

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, and 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.

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

Cases may be tried by each judge sitting apart. Salary of judges.

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 continue in office till other appointments be made in their place, or they be otherwise removed.

Powers of Supreme Court, not affected, except, &c.

Clerks of the courts.

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.

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

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.

Certain judges of United States courts, upon resigning, to receive salary for life.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That this act shall take effect on the first Monday of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-nine.

When act takes effect.

APPROVED, April 10, 1869.

CHAP. XXIII. — *An Act regulating the Rights of Property of Married Women in the District of Columbia.* April 10, 1869.

*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, belonging 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 disposal of her husband, nor be liable for his debts; but such married woman may convey, devise, and bequeath the same, or any interest therein, in the same manner and with like effect as if she were unmarried.

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

disposition thereof.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That any married woman may contract, and sue and be sued in her own name, in all matters having relation 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.

Married woman may contract, sue and be sued, &c.

Husband and his property not bound.

APPROVED, April 10, 1869.

CHAP. XXIV. — *An Act to renew certain Grants of Land to the State of Alabama.* April 10, 1869.

*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

1871, ch. 123. Post, p. 580.

Grant of public lands to Alabama for railroads renewed, subject, &c.

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

If roads are not completed in three years, no further sale of lands therefor, and lands unsold to revert.

Lands how and to whom to be sold.

Materials for constructing roads may be taken from adjacent lands.

Right of way over public lands with grounds for stations, &c.

in the building of railroads "from near Gadsden to some point on the Alabama and Mississippi State line, in a direction to the Mobile and Ohio railroad, with a view to connect with the said Mobile and Ohio railroad," and "from Gadsden to connect with the Georgia and Tennessee and Tennessee line of railroads through Chattooga, Wills, and Lookout valleys," is hereby revived and renewed, subject to all the conditions and restrictions contained in the act referred to, and subject to the further limitation that if either of the said railroads is not completed within three years from the passage of this act no further sale shall be made for the benefit of such railroad, and the lands unsold shall revert to the United States: *Provided*, That the lands granted by the act hereby revived, except mineral lands, shall be sold to actual settlers only in quantities not greater than one-quarter section to any one purchaser, and for a price not exceeding two dollars and fifty cents per acre.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the right, power, and authority is hereby given to the companies building the aforesaid railroads to take from the public lands adjacent to the lines of said railroads earth, stone, and other materials for the construction thereof; and the right of way is hereby granted to the extent of one hundred feet in width on each side of said railroads where they may pass over the public lands, including all necessary grounds for stations and structures connected therewith; not exceeding forty acres at any one station.

APPROVED, April 10, 1869.

April 10, 1869.

CHAP. XXV. — *An Act concerning the Attorney-General.*

Attorney-General may employ counsel to aid district attorneys, and shall stipulate with them the amount of compensation; to report at each session of Congress names, &c.

1861, ch. 37, § 2.

Vol. xii. p. 285.

1869, ch. 121.

Vol. xv. p. 294.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That so much of the "Act making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the government for the year ending the thirtieth of June, eighteen hundred and seventy," as repeals the second section of the act of August second, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, entitled "An act concerning the Attorney-General and the attorneys and marshals of the several districts," be, and the same is hereby, repealed; and said second section is hereby declared to be in full force; and it shall be the duty of the Attorney-General to report at the commencement of the next session of Congress, and to each succeeding session, the names of all the persons employed for the purposes aforesaid, and where and upon what business employed, with the compensation paid to each.

APPROVED, April 10, 1869.

April 10, 1869.

CHAP. XXVI. — *An Act to extend the Time for the Little Rock and Fort Smith Railroad Company to complete the first Section of twenty Miles of said Road.*

Time for Little Rock and Fort Smith R. R. Co. building first section of road extended.

1853, ch. 59.

Vol. x. p. 155.

1866, ch. 300.

Vol. xiv. p. 333.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That an act approved July twenty-eight, eighteen hundred and sixty-six, entitled "An act to revive and extend the provisions of 'An act granting the right of way and making a grant of land to the States of Arkansas and Missouri, to aid in the construction of a railroad from a point upon the Mississippi river, opposite the mouth of the Ohio river, via Little Rock, to the Texas boundary near Fulton in Arkansas, with branches to Fort Smith and the Mississippi river,' approved February nine, eighteen hundred and fifty-three, and for other purposes," be so amended as to extend the time to the Little Rock and Fort Smith Railroad Company, for building the first section of twenty miles provided for in the second section of said act, for the term of three years from the thirteenth day of May, eighteen hundred and sixty-seven, the time of filing the certificate of organization to said company provided for in the third section of said act: *Provided*, That the land granted by the act hereby revived shall be sold to actual

Proviso repealed,

1870, ch. 25.

Post, p. 76.