

*Handbook of
Bexley*

ACTS

PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

DURING THE SESSION 1897—1898 PUBLISHED BY

AUTHORITY

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MONROVIA

T. W. HOWARD, PRINTER.

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....1898....

ERRATA.

"An Act chartering the Excelsior Mining Company Limited of Maryland County" appears on pp 6 and 10 instead of appearing on page 6 only.

Page "61" should read "16."

A C T S .

Joint Resolution making appropriation for the Inauguration of President and Vice President.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That the sum of Three hundred dollars be and the same is hereby appropriated to meet the Inauguration of President and Vice President in January, 1898.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to draw for the above sum out of any moneys in the Public Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved Dec. 20. 1897.

Joint Resolution restoring John Devine Rowllins of Sinoe County to all the rights and privileges of citizenship.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

That from and after the passage of this Joint Resolution, John Devine Rowllins of Sinoe County be and he is hereby restored to all the rights, privileges and immunities of other good citizens of this Republic.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved Dec. 23. 1897.

Joint Resolution restoring Asbury B. Scott of the Settlement of Caldwell, Montserrado County to the rights and privileges of Citizenship.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

That from and after the passage of this Joint Resolution

Asbury B. Scott and Robert Lynch of Montserrado County and P. C. Dunnwoody of Bassa County be and they are hereby restored to all the rights, privileges and immunities of other good citizens of the Republic.

Any law to contrary notwithstanding.

Approved Dec. 25. 1897.

Joint Resolution chartering the First Good Hope Baptist Church of Marshall, Montserrado County.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and after the passage of this Joint Resolution Rev W. F. Gibson, Pastor, A. Poindexter, John F. Lewis, Hilary Teage, Thomas B. Woodson and Benjamin Yates, Deacons and Trustees of the First Good Hope Baptist Church Marshall, Montserrado County, with their successors in office be and they are hereby constituted a body corporate and politic, under the name and style of the First Baptist Church of Marshall, and by such name may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded before any of the courts of this Republic and do all other acts as are done by such bodies corporate.

SEC. 2. The said corporation shall have full power and authority to make and fulfil contracts, take and hold real and personal estate to the value of fifteen thousand dollars.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved Dec. 25, 1897.

Joint Resolution chartering the Young men's Lyceum of Upper Buchanan, Grand Bassa County.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature Assembled,

SEC. 1. That Charles R. Smith, President, A. A. Brumskine, Secretary, John F. Summerville, Treasurer, Philip J. Brumskine, H. L. White, D. F. Jenkins, A. J. Preston, B. A. Butler, E. J. White, J. W. Scott, Henry C. McDonnald, J. A. Davis, J. B. Horace, J. H. Ellis, W. F. Tyler, J. W. Tyler, D. F. Mason and such others as may hereafter be connected with them, are hereby constituted and declared a body corporate and politic under the name and style of the Young men's Lyceum No. 1. of the City of Buchanan, Grand Bassa County.

SEC. 2. The said corporation shall be privileged to receive and hold real and personal estate to the amount of ten thousand dollars, and may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded before any court of this Republic having competent jurisdiction and shall do all other things as are usual in similar bodies corporate.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved Dec. 25. 1897.

Joint Resolution chartering the Mount Tubman Grove Lodge of the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows, Number 4070 of Maryland County.

It is Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That C. H. Grey, W. C. Cummings, D. A. Cox, J. J. Baker, C. W. P. Campbell, J. L. Cox, E. A. Barnes, F. W. Proud, J. A. Tull, James B. Grey, B. B. Barker, E. J. Johnson, R. A. Massey, N. H. Fare and others, members and officers to said Lodge and such others as may be hereafter connected with them, be and they are hereby constituted and declared a body corporate and politic, under the name and style of the Mount Tubman Grove Lodge of the G. U. O. of Odd Fellows, No. 4070 of the County of Maryland; and shall be capable in law to receive, hold and enjoy real and personal estate to the amount of Twenty five thousand dollars for the use and benefit of said institution and shall have perpetual succession of officers and members, and as such may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded before any court of law or equity of this Republic having competent jurisdiction.

SEC. 2. The said corporation shall be permitted to do all other matters and things done in similar bodies corporate.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved Dec. 25. 1897.

