much of the grant of
lands made to the State of Alabama by the act of Congress approved
June three, eighteen hundred and fifty-six, entitled “An act granting
public lands in alternate sections to the State of Alabama, to aid in the
construction of certain railroads in said State,” as were granted to assist

Circuit courts in each circuit, how and by
whom to be held.

Cases may be
tried by each
judge sitting
apart.

Salary of
judges.

Powers of
Justices of Su-
preme Court, not
affected, except,
&c.

Clerks of the
courts.

Justices of
Supreme Court
to attend what
terms of circuit
courts.

Certain judges of United States
courts, upon re-
signing, to re-
ceive salary for
life.

When act
takes effect.

Right of
married women
to property in
the District of
Columbia;

disposition
thereof.

Married wo-
man may con-
tract, sue and be
sued, &c.

Husband and
his property not
bound.

April 10, 1869.

1871, ch. 128.
Post, p. 680.

Grant of public
lands to Alaba-
ma for railroads
renewed, sub-
ject, &c.

1856, ch. 41.
Vol. xi. p. 17.