

SEC. 12. *And be it further enacted*, That Congress shall, at all times, possess the power to alter, amend, or repeal this act.

Act may be altered, &c.

APPROVED, May 24, 1870.

CHAP. CXI. — *An Act to incorporate the Trustees of the Corcoran Gallery of Art, and for other Purposes.* May 24, 1870.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That James M. Carlisle, James C. Hall, George W. Riggs, Anthony Hyde, James G. Berret, James C. Kennedy, Henry D. Cooke, and James C. McGuire, of the city of Washington, and of Georgetown, District of Columbia, and William T. Walters, of the city of Baltimore, State of Maryland, and their successors, be, and they are hereby, created and constituted a body politic and corporate in law, by the name and style of the Trustees of the Corcoran Gallery of Art, and by that name may sue and be sued, implead and be impleaded, have perpetual succession, and shall and may take, hold, manage, and dispose of, at all times, real and personal estate, and shall and may do and perform all other acts and things necessary or appropriate for the execution of the trusts created and conferred on them in and by a certain deed from William W. Corcoran, to them, the said parties hereinbefore named, which is dated the tenth day of May, eighteen hundred and sixty-nine, and was recorded on the eighteenth of the same month in liber D, number eight, folio two hundred and ninety-four, et sequitur, one of the land records of Washington county, District of Columbia, to which reference is hereby made for greater certainty; the intent of this charter of incorporation being that the same shall be in execution of the trusts in the said deed declared and set forth, and not to any other intent or purpose whatever.

Trustees of Corcoran Gallery of Art incorporated.

Powers of corporation.

Intent of charter.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Secretary of State be, and they are hereby, authorized and directed to ascertain and settle, upon principles of justice, a fair and just compensation for the use of the ground and buildings described in the before-mentioned deed, while the same were occupied by the United States for the public service; and that the sum so ascertained and settled by them, or a majority of them, shall, upon their certificate and award thereof, be paid to the corporation hereinbefore created, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Pay for the use of certain ground and buildings to be determined and the amount paid to the corporation.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That any tax which may be claimed or due to the United States, by reason of the transfer of the property above mentioned, or the execution and delivery of the said deed from the said William W. Corcoran to the above-named trustees, be, and the same is hereby, remitted and released.

Tax remitted.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That the aforesaid buildings and grounds connected therewith, together with all the works of art that may be contained therein, shall be free from all taxes and assessments by the municipal authorities, or by the United States, so long as the same shall be held and used for the purpose hereinbefore set forth.

Buildings, &c. exempt from taxes.

APPROVED, May 24, 1870.

CHAP. CXIII. — *An Act creating an additional Land District in the Territory of Colorado.* May 27, 1870.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That all that portion of the Territory of Colorado embraced in the following described limits, to wit: commencing at the eastern boundary of the Territory at the intersection of the second correction line south and running thence west on that line to the line dividing ranges numbered seventy-five and seventy-six west of the sixth principal meridian; thence south with the range line to the

See Post, p. 298.

Arkansas Valley land district established in Colorado. Boundaries.

Arkansas Valley land district in Colorado.

Location of office.

Register and receiver;

their residence, pay, &c.

third correction line south; thence west on said line to the western boundary of the Territory; thence south to the southern boundary of said Territory; thence east to the eastern boundary of said Territory; thence north to the place of beginning; shall constitute a separate land district, to be called the Arkansas Valley land district, the office of which shall be located at such place in said district as the President of the United States may direct, which may be changed by him from time to time as the public interest may require.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the President shall appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, or in the recess of the Senate, a register and receiver of public moneys for said district; and said officers shall reside in the place where said land office is located, and shall have the same powers and receive the same emoluments as the same officers now receive in the land districts in the State of Nevada.

APPROVED, May 27, 1870.

May 31, 1870.

CHAP. CXIV. — *An Act to enforce the Right of Citizens of the United States to vote in the several States of this Union, and for other Purposes.*

Race, color, or previous condition of servitude not to affect the right to vote at any election;

nor the performance of any prerequisite to the right of voting.

Penalty for refusing or knowingly omitting to give full effect to this section.

The offer to perform any act prerequisite to voting, if it fail, &c. by, &c. to be deemed a performance in law of such act, and to entitle to vote.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That all citizens of the United States who are or shall be otherwise qualified by law to vote at any election by the people in any State, Territory, district, county, city, parish, township, school district, municipality, or other territorial subdivision, shall be entitled and allowed to vote at all such elections, without distinction of race, color, or previous condition of servitude; any constitution, law, custom, usage, or regulation of any State or Territory, or by or under its authority, to the contrary notwithstanding.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That if by or under the authority of the constitution or laws of any State, or the laws of any Territory, any act is or shall be required to be done as a prerequisite or qualification for voting, and by such constitution or laws persons or officers are or shall be charged with the performance of duties in furnishing to citizens an opportunity to perform such prerequisite, or to become qualified to vote, it shall be the duty of every such person and officer to give to all citizens of the United States the same and equal opportunity to perform such prerequisite, and to become qualified to vote without distinction of race, color, or previous condition of servitude; and if any such person or officer shall refuse or knowingly omit to give full effect to this section, he shall, for every such offence, forfeit and pay the sum of five hundred dollars to the person aggrieved thereby, to be recovered by an action on the case, with full costs, and such allowance for counsel fees as the court shall deem just, and shall also, for every such offence, be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall, on conviction thereof, be fined not less than five hundred dollars, or be imprisoned not less than one month and not more than one year, or both, at the discretion of the court.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That whenever, by or under the authority of the constitution or laws of any State, or the laws of any Territory, any act is or shall be required to [be] done by any citizen as a prerequisite to qualify or entitle him to vote, the offer of any such citizen to perform the act required to be done as aforesaid shall, if it fail to be carried into execution by reason of the wrongful act or omission aforesaid of the person or officer charged with the duty of receiving or permitting such performance or offer to perform, or acting thereon, be deemed and held as a performance in law of such act; and the person so offering and failing as aforesaid, and being otherwise qualified, shall be entitled to vote in the same manner and to the same extent as