District of Columbia
Organic Act of 1871
For expenses under the neutrality act, twenty thousand dollars.

For expenses incurred under instructions of the Secretary of State, of bringing home from foreign countries persons charged with crimes, and expenses incident thereto, including loss by exchange, five thousand dollars.

For relief and protection of American seamen in foreign countries, one hundred thousand dollars.

For expenses which may be incurred in acknowledging the services of masters and crews of foreign vessels in rescuing American citizens from shipwreck, five thousand dollars.

For payment of the seventh annual installment of the proportion contributed by the United States toward the capitalization of the Scheldt dues, fifty-five thousand five hundred and eighty-four dollars; and for such further sum, not exceeding five thousand dollars, as may be necessary to carry out the stipulations of the treaty between the United States and Belgium.

To pay to the government of Great Britain and Ireland, the second and last installment of the amount awarded by the commissioners under the treaty of July one, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, in satisfaction of the claims of the Hudson's Bay and of the Puget Sound Agricultural Company, three hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars in gold coin:

Provided, That before payment shall be made of that portion of the above sum awarded to the Puget Sound Agricultural Company, all taxes legally assessed upon any of the property of said company covered by said award, before the same was made, and still unpaid, shall be extinguished by said Puget Sound Agricultural Company; or the amount of such taxes shall be withheld by the government of the United States from the sum hereby appropriated.

Approved, February 21, 1871.

CHAP. LXII.—An Act to provide a Government for the District of Columbia.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all that part of the territory of the United States included within the limits of the District of Columbia be, and the same is hereby, created into a government by the name of the District of Columbia, by which name it is hereby constituted a body corporate for municipal purposes, and may contract and be contracted with, sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, have a seal, and exercise all other powers of a municipal corporation not inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of the United States and the provisions of this act.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That the executive power and authority in and over said District of Columbia shall be vested in a governor, who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and who shall hold his office for four years, and until his successor shall be appointed and qualified. The governor shall be a citizen of and shall have resided within said District twelve months before his appointment, and have the qualifications of an elector. He may grant pardons and reprieves for offenses against the laws of said District enacted by the legislative assembly thereof; he shall commission all officers who shall be elected or appointed to office under the laws of the said District enacted as aforesaid, and shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That every bill which shall have passed the council and house of delegates shall, before it becomes a law, be presented to the governor of the District of Columbia; if he approve, he shall sign it, but if not, he shall return it, with his objections, to the house in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the objections at
large on their journal, and proceed to reconsider it. If, after such reconsideration, two thirds of all the members appointed or elected to the house shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, together with the objections, to the other house, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered, and if approved by two thirds of all the members appointed or elected to that house, it shall become a law. But in all such cases the votes of both houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the persons voting for and against the bill shall be entered on the journal of each house respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the governor within ten days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall be a law in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the legislative assembly by their adjournment prevent its return, in which case it shall not be a law.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That there shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, a secretary of said District, who shall reside therein and possess the qualification of an elector, and shall hold his office for four years, and until his successor shall be appointed and qualified; he shall record and preserve all laws and proceedings of the legislative assembly hereinafter constituted, and all the acts and proceedings of the governor in his executive department; he shall transmit one copy of the laws and journals of the legislative assembly within thirty days after the end of each session, and one copy of the executive proceedings and official correspondence semiannually, on the first days of January and July in each year, to the President of the United States, and four copies of the laws to the President of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, for the use of Congress; and in case of the death, removal, resignation, disability, or absence, of the governor from the District, the secretary shall be, and he is hereby, authorized and required to execute and perform all the powers and duties of the governor during such vacancy, disability, or absence, or until another governor shall be duly appointed and qualified to fill such vacancy. And in case the offices of governor and secretary shall both become vacant, the powers, duties, and emoluments of the office of governor shall devolve upon the presiding officer of the council, and in case that office shall also be vacant, upon the presiding officer of the house of delegates, until the office shall be filled by a new appointment.

