

eighteen hundred and fifty-five, and which was published by order of congress in the year eighteen hundred and fifty-seven; and whereas said code is believed to have been a comprehensive, complete, and accurate compilation of the laws of said District at the period of its execution, and that measures should be taken to have the work brought down to the present time and perfected: Therefore—

1855, ch. 174.
Vol. x. p. 642.

Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the committees on the District of Columbia of the two houses of congress, respectively, be instructed to cause said code to be so revised, amended, and corrected, and also the laws of congress for said District passed since the compilation aforesaid, as shall adapt the same to the present condition of the laws, and may employ not more than two suitable persons on the preparation of the work, at a compensation of ten dollars per day for the time employed. And said code so prepared shall be printed by direction of said committees in a neat and convenient form for the use of the committees and congress; and said committees shall report the same to their respective houses at the next session of congress for adoption.

Revised code to
be brought down
to date.

APPROVED, June 18, 1864.

[No. 43.] *A Resolution explanatory of an Act entitled "An Act extending the Time for the completion of the Marquette and Ontonagon Railroad of the State of Michigan."*

June 18, 1864.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the provisions of the act entitled "An act extending the time for the completion of the Marquette and Ontonagon railroad of the State of Michigan," shall be so construed as to extend the time for completing only so much of said road as lies between Marquette and Ontonagon.

1864, ch. 134.
Ante, p. 137.
Construction of
act concerning
the Marquette
and Ontonagon
railroad.

APPROVED, June 18, 1864.

[No. 45.] *Joint Resolution authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to amend the Contract with John Ericsson for the Construction of two impregnable Floating Batteries, the "Dictator" and the "Puritan."*

June 25, 1864.

WHEREAS the Navy Department on the twenty-eighth day of July, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, entered into contract with Capt. John Ericsson, of the city of New York, for the construction of two impregnable floating batteries, the "Dictator" and the "Puritan;" and whereas experience with a similar class of vessels in actual conflict and during a varied service of more than two years has demonstrated that many improvements could be made to render them more complete and efficient as vessels of war; and whereas these improvements have added largely to the cost of construction of each of these vessels, rendering it impossible for the contractor to complete them under existing arrangements; and whereas it is of the utmost importance to the honor and interests of the country that they should be finished and ready for service at the earliest moment: Therefore,

Preamble.

Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Navy be, and he is hereby, authorized to amend the existing contract for the construction of these vessels so far as it relates to the "Puritan," and to appoint a competent board to ascertain the present value, as far as completed, of that vessel, and of the material on hand deemed actually necessary to her construction, and to pay to Capt. John Ericsson, the contractor, the amount of valuation so ascertained, deducting therefrom any sums already advanced towards the completion of said vessel; and that upon said payment being made by the Secretary of the Navy the rights of the contractor to said vessel and material, or any portion thereof, shall cease

Contract with
John Ericsson in
regard to the
"Puritan"
amended.

VOL. XIII. PUB. — 35