

CHAP. 63.—An Act Authorizing the Board of Commissioners of the Soldiers' Home in the District of Columbia to sell certain property known as the "Asylum lot," on Pascagoula Bay, Mississippi.

February 8, 1895.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Board of Commissioners of the Soldiers' Home be, and they are hereby, authorized to sell the property belonging to the Soldiers' Home situated on Pascagoula Bay, Mississippi, and known as the "Asylum lot."

Asylum lot, Miss.
Sale authorized.

SEC. 2. That said property shall be sold on the premises, and to the highest and best bidder, on a day to be fixed by the Board of Commissioners, after they shall have advertised the time, terms, and place of sale for thirty days in two or more papers published in the vicinity of the property: *Provided*, That the Commissioners shall be, and hereby are, authorized to withdraw said property, after it shall have been offered, on the day of sale, if a satisfactory bid shall not be received, and to readvertise from time to time as may be necessary said property for sale as above designated should there be a failure of sale from any cause.

Auction sale.

Proviso.
Withdrawal from
sale, etc.

SEC. 3. That the said Board of Commissioners shall sell said property for cash in hand, and that an immediate payment of five hundred dollars shall be made by the purchaser at said sale, to be deducted from the cash payment to be made by him on delivery of the deed, from which sum all the expenses of the sale shall be deducted in case said purchaser fails to comply with the full terms of the sale within thirty days from its date, the balance, if any, to be returned to the person making such payment; and when the purchase money shall have been paid to said Board of Commissioners they are directed to make to the purchaser a deed of conveyance for said property; and when said deed shall have been made and properly acknowledged the United States shall be divested of the title to said property, and the purchaser shall be invested with the full title to the same.

Terms of sale.

Deed.

Approved, February 8, 1895.

CHAP. 64.—An Act To regulate navigation on the Great Lakes and their connecting and tributary waters.

February 8, 1895.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following rules for preventing collisions shall be followed in the navigation of all public and private vessels of the United States upon the Great Lakes and their connecting and tributary waters as far east as Montreal.

Great Lakes, etc.
Rules to prevent col-
lisions.
Vol. 26, p. 320.

STEAM AND SAIL VESSELS.

Steam and sail ves-
sels.

RULE 1. Every steam vessel which is under sail and not under steam, shall be considered a sail vessel; and every steam vessel which is under steam, whether under sail or not, shall be considered a steam vessel. The word steam vessel shall include any vessel propelled by machinery. A vessel is under way within the meaning of these rules when she is not at anchor or made fast to the shore or aground.

Definitions.

LIGHTS.

Lights.

RULE 2. The lights mentioned in the following rules and no others shall be carried in all weathers from sunset to sunrise. The word visible in these rules when applied to lights shall mean visible on a dark night with a clear atmosphere.

Time required.

RULE 3. Except in the cases hereinafter expressly provided for, a steam vessel when under way shall carry:

Steam vessels.

(a) On or in front of the foremast, or if a vessel without a foremast, then in the forepart of the vessel, at a height above the hull of not less

Forward light.

than twenty feet, and if the beam of the vessel exceeds twenty feet, then at a height above the hull not less than such beam, so, however, that such height need not exceed forty feet, a bright white light so constructed as to show an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of twenty points of the compass, so fixed as to throw the light ten points on each side of the vessel, namely, from right ahead to two points abaft the beam on either side, and of such character as to be visible at a distance of at least five miles.

Starboard.

(b) On the starboard side, a green light, so constructed as to throw an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of ten points of the compass, so fixed as to throw the light from right ahead to two points abaft the beam on the starboard side, and of such a character as to be visible at a distance of at least two miles.

Port.

(c) On the port side, a red light, so constructed as to show an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of ten points of the compass, so fixed as to throw the light from right ahead to two points abaft the beam on the port side, and of such a character as to be visible at a distance of at least two miles.

Screens.

(d) The said green and red lights shall be fitted with inboard screens projecting at least three feet forward from the light, so as to prevent these lights from being seen across the bow.

Additional for large vessels.

(e) A steamer of over one hundred and fifty feet register length shall also carry when under way an additional bright light similar in construction to that mentioned in subdivision (a), so fixed as to throw the light all around the horizon and of such character as to be visible at a distance of at least three miles. Such additional light shall be placed in line with the keel at least fifteen feet higher from the deck and more than seventy-five feet abaft the light mentioned in subdivision (a).

Vessels towing.

VESSELS TOWING.

Steam vessels without raft.