Sec. 5. And be it further enacted, That legislative power and authority in said District shall be vested in a legislative assembly as hereinafter provided. The assembly shall consist of a council and house of delegates. The council shall consist of eleven members, of whom two shall be residents of the city of Georgetown, and two residents of the county outside of the cities of Washington and Georgetown, who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, who shall have the qualification of voters as hereinafter prescribed, five of whom shall be first appointed for the term of one year, and six for the period of two years, provided that all subsequent appointments shall be for the term of two years. The house of delegates shall consist of twenty-two members, possessing the same qualifications as prescribed for the members of the council, whose term of service shall continue one year. An appointment shall be made, as nearly as practicable, into eleven districts for the appointment of the council, and into twenty-two districts for the election of delegates, giving to each section of the District representation in the ratio of its population as nearly as may be. And the members of the council and of the house of delegates shall reside in and be inhabitants of the districts from which they are appointed or elected, respectively. For the purposes of the first election to be held under this act, the governor and judges of the supreme court of the District of Columbia shall designate the districts for members of the house of delegates, appoint a board of registration and persons to superintend
the election and the returns thereof, prescribe the time, places, and manner of conducting such election, and make all needful rules and regulations for carrying into effect the provisions of this act not otherwise herein provided for: Provided, That the first election shall be held within sixty days from the passage of this act. In the first and all subsequent elections the persons having the highest number of legal votes for the house of delegates, respectively, shall be declared by the governor duly elected members of said house. In case two or more persons voted for shall have an equal number of votes for the same office, or if a vacancy shall occur in the house of delegates, the governor shall order a new election. And the persons thus appointed and elected to the legislative assembly shall meet at such time and at such place within the District as the governor shall appoint; but thereafter the time, place, and manner of holding and conducting all elections by the people, and the formation of the districts for members of the council and house of delegates, shall be prescribed by law, as well as the day of the commencement of the regular sessions of the legislative assembly: Provided, That no session in any one year shall exceed the term of sixty days, except the first session, which may continue one hundred days.

Sec. 6. And be it further enacted, That the legislative assembly shall have power to divide that portion of the District not included in the corporate limits of Washington or Georgetown into townships, not exceeding three, and create township officers, and prescribe the duties thereof; but all township officers shall be elected by the people of the townships respectively.

Sec. 7. And be it further enacted, That all male citizens of the United States, above the age of twenty-one years, who shall have been actual residents of said District for three months prior to the passage of this act, except such as are non compositi mentis and persons convicted of infamous crimes, shall be entitled to vote at said election, in the election district or precinct in which he shall then reside, and shall have so resided for thirty days immediately preceding said election, and shall be eligible to any office within the said District, and for all subsequent elections twelve months' prior residence shall be required to constitute a voter; but the legislative assembly shall have no right to abridge or limit the right of suffrage.

Sec. 8. And be it further enacted, That no person who has been or hereafter shall be convicted of bribery, perjury, or other infamous crimes, nor any person who has been or may be a collector or holder of public moneys who shall not have accounted for and paid over, upon final judgment duly recovered according to law, all such moneys due from him, shall be eligible to the legislative assembly or to any office of profit or trust in said District.

Sec. 9. And be it further enacted, That members of the legislative assembly, before they enter upon their official duties, shall take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and will faithfully discharge the duties of the office upon which I am about to enter; and that I have not knowingly or intentionally paid or contributed anything, or made any promise in the nature of a bribe, to directly or indirectly influence any vote at the election at which I was chosen to fill the said office, and have not accepted, nor will I accept, or receive, directly or indirectly, any money or other valuable thing for any vote or influence that I may give or withhold on any bill, resolution, or appropriation, or for any other official act." Any member who shall refuse to take the oath herein prescribed shall forfeit his office, and every person who shall be convicted of having sworn falsely to or of violating his said oath shall forfeit his office and be disqualified thereafter from holding any office of profit or trust in said District, and shall be...
deemed guilty of perjury, and upon conviction shall be punished accordingly.

SEC. 10. And be it further enacted, That a majority of the legislative assembly appointed or elected to each house shall constitute a quorum. The house of delegates shall be the judge of the election returns and qualifications of its members. Each house shall determine the rules of its proceedings, and shall choose its own officers. The governor shall call the council to order at the opening of each new assembly; and the secretary of the District shall call the house of delegates to order at the opening of each new legislative assembly, and shall preside over it until a temporary presiding officer shall have been chosen and shall have taken his seat. No member shall be expelled by either house except by a vote of two thirds of all the members appointed or elected to that house. Each house may punish by imprisonment any person not a member who shall be guilty of disrespect to the house by disorderly or contemptuous behavior in its presence; but no such imprisonment shall extend beyond twenty-four hours at one time. Neither house shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than two days, or to any other place than that in which such house shall be sitting. At the request of any member the yeas and nays shall be taken upon any question and entered upon the journal.

