That until such price is fixed by law, the Postmaster-General shall have the power to determine the same.

Similar grant for a railroad from Mobile to New Orleans.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That a like grant to the same extent, and on the same terms and conditions in all respects, is hereby made to aid in constructing a railroad from the city of Mobile to New Orleans, such grant to be made to the several States through which said road shall pass, so far as said road is within their respective limits.

APPROVED, August 11, 1856.

Aug. 11, 1856.

CHAP. LXXXIV.—*An Act to amend the Charter of Georgetown in the District of Columbia.*

Poll tax authorized in Georgetown, for schools.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Corporation of Georgetown, in the District of Columbia, shall have full power and authority to lay and impose the present year and annually thereafter, a school tax upon every free white male citizen, of the age of twenty-one years and upwards, of one dollar per annum; said tax to be levied and collected under such regulations as the said corporation may prescribe.

Qualifications for electors in Georgetown.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That from and after the passage of this act, every free white male citizen of the United States, who shall have attained the age of twenty one years, and shall have resided within the corporate limits of Georgetown, in the District aforesaid, one year immediately preceding the day of election, and shall have been returned on the books of the corporation during the year ending on the thirty-first day of December next preceding the day of election, as subject to a school tax for that year, (except persons *non compos mentis*, vagrants, paupers, and persons who shall have been convicted of any infamous crime,) and who shall have paid the school taxes due from him, shall be entitled to vote for mayor, members of the board of aldermen and board of common council, and for every officer authorized to be elected at any election under the acts of said corporation: *Provided*, That if, during the year ending on the thirty-first day of December next preceding the day of the first election after the passage of this act, no person shall have been returned on the books of the said corporation as subject to a school tax, then all persons who shall have been returned on the books of the said corporation as subject to a school tax before the day of the said first election, and who shall in all other respects be qualified under this act to vote, and who shall have paid the said school tax, shall be entitled to vote at the said first election after the passage of this act; and if any person shall buy or sell a vote, or shall vote more than once at any corporation election, held in pursuance of law, or shall give or receive any consideration therefor in money, goods, or any other thing of value, or shall promise any valuable consideration, or vote in consideration of such promise, he shall be disqualified forever thereafter from voting or holding any office under said corporation; and on complaint thereof to the attorney of the United States for the District of Columbia, it shall be the duty of said attorney to proceed against said offender or offenders by indictment and trial, as in other criminal cases; and if found guilty it shall be the duty of the court to sentence him to pay a fine of not less than ten dollars, and to imprisonment not more than two months, nor less than ten days.

Penalties for buying or selling votes, or violating election laws.

Evidence of elections to be furnished on demand.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That it shall be the duty of the clerk of said corporation, on the presentation of the corporation tax collector's receipt showing that the applicant has paid his school tax for that year, to enter the name of such school tax payer on the books of said corporation, and to furnish the judges of elections to be held under the laws of said corporation at each precinct, before or on the morning of any election, before the hour for opening the polls, with a list of the names of all persons who shall have paid their school taxes for that year.

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SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That the school tax which shall be levied and collected under this act shall constitute a fund, or be added to any other fund now or hereafter to be constituted by any act of said corporation for the establishment and support of common schools, and for no other purpose, under such regulations as the corporation may prescribe. School tax disposed of.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That it shall be the duty of said corporation to provide or establish at least two election precincts within the limits of the corporation of Georgetown, and to appoint not less than three judges of election for each precinct, and to adopt such other regulations as may be necessary to give full force and effect to this section. Election precincts and judges of elections.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That all acts or parts of acts in conflict with this act be and the same are hereby repealed. Inconsistent acts repealed.

APPROVED, August 11, 1856.

CHAP. LXXXV.—*An Act to confirm to certain Persons therein named, their Titles to certain Lots in Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin.* Aug. 11, 1856.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all those farm and village lots at Prairie du Chien, in the State of Wisconsin, as designated upon the plat of the private land claims at said place, in volume four of the public lands American State Papers, which plat was made in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and twenty, by Isaac Lee, Esquire, the agent appointed by the commissioners to adjust land titles at Green Bay and Prairie du Chien, which have not heretofore been confirmed and patented to the claimants, are hereby confirmed unto the several persons named upon said plat and the report of said Lee, and to their assigns and legal representatives; and village lots numbers six, ten, and eleven, in the main village, as designated upon said plat, are hereby confirmed to Hercules L. Dousman; and lot number nine, in said village, to Edward W. Pelton; and patents to the lots hereby confirmed, shall issue to such persons as now own, or as shall have the right to the same: *Provided*, That the confirmation hereby made shall not interfere with any heretofore made, and that such confirmation shall only operate as a relinquishment of title on the part of the United States, and shall in no manner interfere with any valid adverse right of any persons, if such exist, to the same land. Certain farm and village lots at Prairie du Chien confirmed. This confirmation to be only a relinquishment of title.

APPROVED, August 11, 1856.

CHAP. LXXXVI.—*An Act to provide for the Public Instruction of Youth in Primary Schools throughout the County of Washington, in the District of Columbia, without the Limits of the Cities of Washington and Georgetown.* Aug. 11, 1856.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the levy court of the county of Washington, in the District of Columbia, at their first meeting after the passage of this act, shall appoint seven intelligent inhabitants of the said county, who shall reside without the limits of the cities of Washington and Georgetown, two of whom shall be residents of that portion of the said county lying and being west of Rock Creek, three between Rock Creek and the Eastern Branch, and two east and south of the Eastern Branch, to be commissioners of primary schools for said county, which said commissioners shall hold their offices until the second Monday in May, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven, and until others are appointed in their places; and in case any of the said commissioners thus appointed or to be appointed, as aforesaid, shall refuse to serve, or die, or remove from the county, or become incapable of serving, the vacancy or vacancies shall be filled by the levy court as soon as practicable. Commissioners of primary schools in Washington County, D. C., to be appointed. Term of office. Vacancies, how filled.