the transmission by mail of packages of seeds, cuttings, bulbs, roots, and
scions of any weight, for each of such packages, not exceeding four
pounds, at a rate of postage of one cent for each two ounces or fractions
of an ounce of such package or packages: Provided, That all mail matter
of the third class must be prepaid in full in postage stamps at the office of
mailing.

APPROVED, January 9, 1873.

CHAP. XXII. — An Act authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to issue an American
Register to the English-built, wrecked Schooner, N. J. Miller.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United
States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treas-
ury be, and he is hereby, authorized to issue an American register or en-
rolment to the English-built schooner N. J. Miller, which schooner was
wrecked, towed into an American port, sold to and now owned by an
American citizen.

APPROVED, January 9, 1873.

CHAP. XXIII. — An Act making Appropriations for the Payment of invalid and other
Pensions of the United States, for the Year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and
seventy-four.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United
States of America, in Congress assembled,

That the following sums be, and the same are hereby, appropriated, out of any money in the treasury not
otherwise appropriated, for the payment of pensions for the fiscal year
ending the thirtieth of June, eighteen hundred and seventy-four:

For army pensions to invalids, widows, and dependent relatives, rev-
olutionary pensions, and pensions to soldiers of the war of eighteen
hundred and twelve, and for furnishing artificial limbs or apparatus for
resection, with transportation, or commutation thereof; also, for compen-
sation to pension-agents, and the expenses of the several agencies, and for
fees for preparing vouchers and administering oaths, as provided for by the
acts of April twenty-fourth, eighteen hundred and sixteen; July fourth,
eighteen hundred and thirty-six; May thirteenth, eighteen hundred and
forty-six; February twentieth, eighteen hundred and forty-seven; February
second, eighteen hundred and forty-eight; May twentieth, eighteen hun-
dred and forty-eight; July twenty-fifth, eighteen hundred and forty-nine;
May twelfth, eighteen hundred and fifty; June third, eighteen hundred and
fifty-one; July fourteenth and seventeenth, eighteen hundred and sixty;
June thirteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two; July twenty-first, eighteen
hundred and sixty-three; August twelfth, eighteen hundred and sixty-four;
September eleventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-five; October twelfth, eight-
hundred and sixty-six; November eleventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-seven;
December seventeenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-eight; and all other pensions provided by law, thirty
million dollars.

For navy pensions to invalids, widows, and dependent relatives, and
pensions to sailors of the war of eighteen hundred and twelve, and for fur-
nishing artificial limbs or apparatus for resection, with transportation or
commutation thereof, compensation to pension-agents, expenses of agen-
cies, and fees for preparing vouchers and administering oaths, as provided
by the acts of April twenty-third, eighteen hundred; February twentieth,
eighteen hundred and fifty; June third, eighteen hundred and sixty-
three; August fifth, eighteen hundred and sixty-five; August seventh, eighteen
hundred and sixty-seven; October tenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-eight;
October thirty-first, eighteen hundred and sixty-nine; November seventh, eighteen hundred and
seventy; and February twentieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-two.

For fees for preparing vouchers and administering oaths, as provided
by the acts of April twelfth, eighteen hundred and twenty; July tenth,
eighteen hundred and twenty-one; August fourth and eighteenth, eighteen
hundred and twenty-two; October fourth, eighteen hundred and twenty-
four; November third, eighteen hundred and twenty-five; December fifth,
eighteen hundred and twenty-six; January twelfth, eighteen hundred and
twenty-seven; March sixth, eighteen hundred and twenty-eight; May tenth,
eighteen hundred and twenty-nine; July first, eighteen hundred and
twenty-eight; September fifth, eighteen hundred and twenty-nine; November
thirteenth, eighteen hundred and thirty; January fourth, eighteen hundred
and thirty-one; March twelfth, eighteen hundred and thirty-two; May
fifth, eighteen hundred and thirty-three; July seventh, eighteen hundred and
thirty-four; September tenth, eighteen hundred and thirty-five; November
and December first, eighteen hundred and thirty-six; January third, eighteen
hundred and thirty-seven; March sixth, eighteen hundred and thirty-eight;
May fifth, eighteen hundred and thirty-nine; July seventh, eighteen
hundred and forty; September tenth, eighteen hundred and forty-one;
November twelfth, eighteen hundred and forty-two; and all other pensions
provided by law, thirty
million dollars.
CHAP. XXIV. — An Act supplemental to and amendatory of an Act entitled "An Act to prescribe the Mode of obtaining Evidence in Cases of contested Elections," approved February nineteen, eighteen hundred and fifty-one.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in all contested election cases the time allowed for taking testimony shall be ninety days, and the testimony shall be taken in the following order: The contestant shall take testimony during the first forty days; the returned member during the succeeding forty days; and the contestant may take testimony in rebuttal only during the remaining ten days of said period. Such testimony in rebuttal may be taken on five days' notice. Testimony may be taken at two or more places at the same time.