SEC. 11. And be it further enacted, That bills may originate in either house, but may be altered, amended, or rejected by the other; and on the final passage of all bills the vote shall be by yeas and nays upon each bill separately, and shall be entered upon the journal, and no bill shall become a law without the concurrence of a majority of the members elected to each house.

SEC. 12. And be it further enacted, That every bill shall be read at large on three different days in each house. No act shall embrace more than one subject, and that shall be expressed in its title; but if any subject shall be embraced in an act which shall not be expressed in the title, such act shall be void only as to so much thereof as shall not be so expressed in the title; and no act of the legislative assembly shall take effect until thirty days after its passage, unless, in case of emergency, (which emergency shall be expressed in the preamble or body of the act,) the legislative assembly shall by a vote of two thirds of all the members appointed or elected to each house otherwise direct.

SEC. 13. And be it further enacted, That no money shall be drawn from the treasury of the District, except in pursuance of an appropriation made by law, and no bill making appropriations for the pay or salaries of the officers of the District government shall contain any provisions on any other subject.

SEC. 14. And be it further enacted, That each legislative assembly shall provide for all the appropriations necessary for the ordinary and contingent expenses of the government of the District until the expiration of the first fiscal quarter after the adjournment of the next regular session, the aggregate amount of which shall not be increased without a vote of two thirds of the members elected or appointed to each house as herein provided, nor exceed the amount of revenue authorized by law to be raised in such time, and all appropriations, general or special, requiring money to be paid out of the District treasury, from funds belonging to the District, shall end with such fiscal quarter; and no debt, by which the aggregate debt of the District shall exceed five per cent. of the assessed property of the District, shall be contracted, unless the law authorizing the same shall at a general election have been submitted to the people and have received a majority of the votes cast for members of the legislative assembly at such election. The legislative assembly shall provide for the publication of said law in at least two newspapers in the District for three months, at least, before the vote of
the people shall be taken on the same, and provision shall be made in the
act for the payment of the interest annually, as it shall accrue, by a tax
levied for the purpose, or from other sources of revenue, which law
providing for the payment of such interest by such tax shall be irre-
pealable until such debt be paid: Provided, That the tax levying the tax
shall be submitted to the people with the law authorizing the debt to be
contracted.

Sec. 15. And be it further enacted, That the legislative assembly shall
never grant or authorize extra compensation, fee, or allowance to any
public officer, agent, servant, or contractor, after service has been ren-
dered or a contract made, nor authorize the payment of any claim, or
part thereof, hereafter created against the District under any contract
or agreement made, without express authority of law; and all such
unauthorized agreements or contracts shall be null and void.

Sec. 16. And be it further enacted, That the District shall never pay,
assume, or become responsible for the debts or liabilities of, or in any
manner give, loan, or extend its credit to or in aid of any public or other
corporation, association, or individual.

Sec. 17. And be it further enacted, That the legislative assembly shall
not pass special laws in any of the following cases, that is to say: For
granting divorces; regulating the practice in courts of justice; regulating
the jurisdiction or duties of justices of the peace, police magistrates, or
constables; providing for changes of venue in civil or criminal cases, or
swearing and impaneling jurors; remitting fines, penalties, or forfeitures;
the sale or mortgage of real estate belonging to minors or other under
disability; changing the law of descent; increasing or decreasing the
fees of public officers during the term for which said officers are elected
or appointed; granting to any corporation, association, or individual, any
special or exclusive privilege, immunity, or franchise whatsoever. The
legislative assembly shall have no power to release or extinguish, in whole
or in part, the indebtedness, liability, or obligation of any corporation or
individual to the District or to any municipal corporation therein, nor
shall the legislative assembly have power to establish any bank of circula-
tion, nor to authorize any company or individual to issue notes for circu-
lation as money or currency.

Sec. 18. And be it further enacted, That the legislative power of the
District shall extend to all rightful subjects of legislation within said Dis-
trict, consistent with the Constitution of the United States and the pro-
visions of this act, subject, nevertheless, to all the restrictions and limita-
tions imposed upon States by the tenth section of the first article of the
Constitution of the United States; but all acts of the legislative assembly
shall at all times be subject to repeal or modification by the Congress of
the United States, and nothing herein shall be construed to deprive Con-
gress of the power of legislation over said District in as ample manner as
if this law had not been enacted.