Joint Resolution chartering the Friendship Lodge No. 113 of the Order of United Brothers of Friendship of the City of Harper, County of Maryland.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That A. C. Tucker, P. M., A. L. Gibson, W. M., W. T. Smith, D. M. J. F. Dunbar, W. S., F. J. Harris, W. A. S. N., Y. Valentine, W. Chap., J. R. Davis, S. M., A. C. Tull, jr. M., F. J. Addo, T. M. Gardner, S. C., N. H. Johnson, R. S., J. R. Cooper, L. S., G. W. Gibson, jr. S. S., Z. B. Roberts, O. S., together with other persons who are now or may hereafter become associated with them are hereby constituted a body corporate and politic by the name and style of the United Brothers of Friendship of the City of Harper, County of Maryland, and by that name and style be capable of purchasing, owning and holding real estate and other property to the amount of ten thousand dollars, and by that name can sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded before any court having competent jurisdiction within the Republic of Liberia, and to do all other acts and things done in similar bodies corporate and politic.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved Dec. 25. 1897.

Joint Resolution reimbursing Messrs. S. W. Seton, F. W. Proud and J. G. Wilson of Hoffman Station.

Whereas Messrs. Seton, Proud, and Wilson sustained considerable loss of property taken from them by force of the Cape Palmas People on account of their loyalty in supporting Government action in the execution of the Revenue Laws of the land, and whereas the Government should at all times encourage loyalty of the civilized Tribes of the Country toward Government, against the unlawful action of their own heathen kingfolk.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and after the passage of this Resolution the regular annual stipend or that portion of it which accrues to the King and Chiefs of the Cape Palmas Tribes, be placed in the General appropriation Bill, and paid to reimburse Messrs. S. W. Seton, F. W. Proud and J. G. Wilson, for losses they sustained at the hands of the Cape Palmas Tribes, namely:—for Hon. S. W. Seton, Two hundred and fifty dollars, F. W. Proud seventy-five dollars, J. G. Wilson, sixty dollars.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 7. 1898.

Whereas the principal Town Lots in Lower Buchanan in the County of Grand Bassa, are being sold and drawn by the Citizens; and

Whereas the Government has no place to erect her buildings and has to build the Post Office in the street, which is an obstruction to the view and passage;

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from, and after the passage of this Act, that there be four Town Lots kept in reserve in Lower Buchanan, in the County of Grand Bassa, for the purpose of erecting public Buildings and other use, but they are not to be drawn, or bought by private individuals.

SEC. 2. It is further enacted that the Superintendent of the County of Grand Bassa, under the direction of the President, shall select the said four lots, have them surveyed by the Surveyor of said County and kept as Government reserve.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 7. 1898.

An Act chartering the Excelsior Mining Company, Limited, of Maryland County.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. It is enacted that from and immediately after the passage of this Act, that Alexander L. Elam, Eli Barnes, A. C. Tucker, James A. Hardy of Maryland County, with such others as may become members of said Company, called by the name "The Excelsior Mining Company Limited, of Md. Co." be, and the same are hereby declared a Body politic under the name and style of the "Excelsior Mining Co. Ltd." and under that name may be sued, and sue, plead and be impleaded, in any of the Courts of this Republic having competent jurisdiction, and shall be capable to hold and enjoy concessions of lands from Government for mining purposes to the amount of Two hundred acres of land more or less, in the vicinity where the specimens of A. L. Elam were found, not to exceed in all Fifteen Hundred acres, on any public domains in the County of Maryland not otherwise appropriated, and they shall have the exclusive right to work all mines discovered by them, having the right to crush, smelt, dig, wash. and do any and all things necessary to conduct mining business.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 7. 1898.

A Joint Resolution repealing all that portion of An Act amendatory and supplementary to the several existing military Acts, approved January 29th, 1896, that refers to the Regimental Parades in the several Counties of this Republic.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and immediately after the passage of this Resolution, there shall be four Regimental and eight monthly Parades in the several Counties as formerly, on the day and date of the previous Statutes regulating the same.

SEC. 2. And the Officers Drill shall take place on the day preceding the Parade, as is provided by law, in the respective Townships where the Regimental Parade shall take place; and all persons failing to perform military duty as aforesaid shall be fined agreeably to the Statute governing military fines.

SEC. 3. And all fines imposed by the Regimental or monthly Court Martial shall be paid in gold, silver, or copper coin, or Liberian Currency, and that no affidavit of Justices of the Peace shall be received to exempt any person or persons from military duty. A certificate from the Surgeon of the Regiment, and where there is no Surgeon, the Courtmartial shall excuse.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 7. 1898.

