

June 11, 1864.

CHAP. CXX. — *An Act to change and define the Boundaries of the Eastern and Western Judicial Districts of Virginia, and to alter the Names of said Districts, and for other Purposes.*

Jurisdiction
and name of
western district
of Virginia;

of eastern dis-
trict.

Sessions of dis-
trict of West
Virginia;

of Virginia.

Records and
files, where to be
kept.

Pending pro-
cess.

Proceedings of
of court of west-
ern district of
Virginia con-
firmed.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the jurisdiction of the western district of Virginia shall hereafter be coextensive with, and confined to the limits of the State of West Virginia, and shall be called the district of West Virginia; and the jurisdiction of the eastern district of Virginia shall hereafter be coextensive with the limits and include the whole of the State of Virginia, and shall be called the district of Virginia. The judge of the said district of West Virginia shall annually hold six sessions as follows: At Clarksburg, on the 24th days of March and August; at Wheeling, on the sixth days of April and September; and at Charleston, on the nineteenth days of April and September. The judge of the district of Virginia shall, in addition to the sessions heretofore held by him as judge of the eastern district of Virginia, hold sessions at the times and places within the district of Virginia when and where sessions were held prior to the passage of this act by the judge of the western district of Virginia.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That all the records and files of the courts of the western district of Virginia, hitherto held within the limits of the district of Virginia, as prescribed and fixed in the first section of this act, shall remain and be kept in the district of Virginia; and all records and files of the courts of the western district of Virginia, hitherto held within the limits of the district of West Virginia, as prescribed and fixed by the first section of this act, shall remain and be kept in the district of West Virginia. And all writs, suits, pleas, recognizances, indictments, and all other process, civil or criminal, issued, sued out, commenced, or pending, of which, if this act had never been passed, the judge of the western district would have had jurisdiction within the limits of the said district of Virginia, as defined by this act, shall be returned, entered, and have day before, and be heard and determined by, the judge of the district of Virginia, in the same manner, and with the same validity and effect, as they should have been returned, entered, heard, and determined by the judge of the western district of Virginia, if this act had never been passed.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That all the judicial proceedings of the court of the western district of Virginia had within the limits of the district of West Virginia, as fixed by the first section of this act, since the erection of West Virginia into a state, are hereby made and declared to be as valid and binding as if this act had been passed contemporaneously with the act establishing the State of West Virginia, and said judicial proceedings had been under and by virtue of this act.

APPROVED, June 11, 1864.

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CHAP. CXXI. — *An Act to provide for the summary Trial of minor Offences against the Laws of the United States.*

Special ses-
sions of United
States district
courts may be
held to try, &c.

Complaints
against officers
and mariners of
vessels, for offen-
ces not capital or
infamous, to be

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That it shall be lawful for the judge of any district court of the United States to hold a special session of said court at any time, whether in term or vacation, for the trial of minor offences against the laws of the United States, as hereinafter provided.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That whenever a complaint shall be made against any master, officer, or mariner of any ship or vessel belonging, in whole or in part, to any citizen or citizens of the United States, of the commission of any offence, not capital or otherwise infamous, against any law of the United States made for the protection of persons or prop-