Sec. 19. And be it further enacted, That no member of the legislative
assembly shall hold or be appointed to any office, which shall have been
created or the salary or emoluments of which shall have been increased
while he was a member, during the term for which he was appointed or
elected, and for one year after the expiration of such term; and no per-
son holding any office of trust or profit under the government of the
United States shall be a member of the legislative assembly.

Sec. 20. And be it further enacted, That the said legislative assembly
shall not have power to pass any ex post facto law, nor law impairing the
obligation of contracts, nor to tax the property of the United States, nor
to tax the lands or other property of non-residents higher than the lands
or other property of residents; nor shall lands or other property in said
district be liable to a higher tax, in any one year, for all general objects, territorial and municipal, than two dollars on
every hundred dollars of the cash value thereof; but special taxes may be levied in particular sections, wards, or districts for their particular local improvements; nor shall said territorial government have power to borrow money or issue stock or bonds for any object whatever, unless specially authorized by an act of the legislative assembly, passed by a vote of two thirds of the entire number of the members of each branch thereof, but said debt in no case to exceed five per centum of the assessed value of the property of said District, unless authorized by a vote of the people, as hereinafter [hereinbefore] provided.

SEC. 21. And be it further enacted, That the property of that portion of the District not included in the corporations of Washington or Georgetown shall not be taxed for the purposes of improving the streets, alleys, public squares, or other public property of the said cities, or either of them, nor for any other expenditure of a local nature, for the exclusive benefit of said cities, or either of them, nor for the payment of any debt heretofore contracted, or that may hereafter be contracted by either of said cities while remaining under a municipal government not coextensive with the District.

SEC. 22. And be it further enacted, That the property within the corporate limits of Georgetown shall not be taxed for the payment of any debt heretofore or hereafter to be contracted by the corporation of Washington, nor shall the property within the corporate limits of Washington be taxed for the payment of any debt heretofore or hereafter to be contracted by the corporation of Georgetown; and so long as said cities shall remain under distinct municipal governments, the property within the corporate limits of either of said cities shall not be taxed for the local benefit of the other; nor shall said cities, or either of them, be taxed for the exclusive benefit of the county outside of the limits thereof: Provided, That the legislative assembly may make appropriations for the repair of roads, or for the construction or repair of bridges outside the limits of said cities.

SEC. 23. And be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of said legislative assembly to maintain a system of free schools for the education of the youth of said District, and all moneys raised by general taxation or arising from donations by Congress, or from other sources, except by bequest or devise, for school purposes, shall be appropriated for the equal benefit of all the youths of said District between certain ages, to be defined by law.

SEC. 24. And be it further enacted, That the said legislative assembly shall have power to provide for the appointment of as many justices of the peace and notaries public for said District as may be deemed necessary, to define their jurisdiction and prescribe their duties; but justices of the peace shall not have jurisdiction of any controversy in which the title of land may be in dispute, or in which the debt or sum claimed shall exceed one hundred dollars: Provided, however, That all justices of the peace and notaries public now in commission shall continue in office till the present commissions expire, unless sooner removed pursuant to existing laws.

SEC. 25. And be it further enacted, That the judicial courts of said District shall remain as now organized until abolished or changed by act of Congress; but such legislative assembly shall have power to pass laws modifying the practice thereof, and conferring such additional jurisdiction as may be necessary to the due execution and enforcement of the laws of said District.

SEC. 26. And be it further enacted, That there shall be appointed by the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, a board of health for said District, to consist of five persons, whose duty it shall be to declare what shall be deemed nuisances injurious to health, and to provide for the removal thereof; to make and
enforce regulations to prevent domestic animals from running at large in
the cities of Washington and Georgetown; to prevent the sale of un-
wholesome food in said cities; and to perform such other duties as shall
be imposed upon said board by the legislative assembly.

SEC. 27. And be it further enacted, That the offices and duties of regi-
ster of wills, recorder of deeds, United States attorney, and United
States marshal for said District shall remain as under existing laws till
modified by act of Congress; but said legislative assembly shall have
power to impose such additional duties upon said officers, respectively, as
may be necessary to the due enforcement of the laws of said District.

SEC. 28. And be it further enacted, That the said legislative assembly
shall have power to create by general law, modify, repeal, or amend,
within said District, corporations aggregate for religious, charitable, edu-
cational, industrial, or commercial purposes, and to define their powers
and liabilities: Provided, That the powers of corporations so created
shall be limited to the District of Columbia.