Joint Resolution incorporating the Methodist Episcopal Church of Mount Olives, Montserrado County.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That J. P. Artis, Pastor, Philip Harris, Thomas E. Dillon James Holly, F. D. Fisk, S. M. Deputie, J. S. Deputie, John D. Stryker, Stewards of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Mount Olives, Montserrado County and their successors in office are hereby constituted a body corporate and politic by the name and style of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Mount Olives, with power to take, hold and possess all property real and personal, that may have heretofore or shall be hereafter acquired by grant, purchase, gift or otherwise.

SEC. 2. That the said corporation shall be granted the privilege to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded before any of the Courts of this Republic, having competent jurisdiction and shall be allowed to acquire and hold real and personal estate to the value of ten thousand dollars, and shall do all other acts and things usually done in similar bodies corporate.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 7th 1898.

Joint Resolution granting the Protestant Episcopal Mission, sundry tracts of land on the Cavalla River, Maryland County.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from after the passage of this Resolution, one hundred acres of farm land, and two Town lots in the settlement Russwurmville, fifty acres of farm land and two Town lots in the settlement of Ashtonville, Cavalla River, Maryland County, be and the same are hereby granted to the Protestant Episcopal Church, of the United States of America, to be used for Missionary and Educational purposes by the said Mission.

SEC. 2. Resolved that the Land Commissioner of the aforesaid County shall grant to the Representatives of said Mission, an order to any legal Surveyor to survey the above granted lands out of any Public lands not otherwise appropriated, the Missionary Society bearing all expenses of the said surveyor.

SEC. 3. Resolved that the Mission shall possess and hold said premises subject to the laws governing similar Institutions.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 7th 1898.

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An Act requiring the Sheriffs, Magistrates, Aldermen, Constables and Policemen of Liberia to be uniformed for the purpose of designating them, and securing to them the necessary respect and dignity that is due to their position.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and after the thirtieth day of June A. D. 1898, it shall be the duty of every Sheriff, Magistrate, Alderman, Constable and Policeman, who are, or may be appointed and commissioned by the President of this Republic, or municipal authority of any local Government, to be uniformed as it is herein provided.

SEC. 2. It is further enacted that each and every Sheriff, Magistrate and Alderman who may be appointed, according to the first section of this Resolution, shall be uniformed while they are in actual service, or performing official duty, as follows: Magistrates, Sheriffs and Aldermen shall wear a single breasted coat of dark blue cloth, flannel, serge or drill, with one row of seven Liberia buttons on the breast, at equal distances, three buttons on each seam of the sleeves, back of the wrist, chevrons upon both sleeves of the coat, above the elbow, of black braid or binding, one inch wide, blue or white trousers, out of one of the above named materials, plain without stripe or welt, black hats or Military caps, Constables and Policemen shall be uniformed likewise of the same materials, provided, however, that instead of seven buttons they shall wear five Liberian buttons at equal distances, on their jackets, chevrons upon both sleeves of the jacket above the elbow, of red braid or binding.

SEC. 3. It is further enacted, that any of the above named officers, failing to uniform him or themselves according to the provisions of this Resolution, shall be fined in the sum of from fifty cents to one dollar for each neglect: the fines shall be imposed and collected by any of the subordinate or superior Courts having competent jurisdiction.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 1898.

Joint Resolution exempting all Public, High, and Common School Teachers from serving as Grand or Petit Jurors.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives, of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

That from and after the passage of this Resolution all Public, High and Common School Teachers of this Republic, are, and they are hereby exempted from being summoned to serve as Grand or Petit Jurors in the Court of Quarter Sessions and Com-

mon Pleas of Liberia, while they are in the active discharge of their duties as School Teachers.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 7th 1898.

A Resolution removing the interdict of Half Cavalla, Maryland County, Republic of Liberia.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

That from and immediately after the passage of this Resolution, that the interdict placed on that section of County in Maryland County, known as Half Cavalla, be and the same is hereby repealed.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 7th 1898.

