

CHAP. 125.—An act correcting the military record of Wickliffe Cooper, deceased, late major Seventh Cavalry, brevet colonel United States Army. February 17, 1885.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War be, and is hereby, authorized and directed to correct so much of the record of the War Department as states that the late Major Wickliffe Cooper, Seventh Cavalry, committed suicide on the eighth of June, eighteen hundred and sixty-seven, and to substitute therefor the following words: "Died by hand of person or persons unknown, while in the line of his duty as an officer of the Army".

Major Wickliffe Cooper, deceased. Secretary of War authorized to correct record of War Department relating to.

Received by the President, February 5th, 1885.

[NOTE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE.—The foregoing act having been presented to the President of the United States for his approval, and not having been returned by him to the house of Congress in which it originated within the time prescribed by the Constitution of the United States, has become a law without his approval.]

CHAP. 126.—An act to authorize suits for damages where death results from the wrongful act or neglect of any person or corporation in the District of Columbia. February 17, 1885.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That whenever, by an injury done or happening within the limits of the District of Columbia, the death of a person shall be caused by the wrongful act, neglect, or default of any person or corporation, and the act, neglect, or default is such as would, if death had not ensued, have entitled the party injured, or, if the person injured be a married woman, have entitled her husband, either separately or by joining with the wife, to maintain an action and recover damages, the person who or corporation which would have been liable if death had not ensued shall be liable to an action for damages for such death, notwithstanding the death of the person injured, even though the death shall have been caused under circumstances which constitute a felony: and such damages shall be assessed with reference to the injury resulting from such act, neglect, or default causing such death, to the widow and next of kin of such deceased person. *Provided,* That in no case shall the recovery under this act exceed the sum of ten thousand dollars. *And provided further,* That no action shall be maintained under this act, in any case when the party injured by such wrongful act, neglect, or default, has recovered damages therefor during the life of such party.

District of Columbia.

Person or corporation causing death by wrongful act, neglect, or default, to be liable for damages, notwithstanding death of the person injured.

Proviso. Damages in no case to exceed \$10,000.

Proviso. No action if damages recovered during life.

SEC. 2. That every such action shall be brought by and in the name of the personal representative of such deceased person, and within one year after the death of the party injured.

Suit to be brought within one year by personal representatives of deceased.

SEC. 3. That the damages recovered in such action shall not be appropriated to the payment of the debts or liabilities of such deceased person, but shall inure to the benefit of his or her family, and be distributed according to the provisions of the statute of distributions in force in the said District of Columbia.

Damages recovered to be for benefit of family.

Approved, February 17th, 1885.

CHAP. 137.—An act to authorize the purchase of a wharf for the use of the Government in Wilmington, North Carolina. February 20, 1885.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the United States Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized to cause an

Wilmington, N. C.