

# PUBLIC ACTS OF THE FIFTY-SIXTH CONGRESS

OF THE

## UNITED STATES

*Passed at the first session, which was begun and held at the city of Washington, in the District of Columbia, on Monday the fourth day of December, 1899, and was adjourned without day on Thursday the seventh day of June, 1900.*

WILLIAM MCKINLEY, President; WILLIAM P. FRYE, President of the Senate, *pro tempore*; DAVID B. HENDERSON, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

**CHAP. 1.**—An Act To extend the time for examination of monthly accounts by  
bureaus and offices of the War Department. December 20, 1899.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the time for examination of monthly accounts by the bureaus and offices of the War Department after the date of actual receipt and before transmitting the same to the Auditor for the War Department, as limited by section twelve of the legislative, executive, and judicial appropriation Act, approved July thirty-first, eighteen hundred and ninety-four, is hereby extended from twenty days to sixty days for the period of one year from the date of the passage of this Act.

War Department.  
Examination of  
monthly accounts;  
time extended.

Vol. 28, p. 209.

Approved, December 20, 1899.

**CHAP. 2.**—An Act To authorize the Secretary of the Navy to change the material to be used in the construction of the dry docks at the navy-yards at League Island, Pennsylvania, and Mare Island, California, from timber to concrete and stone. January 25, 1900.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the provisions of "An Act making appropriations for the naval service for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, and for other purposes," approved May fourth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, relating to the construction of dry docks, as modified by "An Act making appropriations for the naval service for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred, and for other purposes," approved March third, eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, are hereby further modified so that the Secretary of the Navy may, in his discretion, contract for the construction of the dry docks at League Island, Pennsylvania, and at Mare Island, California, in addition to those at Boston, Massachusetts, and Portsmouth, New Hampshire, to be built of concrete and stone, and in such case the limit of cost of the dry docks for

League Island and  
Mare Island Navy-  
Yards.  
Change of material  
for dry docks author-  
ized.

Vol. 30, pp. 379, 1035.

Mare Island, California, and League Island, Pennsylvania, is so far modified that the total additional increased cost for the two dry docks aforesaid shall not in the aggregate exceed seven hundred thousand dollars.

Approved, January 25, 1900.

January 27, 1900.

**CHAP. 3.**—An Act Extending the time for the completion of a wagon and motor bridge across the Missouri River at Saint Charles, Missouri, as provided by an Act approved June third, eighteen hundred and ninety-six.

Time extended for  
bridging Missouri  
River at St. Charles.  
Vol. 29, p. 195.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the time for completing the construction of a wagon and motor bridge across the Missouri River at Saint Charles, Missouri, as fixed by an Act approved June third, eighteen hundred and ninety-six, be extended to June third, nineteen hundred and two.

Approved, January 27, 1900.

January 30, 1900.

**CHAP. 4.**—An Act Relative to the widening and extension of Sixteenth street in the District of Columbia.

District of Columbia.  
Extension, etc., of  
Sixteenth street.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Commissioners of the District of Columbia be, and they are hereby, authorized and directed, within thirty days after the dedication to said District of seventy-five per centum of the lands lying within the lines of Sixteenth street northwest, as extended according to the highway plans, between the Piney Branch and the Blagden Mill road, and also between the Military road and the District of Columbia boundary line, to institute proceedings to condemn the land necessary for the extension of Sixteenth street from Morris street to the District of Columbia boundary line with a uniform width of one hundred and sixty feet, under the terms and provisions of an Act entitled "An Act to extend S street in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes:" *Provided,* That of the amount found due and awarded as damages for and in respect of the land condemned for the extension of Sixteenth street, as in this section provided, not less than one-half thereof shall be assessed by said jury in said proceedings against those pieces or parcels of ground situated and lying on each side of said Sixteenth street northwest between Morris street and the Blagden subdivision, and between the Blagden Mill road and the Rock Creek or Milkhouse Ford road, and between lots seven, four, and eleven of A. R. Shepherd's subdivision, to the depth of two hundred and fifty feet, or to such greater depths as the benefits may be found by said jury to extend, measured on each side thereof from the building lines of said Sixteenth street as extended.

Vol. 30, p. 1344.  
*Proviso.*  
Assessments against  
abutting property.

Dedication of land  
by infants, etc.

**SEC. 2.** That the supreme court of the District of Columbia, sitting as an equity court, shall have authority to empower, order, and decree the committee or guardian of any person of unsound mind, and the guardian or trustee of any infant, owning or having an interest or estate in any land within the limits above described, to dedicate to the District of Columbia for and as a part of said Sixteenth street any land or part thereof owned by such person of unsound mind or by such infant, or in which they may have an interest or estate, if, upon the application of such committee, guardian, or trustee, and after the testimony of witnesses shall be taken and such other proceedings had as the court may deem proper, the court shall determine that such