

counties of Edgefield, South Carolina, and Columbia, Georgia," approved August fifth, nineteen hundred and nine, be, and the same is hereby, extended until August fifth, nineteen hundred and fifteen.

Approved, March 5, 1912.

CHAP. 53.—An Act Authorizing that commission of ensign be given midshipmen upon graduation from the Naval Academy.

March 7, 1912.
[S. 3211.]

[Public, No. 98.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the course at the Naval Academy shall be four years, and midshipmen on graduation shall be commissioned ensigns: *Provided,* That midshipmen now performing two years' service at sea in accordance with existing law shall be commissioned forthwith as ensigns from the date of the passage of this Act: *And provided,* That those midshipmen of the class which was graduated in nineteen hundred and nine, who have completed two years' service afloat, and who are due for promotion, shall be commissioned ensigns to take rank with the other members of their class, according to their standing as determined by their final multiples, respectively, for the six years' course, from the fifth day of June, nineteen hundred and eleven, the date of rank to which they were entitled prior to the passage of this Act: *And provided further,* That no back pay or allowances shall result by reason of the passage of this Act.

Naval Academy. Course reduced. R. S., sec. 1523, p. 261, amended. *Proviso,* Commissions to midshipmen at sea.

Issue to graduates of class of 1909.

No back pay, etc.

Approved, March 7, 1912.

CHAP. 55.—An Act To amend section fifteen hundred and five of the Revised Statutes of the United States providing for the suspension from promotion of officers of the Navy if not professionally qualified.

March 11, 1912.
[S. 2004.]

[Public, No. 99.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section fifteen hundred and five of the Revised Statutes be, and is hereby, amended to read as follows:

Navy. R. S., sec. 1508, p. 259, amended.

"SEC. 1505. Any officer of the Navy on the active list below the rank of commander who, upon examination for promotion, is found not professionally qualified, shall be suspended from promotion for a period of six months from the date of approval of said examination, and shall suffer a loss of numbers equal to the average six months' rate of promotion to the grade for which said officer is undergoing examination during the five fiscal years next preceding the date of approval of said examination, and upon the termination of said suspension from promotion he shall be reexamined, and in case of his failure upon such reexamination he shall be dropped from the service with not more than one year's pay: *Provided,* That the provisions of this Act shall be effective from and after January first, nineteen hundred and eleven."

Officers. Suspended from promotion for six months if failing on examination.

Reexamination, etc.

Proviso. In effect from January 1, 1911.

Approved, March 11, 1912.

CHAP. 56.—An Act To authorize the change of the name of the steamer William A. Hawgood.

March 11, 1912.
[S. 4521.]

[Public, No. 100.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Commissioner of Navigation is hereby authorized and directed, upon application of the owner, the Calumet Transportation Company, of Mentor, Ohio, to change the name of the steamer William A. Hawgood, official number two hundred and four thousand seven hundred and one, to that of R. L. Agassiz.

"R. L. Agassiz," steamer. Name of "William A. Hawgood" changed to.

Approved, March 11, 1912.