

now surveyed under existing laws; and upon the approval of said survey by the Commissioner of the General Land Office a patent shall issue to said claimants in the usual form.

Patent.

Approved, June 19, 1878.

CHAP. 321.—An act regulating exemptions in the District of Columbia.

June 19, 1878.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the earnings, not to exceed one hundred dollars each month of all actual residents of the District of Columbia, and who are married persons, or who have to provide for the support of a family in said District, for two months next preceding the issuing of any writ or process from any court or justice of the peace, or other officer of and in said District, against them, shall be exempt from attachment, levy, seizure, or sale upon such process; and the same shall not be seized, levied on, taken, reached, or sold by attachment, execution, or any other process, or proceedings of any court, judge, justice of the peace, or other officer of and in said District: *Provided,* That this act and nothing herein contained shall apply, or in any manner affect any existing debt, contract, note, or judgment.

District of Columbia.
Earnings exempt from execution in.

Proviso.

SEC. 2. That all acts or parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act be, and they are hereby, repealed.

Repeals.

Approved, June 19, 1878.

CHAP. 322.—An act to provide for the holding of terms of the district and circuit courts of the United States at city of Charlotte, North Carolina

June 19, 1878.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That additional terms of the district and circuit courts of the United States for the western district of North Carolina shall hereafter be held in the city of Charlotte, in said State, and that said terms shall commence respectively on the second Monday of June and the second Monday of December in each and every year and shall continue until the business is disposed of.

North Carolina.
Terms of courts in western district of.

That this act take effect from and after its passage.

Approved, June 19, 1878.

CHAP. 323.—An act to create a revenue in the District of Columbia by levying a tax upon all dogs therein, to make such dogs personal property, and for other purposes.

June 19, 1878.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there shall be levied a tax of two dollars each per annum upon all dogs owned or kept in the District of Columbia; said tax to be collected as other taxes in said District are or may be collected.

District of Columbia.
Dog-tax in.

SEC. 2. It shall be the duty of the collector of taxes, upon receipt of said tax, to give to the person paying the same, for each dog so paid for, a suitable metallic tag, stamped with the year, showing that said tax has been duly paid; and he shall keep a record of all such payments, with the date thereof, and the name, color, and sex of such dog, and the name of the person claiming any dog so paid for; and a copy of such record, certified under the hand and official seal of the said collector, which shall be given to any person demanding the same, upon payment of twenty-five cents therefor, shall be prima-facie evidence of such payment in any court of the District of Columbia.

Tax-tags.

Record.

Evidence of payment.

SEC. 3. The poundmaster of the District of Columbia shall, during the entire year, seize all dogs found running at large without the tax-

Dogs without tags.

tag, issued by the collector aforesaid, attached, and shall impound the same; and if, within forty-eight hours, the same are not redeemed, by the owners thereof, by the payment of two dollars, they shall be sold or destroyed, as the poundmaster may deem advisable; and any sale made by virtue hereof shall be deemed valid to all intents and purposes in all the courts of the District of Columbia.

Dogs with tags to be personal property.

SEC. 4. Any dog wearing the tax-tag hereinbefore provided for shall be permitted to run at large in the District of Columbia, and shall be regarded as personal property in all the courts of said District; and any person injuring or destroying the same shall be liable to a civil action for damages, which, upon proof of said injuring or killing may be awarded in a sum equal to the value usually put upon such property by persons buying and selling the same, subject to such modification as the particular circumstances of the case may make proper,

Injuries by dogs.

SEC. 5. Any person owning any dog so recorded in the collector's office shall be liable in a civil action for any damage done by said dog to the full amount of the injury inflicted.

Dog-collars.

SEC. 6. It shall be the duty of any person owning or possessing a dog to place, or cause to be placed and kept, around the neck of such dog, a collar, on which shall be marked and engraved, in legible and durable characters, the name of the owner or possessor, and the letters "D. C.", and to which collar must be attached the insignia or tax-tag furnished by the District tax-collector, in accordance with the first and second sections of this law, under the penalty of not less than five nor more than ten dollars; and if any person shall put, or cause to be put, a collar, with the insignia or tax-tag, around the neck of any dog owned or possessed by any person or persons residing in the District, without having obtained a license for keeping such animal, he, she, or they shall forfeit and pay the sum of not less than five nor more than ten dollars for each and every offense.

Omission of.

Unlawful use of.

Muzzles.

SEC. 7. Whenever it shall be made to appear to the Commissioners that there are good reasons for believing that any dog or dogs within the District are mad, it shall be the duty of the Commissioners to issue a proclamation requiring that all dogs shall, for a period to be defined in the proclamation, wear good, substantial muzzles securely put on, so as to prevent them from biting or snapping; and any dog going at large during the period defined by the Commissioners without such muzzle shall be taken by the poundmaster and impounded, subject to the provisions of section three.

Removing collar, etc.

SEC. 8. Any person who shall remove, or cause to be removed, the collar and insignia or tax-tag from the neck of any dog, or entice any properly licensed dog into any inclosure for the purpose of taking off its collar or insignia, or shall for such purpose decoy or entice any animal out of the inclosure or house of its owner or possessor, or shall seize or molest any dog while held or led by any person, or shall bring any dog into the District for the purpose of taking up and killing the same, shall forfeit and pay a sum of not more than twenty dollars.

Molesting led dog.

Dangerous dogs.

SEC. 9. If any owner or possessor of a fierce or dangerous dog permit the same to go at large in the District of Columbia, to the danger or annoyance of the inhabitants, he shall forfeit and pay, for the first offense, ten dollars; for the second, a sum not exceeding twenty dollars; and upon a third conviction for the same offense, the Commissioners shall immediately cause the dog, upon account of which the conviction takes place, to be slain and buried.

Repeals.

SEC. 10. That all acts or parts of acts now in force in the District of Columbia inconsistent with the provisions of this act be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

Approved, June 19, 1878.