SEC. 29. And be it further enacted, That the legislative assembly
shall define by law who shall be entitled to relief as paupers in said Dis-
trict, and shall provide by law for the support and maintenance of such
paupers, and for that purpose shall raise the money necessary by tax-
ation.

SEC. 30. And be it further enacted, That the legislative assembly shall
have power to provide by law for the election or appointment of such
ministerial officers as may be deemed necessary to carry into effect the
laws of said District, to prescribe their duties, their terms of office, and
the rate and manner of their compensation.

SEC. 31. And be it further enacted, That the governor, secretary, and
other officers to be appointed pursuant to this act, shall, before they act
as such, respectively, take and subscribe an oath or affirmation before a
judge of the supreme court of the District of Columbia, or some justice
of the peace in the limits of said District, duly authorized to administer
oaths or affirmations by the laws now in force therein, or before the
Chief Justice or some associate justice of the Supreme Court of the Unit-
ed States, to support the Constitution of the United States, and faithfully
to discharge the duties of their respective offices; which said oaths, when
so taken, shall be certified by the person before whom the same shall have
been taken; and such certificates shall be received and recorded by the
said secretary among the executive proceedings; and all civil officers in
said District, before they act as such, shall take and subscribe a like oath
or affirmation before the said governor or secretary, or some judge or jus-
tice of the peace of the District, who may be duly commissioned and
qualified, or before the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United
States, which said oath or affirmation shall be certified and transmitted by
the person administering the same to the secretary, to be by him recorded
as aforesaid; and afterward the like oath or affirmation shall be taken
and subscribed, certified and recorded in such manner and form as may
be prescribed by law.

SEC. 32. And be it further enacted, That the governor shall receive an
annual salary of three thousand dollars; and the secretary shall receive an
annual salary of two thousand dollars, and that the said salaries shall be
paid quarter-yearly, from the dates of the respective appointments, at the
treasury of the United States; but no payment shall be made until said
officers shall have entered upon the duties of their respective appoint-
ments. The members of the legislative assembly shall be entitled to
receive four dollars each per day during their actual attendance at the
session thereof, and an additional allowance of four dollars per day shall
be paid to the presiding officer of each house for each day he shall so
preside. And a chief clerk, one assistant clerk, one engrossing and one
enrolling clerk, and a sergeant-at-arms may be chosen for each house;
and the chief clerk shall receive four dollars per day, and the said other
officers three dollars per day, during the session of the legislative
assembly: Provided, That there shall be but one session of the legislative
assembly annually, unless, on an extraordinary occasion, the governor
shall think proper to call the legislative assembly together. And the
governor and secretary of the District shall, in the disbursement of all
moneys appropriated by Congress and intrusted to them, be governed
solely by the instructions of the Secretary of the Treasury of the United
States, and shall semiannually account to the said Secretary for the man-
ner in which the aforesaid moneys shall have been expended; and no
expenditure shall be made by the said legislative assembly of funds ap-
propriated by Congress, for objects not especially authorized by acts of
Congress making the appropriations, nor beyond the sums thus appro-
 priated for such objects.

SEC. 33. And be it further enacted, That the legislative assembly of
the District of Columbia shall hold its first session at such time and place
in said District as the governor thereof shall appoint and direct.

SEC. 34. And be it further enacted, That a delegate to the House of
Representatives of the United States, to serve for the term of two years,
who shall be a citizen of the United States and of the District of Colum-
bia, and shall have the qualifications of a voter, may be elected by the
voters qualified to elect members of the legislative assembly, who shall be
entitled to the same rights and privileges as are exercised and enjoyed by
the delegates from the several Territories of the United States to the
House of Representatives, and shall also be a member of the committee
for the District of Columbia; but the delegate first elected shall hold his
seat only during the term of the Congress to which he shall be elected.
The first election shall be held at the time and places and be conducted
in such manner as the elections for members of the House of Representa-
tives are conducted; and at all subsequent elections the time and
places and the manner of holding the elections shall be prescribed by
law. The person having the greatest number of legal votes shall be de-
clared by the governor to be duly elected, and a certificate thereof shall
be given accordingly; and the Constitution and all the laws of the United
States, which are not locally inapplicable, shall have the same force
and effect within the said District of Columbia as elsewhere within the
United States.

SEC. 35. And be it further enacted, That all officers to be appointed
by the President of the United States, by and with the advice and con-
sent of the Senate, for the District of Columbia, who, by virtue of the
provisions of any law now existing, or which may be enacted by Con-
gress, are required to give security for moneys that may be intrusted to
them for disbursement, shall give such security at such time and in such
manner as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe.