SEC. 2. Depositions of witnesses residing outside of the district and beyond the reach of a subpoena may be taken before any officer authorized by law to take testimony in contested election cases in the district in which the witness to be examined may reside.

SEC. 3. That the party desiring to take a deposition or depositions under the provisions of this act, or of the act to which this is an amendment, shall give the opposite party notice, in writing, of the time and place, when and where, the same will be taken, as well as of the name of the witness or witnesses to be examined, and of the name of an officer before whom the same will be taken. The notice shall be personally served upon the opposite party, or upon any agent or attorney of his authorized by him to take testimony or cross-examine witnesses in the matter of such contest, if, by the use of reasonable diligence, such personal service cannot be made, the service may be made by leaving a duplicate of the notice at the usual place of abode of the opposite party. The notice shall be served so as to allow the opposite party sufficient time by the usual route of travel to attend, and one day for preparation, exclusive of Sundays and the day of service. And the taking of the testimony may, if so stated in the notice, be adjourned from day to day. The notice, with the proof or acknowledgment of the service thereof, shall be attached to the depositions when completed. The party notified as aforesaid, his agent or attorney, may, if he see fit, select an officer (having authority to take depositions in such cases) to officiate, with the officer named in the notice, in the taking of the depositions; and if both such officers attend, the deposition shall be taken before them both, sitting together, and be certified by them both. But if only one of such officers attend, the depositions may be taken before and certified by him alone. It shall be competent for the parties, their agents, or attorneys authorized to act in the premises, by consent in writing, to take depositions without notice; and it shall also be competent for them, by such written consent, to take depositions in common law, or civil actions, or in chancery, by either the laws of the United States or of the State in which the same may be taken, and to waive proof of the official character of such officer or officers. Any written consent given as aforesaid shall be returned with the depositions; and every such officer so chosen by the parties, their agents or attorneys, and officiating, shall have all the powers in the premises that are conferred by the act to which this is an amendment upon the officers named therein. At the taking of any deposition under this act, or the act to which this is
an amendment, either party may appear and act in person, or by agent or attorney.

Sec. 4. All officers taking testimony to be used in a contested election case, whether by deposition or otherwise, shall, when the taking of the same is completed, and without unnecessary delay, certify the same, and carefully seal and immediately forward the same by mail addressed to the clerk of the House of Representatives of the United States, Washington, D. C.; and shall also endorse upon the envelope containing such deposition or testimony the name of the case in which it is taken, together with the name of the party in whose behalf it is taken, and shall subscribe such endorsement. Upon the written request of either party the clerk of the House of Representatives shall open any deposition at any time after he shall have received the same, and he may furnish either party with a copy thereof.

Approved, January 10, 1873.

CHAP. XXV. — An Act for the Extension of Time to the Winona and Saint Peter Railroad Company for the Completion of its Road.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the time for the completion of the railroad from Winona, in the State of Minnesota, via Saint Peter, to a point on the Big Sioux River, south of the forty-fifth parallel of north latitude, as limited in the act entitled “An act extending the time for the completion of certain land-grant railroads in the States of Iowa and Minnesota,” approved March third, eighteen hundred and sixty-five, be extended for six months from the expiration of the time limited in the said act; and if completed within said six months, the said railroad shall be entitled to the benefit of the several provisions of said act, in the same manner as if said road had been fully completed within the time therein mentioned.

Approved, January 10, 1873.

CHAP. XXXII. — An Act to release to the State of Indiana the Lands known as the Bed of Beaver Lake, in Newton County, in said State.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the lands in Newton county in the State of Indiana, known as the bed of Beaver Lake, the same having been drained and reclaimed at the expense of the State of Indiana and its assignees be, and the same are hereby, released and quitclaimed to the State of Indiana.

Approved, January 11, 1873.

CHAP. XXXIII. — An Act authorizing the East Chester National Bank of Mount Vernon to change its Location and Name.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the East Chester National Bank of Mount Vernon, now located in the village of Mount Vernon, county of Westchester, and State of New York, is hereby authorized to change its location to the city of Evansville, county of Vanderburgh, and State of Indiana. Whenever the stockholders, representing three-fourths of the capital of said bank, at a meeting called for that purpose, determine to make such change, the president and cashier shall execute a certificate under the corporate seal of the bank, specifying such determination, and shall cause the same to be recorded in the office of the comptroller of the currency; and thereupon such change of location shall be effected, and the operations of discount and deposit of said bank shall be carried on, and its general business conducted, in the city of Evansville, Indiana.