CHAP. 583.—An Act Directing the enlistment of cooks in the Regular and Volunteer armies of the United States.

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 he is hereby, authorized and directed to cause to be enlisted in each company, battery, and troop in the Regular and Volunteer armies of the United States, as a part of the authorized enlisted strength thereof, under rules to be prescribed by him, a competent person as cook, who shall take rank as and be allowed the pay of a corporal of the arm of the service to which he belongs, and whose duties in connection with the preparation and serving of the food of the enlisted men of the company, battery, or troop, and with the supervision and instruction of enlisted men hereby authorized to be detailed to assist him, shall be prescribed in the regulations for the government of the Army.

Approved, July 7, 1898.

CHAP. 584.—An Act To amend the Act relating to pay of volunteer officers and soldiers.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Act of Congress approved May twenty-sixth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, entitled "An Act providing for the payment and maintenance of volunteers during the interval between their enrollment and muster into the United States service, and for other purposes," be, and the same is hereby, amended to read as follows:

"That the pay and allowance of all officers and enlisted men of the volunteers received into the service of the United States under the Act of Congress approved April twenty-second, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and the acts supplemental thereto, shall be deemed to commence from the day on which they had their names enrolled for service in the Volunteer Army of the United States and joined for duty therein after having been called for by the governor on the authority of the President and all officers and enlisted men who have not been so paid shall be so paid by the Pay Department of the Army out of any moneys appropriated for the maintenance of the Army: Provided, That troops about to embark for service in the Philippine Islands may, in the discretion of the Secretary of War, be paid one month's wages in advance prior to embarkation."

Approved, July 7, 1898.

CHAP. 635.—An Act To authorize the reassessment of water-main taxes in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Commissioners of the District of Columbia be, and they are hereby, authorized and directed in all cases not exempted by this Act, where water-main taxes or assessments in the District of Columbia have been quashed, set aside, or declared void by the supreme court of said District, or have been otherwise canceled or set aside by reason of such tax or assessment not having been authenticated by the proper officer, to reassess all lots or parcels of ground in respect of such taxes or assessments, with power to assess and collect the same according to existing law relating to the assessment and collection of water-main assessments or taxes: Provided, That in cases where such assessments have heretofore been quashed or declared void by said supreme court, or have been otherwise canceled or set aside for the reason hereinbefore provided, the reassessment herein
Commissioners to provide for the assessment of water-main taxes or assessments in the District of Columbia. And provided further, That hereafter all water-main taxes or assessments in the District of Columbia shall be levied and authenticated by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, who are hereby authorized to designate the official whose duty it shall be to notify the owner or agent of any lot or land of any water-main tax or assessment levied against such lot or land.

SEC. 2. That outside the city of Washington the said reassessment shall be levied or assessed only on those lots or parcels of land into which Potomac water has been or shall hereafter be introduced: Provided, That where Potomac water has heretofore been introduced the said reassessment shall be made within ninety days after the passage of this Act, and that where Potomac water shall be hereafter introduced the said reassessment shall be made within thirty days after such introduction: And provided further, That any levy, assessment, or reassessment on land not subdivided into blocks and lots shall be made on a frontage not exceeding one hundred feet for each lot or parcel of land or premises into which Potomac water has been or shall be introduced, and shall be considered in any subsequent subdivision of such property as having extended to a depth of not exceeding one hundred feet from the front of said lot or parcel of land: And provided further, That said water-main tax or assessment or reassessment shall be due, payable, and collectible on each lot or parcel of land or premises on and after the date on which the connection is made from the water main to the said lot or parcel of land or premises.

SEC. 3. That in any assessment or reassessment made under the provisions of this Act the owner of any lot or parcel of land shall be credited with any amount which may have been heretofore paid upon any water-main tax or assessment levied against such lot or parcel of land.

Approved, July 8, 1898.

CHAP. 636.—An Act To authorize the Secretary of War to exercise a discretion in certain cases.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War, in his discretion, may authorize the erection of a building for religious worship by any denomination, sect, or religion on the West Point Military Reservation: Provided, That the erection of such building will not interfere with the uses of said reservation for military purposes. Said building shall be erected without any expense whatever to the Government of the United States, and shall be removed from the reservation, or its location changed by the denomination, sect, or religious body erecting the same whenever, in the opinion of the Secretary of War, public or military necessity shall require it, and without compensation for such building or any other expense whatever to the Government.

Approved, July 8, 1898.

CHAP. 637.—An Act To provide a steam fog whistle at the entrance to Muskegon Harbor, in the State of Michigan.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Light-House Board is hereby authorized and directed to provide a steam fog whistle at the entrance of Muskegon Harbor, in the State of Michigan.

Approved, July 8, 1898.