

**CHAP. 294.**—An Act To provide for a volunteer brigade of engineers and an additional force of ten thousand enlisted men specially accustomed to tropical climates.

May 11, 1898.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That, in addition to the volunteer forces provided for by the Act of April twenty-second, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, entitled "An Act to provide for temporarily increasing the military establishment of the United States in time of war, and for other purposes," the President may authorize the Secretary of War to organize, under the terms and conditions of the aforesaid Act, a volunteer brigade of engineers from the nation at large, to consist of not more than three regiments and not more than three thousand five hundred men, possessing the special qualifications necessary for engineer troops, under such rules and regulations, including the appointment of the officers thereof, as may be prescribed by the Secretary of War: *Provided*, That not to exceed three officers of the Corps of Engineers of the Regular Army may hold volunteer commissions in any one regiment of the volunteer brigade of engineers at the same time: *And provided further*, That all officers shall be appointed by the President and with the consent of the Senate.

Volunteer Army.  
Organization of brigade of engineers.  
*Ante*, p. 361.  
*Post*, p. 721.

*Provisos.*  
Regular Army officers; limit.

Appointment of officers.

Organization of force immune to tropical diseases.

**SEC. 2.** And the President is further empowered, during the present war, under the Act of April twenty-second, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, to authorize the Secretary of War to organize an additional volunteer force of not exceeding ten thousand enlisted men possessing immunity from diseases incident to tropical climates; the officers thereof to be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

**SEC. 3.** The provisions of the Act of April twenty-second, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, which provide that volunteers called out by proclamation of the President shall be apportioned to the several States, and the provisions of said Act which provide that the Governors of the States shall appoint officers shall not apply to this Act.

Apportionment.

Appointment of officers.

Approved, May 11, 1898.

**CHAP. 295.**—An Act To amend section five of an Act entitled "An Act to punish the carrying or selling of deadly or dangerous weapons within the District of Columbia, and for other purposes," approved July thirteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-two.

May 11, 1898.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That section five of the Act approved July thirteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-two, entitled "An Act to punish the carrying or selling of deadly or dangerous weapons within the District of Columbia, and for other purposes," be, and the same hereby is, amended so as to read as follows:

District of Columbia.  
Carrying of concealed weapons.  
*Vol.* 27, p. 117.

**SEC. 5.** That any person or persons who shall, within the District of Columbia, sell, barter, hire, lend, or give to any person under the age of twenty-one years, any such weapon as hereinbefore described shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall, upon conviction thereof, pay a fine of not more than one hundred dollars, or to be imprisoned in the jail of the District of Columbia not more than three months. No person shall engage in or conduct the business of the kind hereinbefore named without having previously obtained from the Commissioners of the District of Columbia a special license authorizing the conduct of such business by such person; and the said Commissioners are hereby authorized to grant such license, without fee therefor, upon the filing with them by the applicant therefor of a bond with sureties, to be by them approved, conditioned in such penal sum as they shall fix, to the United States for the compliance by said applicant with all the provisions of this section; and upon any breach or breaches of said condition said bond shall be put in suit by said United States for its benefit, and said Commissioners may revoke said license.

—punishment for sale to minors.

Special license for dealers in weapons.

—penalty for dealing without license.

Register of sales, etc., to be kept.

—penalty for failure.

Half of fine to informer.

Any person engaging in said business without having previously obtained said special license shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than one hundred dollars nor more than five hundred dollars, and in default of the payment of said fine the person convicted shall be imprisoned in the workhouse of the District of Columbia for a period of not more than six months. All persons whose business it is to sell, barter, hire, lend, or give any such weapon or weapons, shall be, and they are hereby, required to keep a written register of the name and residence of every purchaser, barterer, hirer, borrower, or donee of any such weapon or weapons, together with a full description of said weapon or weapons; which register shall be subject to the inspection of the major and superintendent of Metropolitan police of the District of Columbia, or other person by him authorized in that behalf, and further, to make report on or before the first Tuesday in each and every month, under oath, to said major and superintendent, of all such sales, barterings, hirings, lendings, or gifts made during the preceding month, together with a full description of said weapon or weapons and the name and residence of every purchaser, barterer, hirer, borrower, or donee of any such weapon or weapons. Any person or persons who shall refuse, neglect, or fail to keep said register as hereinbefore provided, or shall refuse, neglect, or fail to make said report at the time and in the manner provided for in this section, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall, upon conviction thereof, pay a fine of not more than one hundred dollars, and in default of the payment of said fine the person convicted shall be imprisoned in the workhouse of the District of Columbia for a period of not more than sixty days, and the Commissioners of said District may revoke said license. And one-half of every fine imposed under this section shall be paid to the informer, if any, whose information shall have led to the conviction of the person paying said fine."

Approved, May 11, 1898.

May 12, 1898.

**CHAP. 296.**—An Act To increase the number of surgeons in the United States Army.

Army.  
Assistant surgeons,  
number increased.  
Vol. 28, p. 403.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the number of medical officers of the Army be increased by the addition of fifteen assistant surgeons with the rank of first lieutenant, to be appointed after examination by an army medical examining board, in accordance with existing regulations.

Contract surgeons.

**SEC. 2.** That in emergencies the Surgeon-General of the Army, with the approval of the Secretary of War, may appoint as many contract surgeons as may be necessary, at a compensation not to exceed one hundred and fifty dollars per month.

Approved, May 12, 1898.

May 14, 1898.

**CHAP. 297.**—An Act To provide a life-saving station on the westerly side of the harbor of Gloucester, Massachusetts.

Gloucester, Mass.  
Life-saving station  
established at.

*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 be, and he is hereby, authorized to establish a life-saving station on the westerly side of the harbor of Gloucester, Massachusetts, at such point as the General Superintendent of the Life-Saving Service may recommend.

Approved, May 14, 1898.