February 9, 1899.

CHAP. 129.—An Act To authorize the Missouri and Kansas Telephone Company to construct and maintain lines and offices for general business purposes in the Ponca, Otoe, and Missouria Reservation, in the Territory of Oklahoma.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Missouri and Kansas Telephone Company is hereby authorized and empowered to construct and maintain telephone lines and offices for general telephone business in the Ponca, Otoe, and Missouria Reservation in the Territory of Oklahoma, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior and upon the terms and conditions hereinafter prescribed.

SEC. 2. That said company shall pay to the nation or tribe through which it extends its telephone lines, in whole or in part, annually, five dollars for each ten miles of said line so constructed and maintained.

SEC. 3. That before said telephone line shall be constructed under the provisions of this Act consent shall be obtained from all persons in the lawful possession of improvements authorizing said construction upon such improvements; and if the right to construct any such line cannot be obtained by agreement, then the amount of damages shall be determined by arbitration, one arbitrator to be selected by the company and one by the owner of the improvements, and if they fail to agree they shall select a third person, and the award so made shall be binding upon the parties thereto: Provided, That either party dissatisfied with such award may appeal therefrom, within twenty days, to the United States court exercising jurisdiction over the tribe or nation in which such improvements are situated by filing an original petition in said court exhibiting the findings of said board, and upon the final hearing of said petition the court or jury trying the same shall assess the actual damage caused by the construction of said line. The company shall not begin the construction of said telephone line upon the improvements of another without his consent, or until the board of arbitrators herein provided for shall have made an award of the damages and the company shall have paid or tendered in payment the amount of such award.

SEC. 4. That nothing herein shall be construed as exempting said telephone company from the payment of any tax which may be lawfully assessed against such company; and Congress hereby expressly reserves the right to regulate the tolls or charges of any lines constructed under the provisions of this Act.

Approved, February 9, 1899.

February 10, 1899.

CHAP. 150.—An Act To extend Rhode Island avenue.

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 are hereby authorized and directed to commence suit for the condemnation of the land required for the extension of Rhode Island avenue from Florida avenue to Le Droit avenue within thirty days from the passage of this Act, and the proceedings for such condemnation shall be under and according to the provisions of sections two hundred and fifty-seven to two hundred and sixty-seven of the Revised Statutes of the United States relating to the District of Columbia, which provide for the condemnation of lands in said District for public highways.

SEC. 2. That payment of the sum or sums of money adjudged to be due and payable for lands taken under the provisions of this Act shall be made by the Treasurer of the United States, ex officio commissioner of the sinking fund of the District of Columbia, upon the warrant of the said Commissioners, out of the revenues of the District of Columbia; and a sufficient sum to pay such judgments and awards is hereby appropriated out of the revenues of the District.
SEC. 3. That of the amount found due and awarded as damages for
and in respect of the land condemned under this act for the extending
of said avenue, one-half thereof shall be assessed by said jury in said
proceedings against those pieces or parcels of ground situate and lying
on each side of said Rhode Island avenue extended, between Florida
avenue, Maple avenue, Linden street, and Le Droit avenue; and also
those contained in squares eighteen and nineteen and the south half of
square twenty in the recorded addition to Le Droit Park; and also those
contained in blocks one and two, and the northwest corner lot of block
seven in the subdivision known and designated as Bloomingdale; and
also against so much of that tract of land known and designated as the
David Moore tract as lies west of North Capitol street.

SEC. 4. That the sums to be severally assessed against each lot and
piece or parcel of ground shall be determined and designated by the
jury, and in determining what amount shall be assessed against any
particular piece or parcel of ground, the jury shall take into considera-
tion the situation of such lots and each of them, and the benefit they
may severally receive from the widening of said avenue. When the
use of a part only of any piece or parcel of ground shall be condemned,
the jury, in determining its value, shall not take into consideration any
benefits that may accrue to the remainder thereof from the opening of
said avenue, but such benefits shall be considered in determining what
assessment shall be made on or against that part of such lot as is not
taken, as is hereinbefore provided.

SEC. 5. That when confirmed by the court, the assessments made as
aforesaid shall severally be a lien upon the land assessed, and shall be
collected as special improvement taxes in the District of Columbia have
been collected since February twentieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-
one, and shall be payable in five equal installments, with interest at the
rate of four per centum per annum until paid.

SEC. 6. That payment of the awards made in respect of the property
condemned under the provisions of this Act shall not be made until
the assessments herein provided for shall have been made against the
aforesaid property and duly confirmed, and approved or affirmed by
the court.

Approved, February 10, 1899.

CHAP. 151.—An Act To receive arrearages of taxes due the District of Columbia to
July first, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven, at six per centum per annum, in lieu
of penalties and costs.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United
States of America in Congress assembled, That the rate of interest to be
collected of any person owing arrearages of general taxes prior to July
first, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven, now due to and the liens for
which are held by the District of Columbia shall be six per centum per annum in lieu of the rate and penalties now fixed by law and all
accrued costs: Provided, That this Act shall apply only to taxes paid
on or before the first day of July, eighteen hundred and ninety-nine.

Approved, February 10, 1899.

CHAP. 152.—An Act To provide for the removal of snow and ice in the city of
Washington, in the District of Columbia.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United
States of America in Congress assembled, That the following sums are
hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise
appropriated, to be immediately available, for the following objects,
namely: For cleaning snow and ice from cross-walks and gutters, under
the Act approved March second, eighteen hundred and ninety-five, ten