

- Marriage settlements, etc.** SEC. 6. That nothing in this Act contained shall invalidate any marriage settlement or contract.
- Antenuptial debts.** SEC. 7. That the husband shall not be liable for the payment of the wife's antenuptial debts, but she shall be liable to all remedies for the recovery of such debts, to be enforced against her and her separate property as if she were unmarried.
- Father and mother to be guardians of children.** SEC. 8. That the father and mother shall be the natural guardians of the person of their minor children. If either dies or is incapable of acting, the natural guardianship of the person shall devolve upon the other: *Provided, however,* That in case of the death of either parent from whom the said children may inherit, or take by devise or bequest, the said parent may, by deed or last will and testament, appoint a guardian of the property of the children, subject to the approval of the proper court of the District of Columbia.
- Proviso. Guardian of property permitted.** SEC. 9. That the survivor may by last will appoint a guardian of the person and property of any of the children, whether born at the time of making the will or afterwards, to continue during the minority of the child, or for a less time, subject at all times to removal for cause and appointment of another by the proper court.
- Appointment of guardian.** SEC. 10. That dower shall hereafter be assigned to a widow entitled to the same in the equitable as well as the legal estate of her deceased husband.
- Dower in equitable and legal estates.** SEC. 11. That sections seven hundred and twenty-seven, seven hundred and twenty-nine, and seven hundred and thirty of the Revised Statutes of the United States for the District of Columbia, be and the same are hereby repealed.
- Repeals.** Approved, June 1, 1896.

June 1, 1896.

CHAP. 304.—An Act To incorporate the National University.

- National University incorporated.** *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That Arthur McArthur, Richard H. Alvey, Charles C. Coie, William B. Webb, Eugene Carusi, H. O. Claughton, Thomas Wilson, Matthew G. Emery, John Goode, Charles Lyman, John T. Winter, Howard H. Barker, and William C. Whittemore, their associates and successors, are hereby constituted a body politic and corporate, by the name of the National University, with power to sue and be sued, plead and be pleaded, and to have perpetual succession; to acquire, take by devise, bequest, or otherwise, hold, purchase, encumber, and convey such real and personal estate as shall be required for the purpose of its incorporation; to make and use a common seal, and the same to alter at pleasure.
- Powers.** SEC. 2. That the aforesaid incorporators shall be and constitute a board of trustees for the said university, seven of whom shall constitute a quorum to do business, and which board shall be, and are authorized to fill any vacancies in their number, to appoint such officers and agents as the business of the corporation shall require, and to make by-laws for the accomplishment of its purposes, for the management of its property, and for the regulation of its affairs. Said corporation is hereby empowered to establish and maintain within the District of Columbia a university for the promotion of education. The said corporation shall have power to grant and confer diplomas and the usual college and university degrees, and honorary degrees, and also such other powers as may be necessary fully to carry out and execute the general purposes of the said corporation as herein appearing.
- Board of trustees.** SEC. 3. That this Act may be amended or repealed at any time by the Congress at its pleasure.
- Granting diplomas, etc.** Approved, June 1, 1896.
- Amendment, etc.**

CHAP. 309.—An Act To amend section thirty-two hundred and fifty-five of the Revised Statutes of the United States concerning the distilling of brandy from fruits.

June 3, 1896.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section thirty-two hundred and fifty-five of the Revised Statutes of the United States be, and the same is hereby, amended so as to read as follows:

Fruit brandy.

“SEC. 3255. The Commissioner of Internal Revenue, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, may exempt distillers of brandy made exclusively from apples, peaches, grapes, pears, pine-apples, oranges, apricots, berries or prunes from any provision of this title relating to the manufacture of spirits, except as to the tax thereon, when in his judgment it may seem expedient to do so.”

Distillers exempted from general spirit regulations.
R. S. sec. 3255, p. 627, amended.

Approved, June 3, 1896.

CHAP. 310.—An Act To repeal section sixty-one of an Act to reduce taxation, to provide revenue for the Government, and for other purposes, which became a law August twenty-eighth, eighteen hundred and ninety-four.

June 3, 1896.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section sixty-one of an Act entitled “An Act to reduce taxation, to provide revenue for the Government, and for other purposes,” which became a law August twenty-eighth, eighteen hundred and ninety-four, be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

Alcohol in the arts.
Repeal of tax exemption.
Vol. 28, p. 567.

SEC. 2. That a joint select committee is hereby authorized, to consist of three Senators to be appointed by the presiding officer of the Senate, and three Members of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House, which select committee shall consider all questions relating to the use of alcohol in the manufactures and arts free of tax, and to report their conclusions to Congress on the first Monday in December, eighteen hundred and ninety-six.

Congressional committee to examine and report on use of alcohol in the arts, etc.

Post, p. 697.

Said joint select committee is authorized to sit, by subcommittee or otherwise, during the recess or session of Congress, at such times and places as they deem advisable; to summon witnesses, administer oaths, print testimony or other information, and to employ such stenographic, clerical, and other assistance as may be necessary, one half of the expense to be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate and one-half from the contingent fund of the House of Representatives.

Powers, etc.

Approved, June 3, 1896.

CHAP. 311.—An Act Authorizing the construction of a wagon and motor bridge over the Missouri River at Saint Charles, Missouri.

June 3, 1896.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Saint Charles and Saint Louis County Bridge Company, a corporation duly created under the laws of the State of Missouri, its successors and assigns, are hereby authorized to construct and maintain a bridge and approaches thereto, across the Missouri River, between the city of Saint Charles, Missouri, and Saint Louis County, Missouri, at a point to be selected consistent with the interests of river navigation. Said bridge shall be constructed to provide for the passage of wagons and vehicles of all kinds, street railway cars, motor cars, animals, foot passengers, and for all road travel, for such reasonable rates of toll and under such reasonable rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the said corporation, its successors or assigns, and approved from time to time by the Secretary of War: *Provided*, That the said corporation, or its successors and assigns, shall build and maintain at all times, as accessory works to said bridge, such booms, piers, dikes, guard fences, and similar devices as may be necessary, in the judgment of the Secretary of War, to insure at all times a permanent channel for a sufficient distance above and below*

Saint Charles and Saint Louis County Bridge Company may bridge Missouri River.

Wagon, etc., bridge.

Toll.

Provisos.
Aids to navigation.