RULE 4. A steam vessel having a tow other than a raft shall in addition to the forward bright light mentioned in subdivision (a) of rule three carry in a vertical line not less than six feet above or below that light a second bright light of the same construction and character and fixed and carried in the same manner as the forward bright light mentioned in said subdivision (a) of rule three. Such steamer shall also carry a small bright light abaft the funnel or after mast for the tow to steer by, but such light shall not be visible forward of the beam.

With raft.

RULE 5. A steam vessel having a raft in tow shall, instead of the forward lights mentioned in rule four, carry on or in front of the foremast, or if a vessel without a foremast then in the fore part of the vessel, at a height above the hull of not less than twenty feet, and if the beam of the vessel exceeds twenty feet, then at a height above the hull not less than such beam, so however that such height need not exceed forty feet, two bright lights in a horizontal line athwartships and not less than eight feet apart, each so fixed as to throw the light all around the horizon and of such character as to be visible at a distance of at least five miles. Such steamer shall also carry the small bright steering light aft, of the character and fixed as required in rule four.

Sailing and vessels in tow.

RULE 6. A sailing vessel under way and any vessel being towed shall carry the side lights mentioned in rule three.

A vessel in tow shall also carry a small bright light aft, but such light shall not be visible forward of the beam.

Rules to be made for tugs, etc.

RULE 7. The lights for tugs under thirty tons register whose principal business is harbor towing, and for boats navigating only on the River Saint Lawrence, also ferryboats, rafts, and canal boats, shall be regulated by rules which have been or may hereafter be prescribed by the Board of Supervising Inspectors of Steam Vessels.

Small vessels may use portable lights.

RULE 8. Whenever, as in the case of small vessels under way during bad weather, the green and red side lights can not be fixed, these lights shall be kept at hand lighted and ready for use, and shall, on the

approach of or to other vessels, be exhibited on their respective sides in sufficient time to prevent collision, in such manner as to make them most visible, and so that the green light shall not be seen on the port side, nor the red light on the starboard side, nor, if practicable, more than two points abaft the beam on their respective sides. To make the use of these portable lights more certain and easy, they shall each be painted outside with the color of the light they respectively contain, and shall be provided with suitable screens.

RULE 9. A vessel under one hundred and fifty feet register length, when at anchor, shall carry forward, where it can best be seen, but at a height not exceeding twenty feet above the hull, a white light in a lantern constructed so as to show a clear, uniform, and unbroken light, visible all around the horizon, at a distance of at least one mile.

A vessel of one hundred and fifty feet or upward in register length, when at anchor, shall carry in the forward part of the vessel, at a height of not less than twenty and not exceeding forty feet above the hull, one such light, and at or near the stern of the vessel, and at such a height that it shall be not less than fifteen feet lower than the forward light, another such light.

RULE 10. Produce boats, canal boats, fishing boats, rafts, or other water craft navigating any bay, harbor, or river by hand power, horse power, sail, or by the current of the river, or which shall be anchored or moored in or near the channel or fairway of any bay, harbor, or river, and not otherwise provided for in these rules, shall carry one or more good white lights, which shall be placed in such manner as shall be prescribed by the Board of Supervising Inspectors of Steam Vessels.

RULE 11. Open boats shall not be obliged to carry the side lights required for other vessels, but shall, if they do not carry such lights, carry a lantern having a green slide on one side and a red slide on the other side; and on the approach of or to other vessels, such lantern shall be exhibited in sufficient time to prevent collision, and in such a manner that the green light shall not be seen on the port side, nor the red light on the starboard side. Open boats, when at anchor or stationary, shall exhibit a bright white light. They shall not, however, be prevented from using a flare-up in addition if considered expedient.

RULE 12. Sailing vessels shall at all times, on the approach of any steamer during the nighttime, show a lighted torch upon that point or quarter to which such steamer shall be approaching.

RULE 13. The exhibition of any light on board of a vessel of war or revenue cutter of the United States may be suspended whenever, in the opinion of the Secretary of the Navy, the commander in chief of a squadron, or the commander of a vessel acting singly, the special character of the service may require it.

FOG SIGNALS.

RULE 14. A steam vessel shall be provided with an efficient whistle, sounded by steam or by some substitute for steam, placed before the funnel not less than eight feet from the deck, or in such other place as the local inspectors of steam vessels shall determine, and of such character as to be heard in ordinary weather at a distance of at least two miles, and with an efficient bell, and it is hereby made the duty of the United States local inspectors of steam vessels when inspecting the same to require each steamer to be furnished with such whistle and bell. A sailing vessel shall be provided with an efficient fog horn and with an efficient bell.

Whenever there is thick weather by reason of fog, mist, falling snow, heavy rainstorms, or other causes, whether by day or by night, fog signals shall be used as follows:

(a) A steam vessel under way, excepting only a steam vessel with raft in tow, shall sound at intervals of not more than one minute three distinct blasts of her whistle.