SEC. 36. And be it further enacted, That there shall be a valuation
taken in the District of Columbia of all real estate belonging to the United
States in said District, except the public buildings, and the grounds
which have been dedicated to the public use as parks and squares, at
least once in five years, and return thereof shall be made by the governor
to the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representa-
tives on the first day of the session of Congress held after such valuation
shall be taken, and the aggregate of the valuation of private property in
said District, whenever made by the authority of the legislative assembly,
shall be reported to Congress by the governor: Provided, That all valua-
tions of property belonging to the United States shall be made by such
persons as the Secretary of the Interior shall appoint, and under such
regulations as he shall prescribe.

SEC. 37. And be it further enacted, That there shall be in the District
of Columbia a board of public works, to consist of the governor, who
shall be president of said board; four persons, to be appointed by the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, one of whom shall be a civil engineer, and the others citizens and residents of the District, having the qualifications of an elector therein; one of said board shall be a citizen and resident of Georgetown, and one of said board shall be a citizen and resident of the county outside of the cities of Washington and Georgetown. They shall hold office for the term of four years, unless sooner removed by the President of the United States. The board of public works shall have entire control of and make all regulations which they shall deem necessary for keeping in repair the streets, avenues, alleys, and sewers of the city, and all other works which may be intrusted to their charge by the legislative assembly or Congress. They shall disburse upon their warrant all moneys appropriated by the United States, or the District of Columbia, or collected from property-holders, in pursuance of law, for the improvement of streets, avenues, alleys, and sewers, and roads and bridges, and shall assess in such manner as shall be prescribed by law, upon the property adjoining and to be specially benefited by the improvements authorized by law and made by them, a reasonable proportion of the cost of the improvement, not exceeding one third of such cost, which sum shall be collected as all other taxes are collected. They shall make all necessary regulations respecting the construction of private buildings in the District of Columbia, subject to the supervision of the legislative assembly. All contracts made by the said board of public works shall be in writing, and shall be signed by the parties making the same, and a copy thereof shall be filed in the office of the secretary of the District; and said board of public works shall have no power to make contracts to bind said District to the payment of any sums of money except in pursuance of appropriations made by law, and not until such appropriations shall have been made. All contracts made by said board in which any member of said board shall be personally interested shall be void, and no payment shall be made thereon by said District or any officers thereof. On or before the first Monday in November of each year, they shall submit to each branch of the legislative assembly a report of their transactions during the preceding year, and also furnish duplicates of the same to the governor, to be placed in his office before the President of the United States for transmission to the two houses of Congress; and shall be paid the sum of two thousand five hundred dollars each annually.

SEC. 38. And be it further enacted, That the officers herein provided for, who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall be paid by the United States by appropriations to be made by law as hereinafore provided; and all other officers of said District provided for by this act shall be paid by the District: Provided, That no salary shall be paid to the governor as a member of the board of public works in addition to his salary as governor, nor shall any officer of the army appointed upon the board of public works receive any increase of pay for such service.

SEC. 39. And be it further enacted, That if, at any election hereafter held in the District of Columbia, any person shall knowingly persuade and vote, or attempt to vote, in the name of any other person, whether living, dead, or fictitious, or vote more than once at the same election for any candidate for the same office, or vote at a place where he may not be entitled to vote, or vote without having a lawful right to vote, or do any unlawful act to secure a right or opportunity to vote for himself or any other person, or by force, threats, menace, or intimidation, bribery, reward, or offer, or promise thereof, or otherwise unlawfully prevent any qualified voter of the District of Columbia from freely exercising the right of suffrage, or by any such means induce any voter to refuse to exercise such right, or compel or induce, by any such means or otherwise, any
Penalty for illegal voting and illegal conduct at elections.

Charters of Washington and Georgetown repealed from June 1, 1871, and offices abolished.

Laws and ordinances to be in force until

Washington.

Georgetown.

Special tax.

Charters and levy court continued for certain purposes.

Pending suits.

No election for mayor, &c. of Georgetown prior to June 1, 1871.

No taxes to be assessed by municipal authorities.

