

parties or any of them may be related to the said judge of the criminal court, then such case and the record thereof may be sent to the next circuit court of the District of Columbia for the county in which the said case shall have arisen, to be there tried and determined, and sentence passed and executed, as if this act and the act to which this is supplemental had never been passed.

any of the parties are related to the judge.

SEC. 9. *And be it further enacted*, That all causes, indictments, writs, process, and proceedings which were pending in the criminal court of the District of Columbia for the county of Washington, at the time appointed by law for holding a session thereof, on the first Monday of December last past, or which were returnable to the session of said court which ought to have been held on said first Monday of December, shall be, and the same are hereby, revived, reinstated, and continued over to the next stated session of said court for said county, to be held on the second Monday of March next, in the same manner and condition, and the same further proceedings may be had therein as if a session of the said court had been held, according to law, on the said first Monday of December, and as if a regular continuance of all said causes, indictments, writs, process, and proceedings, had been duly entered upon the records of the said court.

All cases, &c.
which were
pending in
Washington co.
revived, &c.

APPROVED, February 20, 1839.

STATUTE III.

Feb. 28, 1839.

CHAP. XXXIII.—*An Act to prevent the abatement of suits and actions now pending, in which the Bank of Columbia, in Georgetown, may be a party.*

No suit, &c.
now pending,
shall abate, &c.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That no suit, action, judgment, or decree, now pending and unsatisfied, in which the Bank of Columbia, in Georgetown, is party, plaintiff or defendant, shall abate, or be discontinued or dismissed by reason of the expiration of the term for which the said bank is chartered, but all such suits, actions, judgments, and decrees shall be allowed to proceed to final judgment, execution, satisfaction, and settlement; and for that purpose it shall be lawful to use the corporate name, style and capacity, notwithstanding the expiration of the term of its incorporation.

APPROVED, February 28, 1839.

STATUTE III.

Feb. 28, 1839.

CHAP. XXXV.—*An Act to abolish imprisonment for debt in certain cases. (a)*

Imprisonment
for debt abol-
ished.
Act of Jan. 14,
1841, ch. 2.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That no person shall be imprisoned for debt in any State, on process issuing out of a court of the United States, where by the laws of such State, imprisonment for debt has been abolished; and where by the laws of a State, imprisonment for debt shall be allowed, under certain conditions and restrictions, the same conditions and restrictions shall be applicable to the process issuing out of the courts of the United States; and the same proceedings shall be had therein, as are adopted in the courts of such State.

APPROVED, February 28, 1839.

STATUTE III.

Feb. 28, 1839.

CHAP. XXXVI.—*An Act in amendment of the acts respecting the Judicial System of the United States. (b)*

The court may
entertain juris-
diction in cer-
tain cases.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That where, in any suit at law or in equity, commenced in any court of the United States, there shall be several defendants, any one or more of whom shall not be inhabitants

(a) See notes of acts relating to imprisonment for debt, vol. 1, 265.

(b) An act concerning the Supreme Court of the United States, June 17, 1844, chap. 96.

of or found within the district where the suit is brought or shall not voluntarily appear thereto, it shall be lawful for the court to entertain jurisdiction, and proceed to the trial and adjudication of such suit, between the parties who may be properly before it; but the judgment or decree rendered therein shall not conclude or prejudice other parties, not regularly served with process, or not voluntarily appearing to answer; and the nonjoinder of parties who are not so inhabitants, or found within the district, shall constitute no matter of abatement, or other objection to said suit.

Appointment of clerks—how made.

Pecuniary penalties, &c. where sued for and recovered.

No suits, &c. to be maintained for penalties, &c. unless commenced within five years.

Proviso.

Certain punishments abolished.

Penalties, for the forfeiture of recognizance, &c. may be remitted.

Sec. 2 of act of 29th April 1802, ch. 31, repealed.

In suits and actions in which the judges are in any way concerned, &c.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That all the circuit courts of the United States shall have the appointment of their own clerks; and in case of a disagreement between the judges the appointment shall be made by the presiding judge of the court.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That all pecuniary penalties and forfeitures accruing under the laws of the United States may be sued for and recovered in any court of competent jurisdiction in the State or district where such penalties or forfeitures have accrued, or in which the offender or offenders may be found.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That no suit or prosecution shall be maintained, for any penalty or forfeiture, pecuniary or otherwise, accruing under the laws of the United States, unless the same suit or prosecution shall be commenced within five years from the time when the penalty or forfeiture accrued; *Provided*, The person of the offender or the property liable for such penalty or forfeiture shall, within the same period, be found within the United States; so that the proper process may be instituted and served against such person or property therefor.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That the punishment of whipping and the punishment of standing in the pillory, so far as they now are provided for by the laws of the United States, be, and the same are hereby, abolished.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That, in all cases of recognizances in criminal causes taken for, or in, or returnable to, the courts of the United States, which shall be forfeited by a breach of the condition thereof, the said court for or in which the same shall be so taken, or to which the same shall be returnable, shall have authority in their discretion to remit the whole or a part of the penalty, whenever it shall appear to the court that there has been no wilful default of the parties, and that a trial can notwithstanding be had in the cause, and that public justice does not otherwise require the same penalty to be exacted or enforced.

