Jan. 19, 1859.

CHAP. XI.—*An Act authorizing the Issue of Registers to the Steamships America and Canada, and to change the Names of said Steamships.*

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to issue registers for the steamships "America" and "Canada," now lying in the port of New York, and that the names of said ships be changed to the "Mississippi" and "Coatzacoalcos;" and said ships shall hereafter be considered and deemed to be ships or vessels of the United States, and entitled to all the rights and privileges accorded by law to ships or vessels built in the United States: *Provided*, That this act shall not go into effect until due proof shall be made to the satisfaction of said Secretary that said vessels are wholly owned by citizens of the United States or by an incorporated company entitled to receive registers for ships or vessels under the provisions of existing laws.

Names changed.

Rights and privileges.

Proviso.

Proof of ownership.

APPROVED, January 19, 1859.

Jan. 25, 1859.

CHAP. XIII.—*An Act to provide for holding the Courts of the United States in the State of Alabama.*

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in case of sickness or other disability of the district judge of the district courts of the United States in the State of Alabama, it shall be lawful for the justice of the Supreme Court of the United States for the fifth judicial circuit upon notice thereof from the judge or marshal of the said district courts, to hold any of said district courts at the regular term thereof, or at such special terms as he may appoint for that purpose.

Circuit judge to hold district courts when district judge sick or disabled.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That at any special sessions of the circuit court of the United States in said State, which shall be convened by the presiding judge of the said court, it shall be lawful for the court to entertain jurisdiction and transact business in the same manner, and with the same force and effect as at a regular term of said court.

Power at special sessions same as at regular term.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That this act shall continue in force until the fourth day of March, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, and no longer.

Act to continue till March 4, 1861.

APPROVED, January 25, 1859.

Feb. 2, 1859.

CHAP. XVII.—*An Act for the Enforcement of Mechanics' Liens on Buildings, and so forth, 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 any person who shall hereafter, by virtue of any contract with the owner of any building, or with the agent of such owner, perform any labor upon, or furnish any materials, engine, or machinery, for the construction or repairing of such building, shall, upon filing the notice prescribed in section second of this act, have a lien upon such building and the lot of ground upon which the same is situated, for such labor done, or materials, engine, or machinery furnished, when the amount shall exceed twenty dollars.

Who may enforce lien, and for what cause.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That any person wishing to avail himself of this act, whether his claim be due or not, shall file in the office of the clerk of the circuit court for the District of Columbia, at any time after the commencement of the said building and within three months after the completion of such building or repairs, a notice of his intention to hold a lien upon the property declared by this act liable to such lien, for the amount due or to become due to him, specifically setting forth the amount claimed. Upon his failure to do so, the lien shall be lost. The clerk aforesaid shall file and record such notice in a book provided for that purpose.

Notice, when and where filed, and what to state.

Lien lost, if no notice.

Notices to be recorded.

AUTHENTICATED U.S. GOVERNMENT INFORMATION GPO