Vessels at anchor.

Large vessels.

Produce, canal, etc., boats.

Open boats may use lantern with slides.

Use of torch.

Government vessels.

Fog signals.

Steam vessels.

Sailing vessels.

Signals.

Steam vessels.

Vessels in tow.	(b) Every vessel in tow of another vessel shall, at intervals of one minute, sound four bells on a good and efficient and properly placed bell as follows: By striking the bell twice in quick succession, followed by a little longer interval, and then again striking twice in quick succession (in the manner in which four bells is struck in indicating time).
Steamer with raft.	(c) A steamer with a raft in tow shall sound at intervals of not more than one minute a screeching or Modoc whistle for from three to five seconds.
Sailing vessels.	(d) A sailing vessel under way and not in tow shall sound at intervals of not more than one minute— If on the starboard tack with wind forward of abeam, one blast of her fog horn; If on the port tack with wind forward of the beam, two blasts of her fog horn; If she has the wind abaft the beam on either side, three blasts of her fog horn.
Vessels at anchor.	(e) Any vessel at anchor and any vessel aground in or near a channel or fairway shall at intervals of not more than two minutes ring the bell rapidly for three to five seconds.
Small vessels.	(f) Vessels of less than ten tons registered tonnage, not being steam vessels, shall not be obliged to give the above-mentioned signals, but if they do not they shall make some other efficient sound signal at intervals of not more than one minute.
Produce, fishing, etc., boats.	(g) Produce boats, fishing boats, rafts, or other water craft navigating by hand power or by the current of the river, or anchored or moored in or near the channel or fairway and not in any port, and not otherwise provided for in these rules, shall sound a fog horn, or equivalent signal, at intervals of not more than one minute.
Reduced speed in thick weather.	RULE 15. Every vessel shall, in thick weather, by reason of fog, mist, falling snow, heavy rain storms, or other causes, go at moderate speed. A steam vessel hearing, apparently not more than four points from right ahead, the fog signal of another vessel shall at once reduce her speed to bare steerageway, and navigate with caution until the vessels shall have passed each other.

Steering and sailing.

STEERING AND SAILING RULES.

Sailing vessels.

SAILING VESSELS.

Course.

RULE 16. When two sailing vessels are approaching one another so as to involve risk of collision one of them shall keep out of the way of the other, as follows, namely:

(a) A vessel which is running free shall keep out of the way of a vessel which is closehauled.

(b) A vessel which is closehauled on the port tack shall keep out of the way of a vessel which is closehauled on the starboard tack.

(c) When both are running free, with the wind on different sides, the vessel which has the wind on the port side shall keep out of the way of the other.

(d) When they are running free, with the wind on the same side, the vessel which is to windward shall keep out of the way of the vessel which is to leeward.

Steam vessels.

STEAM VESSELS.

Course.
Meeting.

RULE 17. When two steam vessels are meeting end on, or nearly end on, so as to involve risk of collision each shall alter her course to starboard, so that each shall pass on the port side of the other.

Crossing.

RULE 18. When two steam vessels are crossing so as to involve risk of collision the vessel which has the other on her own starboard side shall keep out of the way of the other.

Meeting sailing vessels.

RULE 19. When a steam vessel and a sailing vessel are proceeding in such directions as to involve risk of collision the steam vessel shall keep out of the way of the sailing vessel.

RULE 20. Where, by any of the rules herein prescribed, one of two vessels shall keep out of the way, the other shall keep her course and speed.

Keeping course.

RULE 21. Every steam vessel which is directed by these rules to keep out of the way of another vessel shall, on approaching her, if necessary, slacken her speed or stop or reverse.

Approaching.

RULE 22. Notwithstanding anything contained in these rules every vessel overtaking any other shall keep out of the way of the overtaken vessel.

Overtaking.

RULE 23. In all weathers every steam vessel under way in taking any course authorized or required by these rules shall indicate that course by the following signals on her whistle, to be accompanied whenever required by corresponding alteration of her helm; and every steam vessel receiving a signal from another shall promptly respond with the same signal or, as provided in Rule Twenty-six:

Whistle signals.

One blast to mean, "I am directing my course to starboard."

One blast.

Two blasts to mean, "I am directing my course to port." But the giving or answering signals by a vessel required to keep her course shall not vary the duties and obligations of the respective vessels.

Two blasts.

RULE 24. That in all narrow channels where there is a current, and in the rivers Saint Mary, Saint Clair, Detroit, Niagara, and Saint Lawrence, when two steamers are meeting, the descending steamer shall have the right of way, and shall, before the vessels shall have arrived within the distance of one-half mile of each other, give the signal necessary to indicate which side she elects to take.

