

BY AUTHORITY OF CONGRESS.

THE

**Statutes at Large, Treaties,**

AND

PROCLAMATIONS,

OF THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

FROM

DECEMBER, 1865, TO MARCH, 1867.

Arranged in Chronological Order and carefully collated with the  
Originals at Washington.

WITH

REFERENCES TO THE MATTER OF EACH ACT AND TO THE SUBSEQUENT  
ACTS ON THE SAME SUBJECT.

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VOL. XIV.

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1868.

RECONSTRUCTION ACT OF 1867

428

THIRTY-NINTH CONGRESS. SESS. II. CH. 152, 153. 1867.

March 2, 1867.  
1866, ch. 236.  
Ante, p. 231.

CHAP. CLII. — An Act to amend an Act entitled "An Act authorizing the Construction of a Jail in and for the District of Columbia," approved June [July] twenty-five, eighteen hundred and sixty-six.

Repeal of part of section six of act of 1866, ch. 236.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That so much of the sixth section of the act entitled "An act authorizing the construction of a jail in and for the District of Columbia," approved June [July] twenty-five, eighteen hundred and sixty-six, as specifies the amounts to be raised and paid into the treasury of the United States by the cities of Washington and Georgetown, respectively, before the completion of said jail, is hereby repealed.

City of Washington to pay \$78,000 as its part for building jail in the District of Columbia.

Georgetown to pay \$12,000.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of the proper authorities of the city of Washington, and they are hereby required, to raise, by tax or otherwise, and pay into the treasury of the United States, at or before the time of the completion of said jail, the sum of seventy-eight thousand dollars; and it shall be the like duty of the proper authorities of the city of Georgetown, and they are hereby required, to raise, by tax or otherwise, and pay into the treasury of the United States, at or before the time of the completion of said jail, the sum of twelve thousand dollars.

APPROVED, March 2, 1867.

March 2, 1867.

CHAP. CLIII. — An Act to provide for the more efficient Government of the Rebel States.

Preamble.

See Vol. xv. pp. 2, 14, 29, 30.

Certain rebel States to be divided into military districts and subjected to military authority.

First District.  
Second District.  
Third District.  
Fourth District.

Fifth District.  
President to assign army officer to command each district.

Military force to be detailed.  
Commanders of districts, their powers and duties.

Local civil tribunals.  
Military tribunals.

State interference declared null.

Persons under military arrest to be speedily tried.  
Punishment.  
Sentences of military tribunals.

WHEREAS no legal State governments or adequate protection for life or property now exists in the rebel States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, Florida, Texas, and Arkansas; and whereas it is necessary that peace and good order should be enforced in said States until loyal and republican State governments can be legally established: Therefore,

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That said rebel States shall be divided into military districts and made subject to the military authority of the United States as hereinafter prescribed, and for that purpose Virginia shall constitute the first district; North Carolina and South Carolina the second district; Georgia, Alabama, and Florida the third district; Mississippi and Arkansas the fourth district; and Louisiana and Texas the fifth district.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of the President to assign to the command of each of said districts an officer of the army, not below the rank of brigadier-general, and to detail a sufficient military force to enable such officer to perform his duties and enforce his authority within the district to which he is assigned.

SEC. 3. And be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of each officer assigned as aforesaid, to protect all persons in their rights of person and property, to suppress insurrection, disorder, and violence, and to punish, or cause to be punished, all disturbers of the public peace and criminals; and to this end he may allow local civil tribunals to take jurisdiction of and to try offenders, or, when in his judgment it may be necessary for the trial of offenders, he shall have power to organize military commissions or tribunals for that purpose, and all interference under color of State authority with the exercise of military authority under this act, shall be null and void.

SEC. 4. And be it further enacted, That all persons put under military arrest by virtue of this act shall be tried without unnecessary delay, and no cruel or unusual punishment shall be inflicted, and no sentence of any military commission or tribunal hereby authorized, affecting the life or liberty of any person, shall be executed until it is approved by the officer in command of the district, and the laws and regulations for the govern-