

Jan. 26, 1887.

**CHAP. 41.**—An act relating to sales for taxes in the District of Columbia.

Real estate, Dis-  
trict of Columbia.  
Purchasers of, at  
tax sales to have  
valid title after  
two years.  
Deed to issue.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That hereafter sales of real estate, after advertisement as required by law, by the collector of taxes for the District of Columbia, for taxes or assessments that have been or may be levied by the Commissioners of said District, or by other lawful authority, shall entitle the purchaser, his heirs or assigns, if the property be not redeemed within two years from the date of such sale, to a deed from the Commissioners of the District, which deed shall vest in the grantee a good and valid title, and shall be presumptive evidence in all controversies in relation thereto that the property so conveyed was subject to the taxes for which the property was sold, that such taxes were not paid, and that the property was not redeemed before the execution of the deed, and that the manner of levy, notice, sale, and all the other prerequisites of law were complied with necessary and proper to make such deed and title valid.

Approved, January 26, 1887.

Jan. 26, 1887.

**CHAP. 42.**—An act for the relief of Francis Denmead.

Francis Den-  
mead.  
Title of United  
States to lands in  
District of Colum-  
bia released to.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the United States of America hereby quitclaims and releases to Francis Denmead, his heirs and assigns, any title or interest which the United States have, by reason of any escheat or supposed escheat, in and to the following-described real estate situate, being, and lying in the city of Washington and District of Columbia, known and designated on the public plat or plan of said city as lots numbered one, two, eighteen, nineteen, and twenty, in square numbered nine hundred and twenty-four

Approved, January 26, 1887.

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**CHAP. 43.**—An act to exempt from taxation all property held by the trustees of the Corcoran Gallery of Art, and for other purposes.

Corcoran Art  
Gallery.  
Property held as  
endowment fund  
for, in Washington  
to be released from  
taxes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That all property held as endowment fund by the trustees of the Corcoran Gallery of Art, in the city of Washington, District of Columbia, for the purpose of revenue to support said institution, shall be, and the same is hereby, declared exempt from all taxation and assessments by the municipal authorities or by the United States so long as the same shall be so held; and all taxes and assessments made or imposed upon any of the property of said trustees subsequent to the tenth day of May, eighteen hundred and sixty-nine, whether real, personal, or mixed, be, and the same are hereby, released: *Provided,* That real estate heretofore purchased by said trustees in the management of the endowment fund shall be exempt from taxation only while so held, and not to exceed five years from the passage of this act.

Approved, January 26, 1887.

Jan. 26, 1887.

**CHAP. 44.**—An act to exempt the property of the Young Men's Christian Association of Washington, District of Columbia, from taxation.

Young Men's  
Christian Associ-  
ation, Washington.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the property known as lot three, square two hundred and twenty-two, being house numbered fourteen hundred and nine New York avenue, in Washington City, District

of Columbia, occupied by the Young Men's Christian Association of Washington, be, and the same is hereby, exempt from all taxation so long as the same is so occupied and used; and the taxes which have accrued and become due on and after July first, eighteen hundred and eighty-four, be, and the same are hereby, released, subject to the provisions of section eight of the act approved March third, eighteen hundred and seventy-seven, providing for exemptions of church and school property from taxation.

Property of, exempt from taxation.

Vol. 19, p. 399.

Approved, January 26, 1887.

**CHAP. 45.**—An act for the further protection of property from fire, and safety of lives, in the District of Columbia.

Jan. 26, 1887.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That it shall be the duty of the owner or owners, in fee or for life, of every building constructed and used, or intended to be used, as a hotel, factory, manufactory, theater, tenement-house, seminary, college, academy, hospital, asylum, hall, or place of amusement, and of the trustee or trustees of every estate, association, society, college, academy, school, hospital, or asylum owning or using any building fifty feet high or upwards, used for any of the purposes herein above mentioned, to provide and caused to be erected and affixed to said building iron fire-escapes and combined stand-pipes and ladders, or either of said appliances as may be approved and adopted by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia.

Protection of property from fire, and safety of lives, District of Columbia.

Hotels, etc., over 50 feet high to provide fire-escapes and stand-pipes.

**SEC. 2.** That in all hotels, factories, manufactories, workshops, schools, seminaries, colleges, hospitals, asylums, halls, or places of amusement, or other places mentioned in this act, the hallways and stairways shall be properly lighted when occupied at night; and at the head and foot of each flight of stairs, and at the intersection of all hallways with main corridors, shall be kept during the night a red light; and one or more proper alarms or gongs, capable of being heard throughout the building, shall always remain easy of access and ready for use in each of said buildings, to give notice to the inmates in case of fire; and there shall be kept posted in a conspicuous place in every sleeping-room a notice descriptive of such means of escape; and the building inspector and chief engineer of the fire department shall have the right to designate the location of the said fire-escapes and stand-pipes in conformity with this act, and shall grant certificates of approval to every person, firm, corporation, trustee, and board of school trustees complying with the requirements of this act, which certificates shall relieve the party or parties from the liabilities of fines or damages imposed by this act.

Hallways and stairways to be lighted.

Alarms.

Notices.

**SEC. 3.** That every person, corporation, trustee, or board of school directors neglecting or refusing to comply with the requirements of the first section of this act, upon receiving thirty days' notice of the same, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars, to be collected as fines are now by law collected; and the building inspector and chief engineer shall cause to be erected upon said building said appliances as in their judgment may be necessary, and the same shall be charged and held as a lien against said property and collected the same as other improvements made by the District authorities; and in case of fire occurring in any such building not provided with said appliances as may be required by the building inspector and chief engineer of the fire department, and in accordance with the requirements of the first section of this act, the person, persons, trustee, trustees, corporation, or school directors who or which neglected to provide such building with said appliances as aforesaid shall be liable in an action for damages in case of death or personal injury being caused in consequence of such fire breaking out

Penalty for not complying.

Liability for neglect.