Steamers meeting in currents and rivers.

RULE 25. In all channels less than five hundred feet in width, no steam vessel shall pass another going in the same direction unless the steam vessel ahead be disabled or signify her willingness that the steam vessel astern shall pass, when the steam vessel astern may pass, subject, however, to the other rules applicable to such a situation. And when steam vessels proceeding in opposite directions are about to meet in such channels, both such vessels shall be slowed down to a moderate speed, according to the circumstances.

Passing in narrow channels forbidden.

RULE 26. If the pilot of a steam vessel to which a passing signal is sounded deems it unsafe to accept and assent to said signal, he shall not sound a cross signal; but in that case, and in every case where the pilot of one steamer fails to understand the course or intention of an approaching steamer, whether from signals being given or answered erroneously, or from other causes, the pilot of such steamer so receiving the first passing signal, or the pilot so in doubt, shall sound several short and rapid blasts of the whistle; and if the vessels shall have approached within half a mile of each other both shall reduce their speed to bare steerageway, and, if necessary, stop and reverse.

Meeting.

Refusal to pass.

RULE 27. In obeying and construing these rules due regard shall be had to all dangers of navigation and collision and to any special circumstances which may render a departure from the above rules necessary in order to avoid immediate danger.

Danger to be avoided.

RULE 28. Nothing in these rules shall exonerate any vessel, or the owner or master or crew thereof, from the consequences of any neglect to carry lights or signals, or of any neglect to keep a proper lookout, or of a neglect of any precaution which may be required by the ordinary practice of seamen, or by the special circumstances of the case.

Liability for neglect, etc.

SEC. 2. That a fine, not exceeding two hundred dollars, may be imposed for the violation of any of the provisions of this Act. The vessel shall be liable for the said penalty, and may be seized and proceeded against, by way of libel, in the district court of the United States for any district within which such vessel may be found.

Penalty for violations.

SEC. 3. That the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States shall have authority to establish all necessary regulations, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, required to carry the same into effect.

Regulations.

The Board of Supervising Inspectors of the United States shall have authority to establish such regulations to be observed by all steam

Steam vessels passing. vessels in passing each other, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, as they shall from time to time deem necessary; and all regulations adopted by the said Board of Supervising Inspectors under the authority of this Act, when approved by the Secretary of the Treasury, shall have the force of law. Two printed copies of any such regulations for passing, signed by them, shall be furnished to each steam vessel, and shall at all times be kept posted up in conspicuous places on board.

Repeal. SEC. 4. That all laws or parts of laws, so far as applicable to the navigation of the Great Lakes and their connecting and tributary waters as far east as Montreal, inconsistent with the foregoing rules are hereby repealed.

Effect. SEC. 5. That this Act shall take effect on and after March first, eighteen hundred and ninety-five.

Approved, February 8, 1895.

February 9, 1895.

CHAP. 78.—An Act For the immediate relief of the suffering poor of the District of Columbia.

District of Columbia. Appropriation for relief of the poor. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That there is hereby appropriated the sum of ten thousand dollars, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the immediate relief of the suffering poor of the District of Columbia, to be disbursed under the direction of the Commissioners of said District, by the organized charities of said District, one-half of said sum to be charged to said District.

Approved, February 9, 1895.

February 11, 1895.

CHAP. 79.—An Act Changing the name of Georgetown, in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

District of Columbia. Georgetown to be a part of Washington. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That from and after the passage of this act all that part of the District of Columbia embraced within the bounds and now constituting the city of Georgetown, as referred to in said acts of February twenty-first, eighteen hundred and seventy-one, and June twentieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-four, shall no longer be known by the name and title in law of the city of Georgetown, but the same shall be known as and shall constitute a part of the city of Washington, the Federal Capital; and all general laws, ordinances, and regulations of the city of Washington be, and the same are hereby, extended and made applicable to that part of the District of Columbia formerly known as the city of Georgetown; and all general laws, regulations, and ordinances of the city of Georgetown be, and the same are hereby, repealed; that the title and existence of said Georgetown as a separate and independent city by law is hereby abolished, and that the Commissioners of the District of Columbia be, and they are hereby, directed to cause the nomenclature of the streets and avenues of Georgetown to conform to those of Washington so far as practicable. And the said Commissioners are also directed to have the squares in Georgetown renumbered, so that no square shall hereafter bear a like number to any square in the city of Washington: *Provided,* That nothing in this Act shall operate to affect or repeal existing law making Georgetown a port of entry, except as to its name.

Approved, February 11, 1895.