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That the second section of the act of Congress, passed the twenty-ninth day of April, one thousand eight hundred and two, which makes it the duty of the associate justice of the Supreme Court, resident in the fourth circuit, to attend in the city of Washington, on the first Monday of August annually, to make orders respecting the business of the Supreme Court, be, and the same is, hereby, repealed.

SEC. 8. *And be it further enacted*, That in all suits and actions in any circuit court of the United States in which it shall appear that both the judges thereof or the judge thereof, who is solely competent by law to try the same, shall be any ways concerned in interest therein, or shall have been of counsel for either party, or is, or are so related to or connected with either party as to render it improper for him or them, in his or their opinion, to sit in the trial of such suit or action, it shall be the duty of such judge or judges, on application of either party to cause the fact to be entered on the records of the court; and also to make an order that an authenticated copy thereof, with all the proceedings in such suit or action, shall be forthwith certified to the most convenient circuit court in the next adjacent State, or in the next adjacent circuit; which circuit court shall, upon such record and order being filed with the clerk there-

of, take cognizance thereof in the same manner as if such suit or action had been rightfully and originally commenced therein, and shall proceed to hear and determine the same accordingly, and the proper process for the due execution of the judgment or decree rendered therein, shall run into and may be executed in the district where such judgment or decree was rendered, and also, into the district from which such suit or action was removed.

APPROVED, February 28, 1839.

CHAP. XXXVII.—*An Act to revise and extend “An act to authorize the issuing of Treasury notes to meet the current expenses of the Government,” approved the twenty-first of May, eighteen hundred and thirty-eight. (a)*

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, with the approbation of the President of the United States, is hereby authorized to cause to be issued the remainder of the Treasury notes authorized to be issued by the act to authorize the issuing of Treasury notes to meet the current expenses of the Government, “approved the twenty-first day of May, eighteen hundred and thirty-eight, according to the provisions of said act, at any time prior to the thirtieth day of June next, any limitation in the act aforesaid or in the act “to authorize the issuing of Treasury notes,” approved the twelfth day of October, eighteen hundred and thirty-seven, to the contrary notwithstanding.

APPROVED, March 2, 1839.

CHAP. LXX.—*An Act to provide for the erection of public buildings in the Territory of Florida.*

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the sum of twenty thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby, granted to the Territory of Florida, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of erecting a suitable State House or public buildings in the Territory of Florida, for the use and accommodation of the Territorial Legislature of said Territory; and in which building, when erected and completed, the office of the Secretary of said Territory shall be kept, and also the public records and archives of said Territory.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the said sum of money appropriated by the first section of this act shall be paid over to the Treasurer of said Territory on the order of the Governor, and shall be expended for the purpose aforesaid, under the direction of the Governor and Legislative Council, and in such way and manner and at such times as they shall, by law or resolution for that purpose, prescribe: *Provided*, That the passage of this law shall not at any time be held as an engagement on the part of the United States for any further appropriation to the objects hereinbefore mentioned.

APPROVED, March 3, 1839.

CHAP. LXXI.—*An Act making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department, and for fulfilling treaty stipulations with the various Indian tribes, for the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-nine.*

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following sums be, and they are hereby, appropriated, for the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-nine, for the purpose of paying the current

(a) Notes of the acts which have been passed relative to the issuing of Treasury notes, vol. 3, 100.

STATUTE III.

March 2, 1839.

Act of May 21, 1838, ch. 82.

Sec. Treas. to cause to be issued the remainder of the Treasury notes authorized by act of 21st May 1838, ch. 82.

1837, ch. 2.

STATUTE III.

March 3, 1839.

[Obsolete.]

Appropriation to Florida for the erection of public buildings.

To be paid to the Treasurer of the Territory on the order of the Governor, &c.

Proviso.

STATUTE III.

March 3, 1839.

[Obsolete.]