SEC. 40. And be it further enacted, That the charters of the cities of Washington and Georgetown shall be repealed on and after the first day of June, A.D. eighteen hundred and seventy-one, and all offices of said corporations abolished at that date; the levy court of the District of Columbia and all offices connected therewith shall be abolished on and after said first day of June, A.D. eighteen hundred and seventy-one; but all laws and ordinances of said cities, respectively, and of said levy court, not inconsistent with this act, shall remain in full force until modified or repealed by Congress or the legislative assembly of said District; that portion of said District included within the present limits of the city of Washington shall continue to be known as the city of Washington; and that portion of said District included within the limits of the city of Georgetown shall continue to be known as the city of Georgetown; and the legislative assembly shall have power to levy a special tax upon property, except the property of the government of the United States, within the city of Washington for the payment of the debts of said city; and upon property, except the property of the government of the United States, within the limits of the city of Georgetown for the payment of the debts of said city; and upon property, except the property of the government of the United States, within said District not included within the limits of either of said cities to pay any debts owing by that portion of said District: Provided, That the charters of said cities severally, and the powers of said levy court, shall be continued for the following purposes, to wit: For the collection of all sums of money due to said cities, respectively, or to said levy court; for the enforcement of all contracts made by said cities, respectively, or by said levy court, and all taxes, heretofore assessed, remaining unpaid; for the collection of all just claims against said cities, respectively, or against said levy court; for the enforcement of all legal contracts against said cities, respectively, or against said levy court, until the affairs of said cities, respectively, and of said levy court, shall have been fully closed; and no suit in favor of or against said corporations, or either of them, shall abate by reason of the passage of this act, but the same shall be prosecuted to final judgment as if this act had not been passed.

SEC. 41. And be it further enacted, That there shall be no election holden for mayor or members of the common council of the city of Georgetown prior to the first day of June, eighteen hundred and seventy-one, but the present mayor and common council of said city shall hold their offices until said first day of June next. No taxes for general purposes shall hereafter be assessed by the municipal authorities of the cities of Washington or Georgetown, or by said levy court. And upon the repeal of the charters of the cities of Washington and Georgetown,
the District of Columbia be, and is hereby, declared to be the successor of said corporations, and all the property of said corporations, and of the county of Washington, shall become vested in the said District of Columbia, and all fines, penalties, costs, and forfeitures, which are now by law made payable to said cities, respectively, or said levy court, shall be paid to said District of Columbia, and the salaries of the judge and clerk of the police court, the compensation of the deputy clerk and bailiffs of said police court, and of the marshal of the District of Columbia shall be paid by said District: Provided, That the moneys collected upon the judgements of said police court, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be applied to the payment of the salaries of the judge and other officers of said court, and to the payment of the necessary expenses thereof, and any surplus remaining after paying the salaries, comp-

Salaries of 
judges and other 
officers of police 
court.

Surplus to be 
paid into the treasury.

tion, and expenses aforesaid, shall be paid into the treasury of the District at the end of every quarter.

APPROVED, February 21, 1871.

CHAP. LXIII. — An Act to change the Times for holding the district and circuit Courts of the United States at Erie, Pennsylvania.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That from and after this date the July terms of the district and circuit courts of the United States in and for the western district of Pennsylvania, at Erie, shall be commenced and held on and after the third Monday of July in each year; and the January terms of said court at the same place shall be commenced and held at Erie, Pennsylvania, on and after the second Monday in January of each year.

APPROVED, February 21, 1871.

CHAP. LXIV. — An Act to provide for the Apportionment of the Members of the legislative Assembly of the Territory of Colorado.

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 governor, chief justice, and United States attorney for the Territory of Colorado, on or before the first day of June next, to make an apportionment of the members of the council and house of representatives of the said Territory, among the several districts, for the election of members of the council and house of representatives, giving to each section of the Territory representation in ratio of its population, as near as may be, as ascertained by the census taken by authority of the United States in the year eighteen hundred and seventy.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of said governor, chief justice, and United States attorney to make an official certificate showing the number of members of the council and house of representatives the several districts of said Territory are entitled [to] as apportioned under the provisions of this act, and file said certificate in the office of the secretary of said Territory, on or before the first day of July next, and said apportionment so made shall be held to be the proper and legal apportionment for the members of the next legislative assembly of the Territory of Colorado.

APPROVED, February 21, 1871.

CHAP. LXV. — An Act to repeal an Act of the Legislature of Wyoming Territory apportioning said Territory for Members of the Council and House of Representatives of the Territorial Legislature.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the act of the legislature of the Territory of Wyoming, entitled "An act apportioning