An Act chartering the Excelsior Mining Company Limited of Maryland County.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. It is enacted that from and immediately after the passage of this Act, that Alexander L. Elam, Eli Barnes, A. C. Tucker, James A. Hardy of Maryland County, with such others as may become members of said Company, called by the name "The Excelsior Mining Company Limited, of Maryland" be and the same are hereby declared a Body politic under the name and style of the "Excelsior Mining Company" and under that name may be sued, and sue, plead and be impleaded in any of the Courts of this Republic having competent jurisdiction, and shall be capable to hold and enjoy concessions of lands from Government for mining purposes to the amount of Two hundred acres of land more or less, in the vicinity where the specimens of A. L. Elam were found, not to exceed in all Fifteen Hundred acres, on any public domains in the County of Maryland not otherwise appropriated, and they shall have the exclusive right to work all mines discovered by them, having the right to crush, dig, wash, and do any and all things necessary to conduct mining business.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 7. 1898.

Joint Resolution incorporating the Young Men's Mercantile Association, Bexley, Grand Bassa County.

Whereas the Young Men's Mercantile Association of Bexley, Grand Bassa County has petitioned the Legislature to be incorporated, thereby granting them certain privileges.

Therefore

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and immediately after the passage of this Resolution, William H. Taylor President, Thomas E. M. Hill Vice President, Lewis R. R. Johnson, Secretary, Richard A. M. Hill Corresponding Secretary, John R. Worrell Treasurer, Mansfield F. Parks and William H. Blaine Trustees and all others who are and may hereafter become associated with the club or institution called the Young Men's Mercantile Association of Bexley, Grand Bassa County be and they are hereby declared a body politic under the above name—subject to all the rights, privileges and emoluments legally granted unto other institutions of like nature.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 7. 1898.

Joint Resolution incorporating the Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church of the Republic of Liberia.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That J. C. Hartzell, Bishop, W. T. Hagan, P. E. I. N. Holder, P. E. J. W. Bonner, P. E. and G. W. Tate, P. E. of the Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Liberia together with others and their successors in office, are hereby constituted a body corporate and politic with perpetual succession by the name of the Liberia Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with power to hold real and personal estate to the value of Ten thousand Dollars that may be acquired by purchase, gift, bequeath or otherwise.

SEC. 2. The said corporation shall have power to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded before any courts of this Republic having competent jurisdiction and shall have the privilege to do all other things done in similar bodies corporate.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 7. 1898.

Joint Resolution regulating the granting of Leases to foreigners.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and after the passage of this Resolution it shall not be lawful for any citizen of this Republic to lease real estate to any foreigner for a longer term than twenty one years: provided nevertheless that nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to prevent the renewal of such leases after the expiration of the first twenty one years.

SEC. 2. It is further resolved that in no case shall a lease be granted to a foreigner in any place except the same be a port of entry and delivery, provided however that nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to invalidate leases granted previous to the passage of this Resolution.

SEC. 3. And it is further resolved that should any Liberian citizen lease, grant, let or transfer any real estate contrary to or in violation of the above provisions, he, she or they shall forfeit to the Government their rights and title to such real estate.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 7. 1898.

Joint Resolution granting the citizens of Owens Grove, Grand Bassa County, a Road leading from said settlement to the Mechlin River.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

That the sum of Three hundred Dollars be and the same is hereby appropriated to construct a road leading from the settlement of Owens Grove to the Mechlin River.

And the Secretary of the Treasury be and he is hereby authorized to draw for the same under warrant of the President out of any money in the Public Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 7. 1898.

Joint Resolution amending a Joint Resolution passed and approved January 16th. 1897.

Whereas as per the Constitution the Military authority should be held in subordination to the Civil authority.

Therefore;

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

That, that portion of the Joint Resolution approved January 16th. 1887 that refers to the Colonels of Regiments countersigning Orders to the Commissaries be and the same is hereby repealed, and the Commissaries shall serve no orders unless issued

by the War and Navy Department, or the Superintendents of Grand Bassa, Sinoe and Maryland Counties.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 7. 1898.

An Act amendatory and supplementary to the several Acts regulating the shipping of Kroo Laborers and giving protection to them on their return home.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and immediately after the passage of this Act all Native African laborers shipped under this provision of the law, shall on their return home, be received by the Shipping Master of the port from whence they were shipped, and shall be under protection of the Government until they have reached their homes.

SEC. 2. And should any person or persons interfere by catching or taking away from them any person or personal property whatever against their will, such person or persons shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction of the same before any Court having jurisdiction, shall be fined in a sum of not less than one hundred dollars and imprisonment at the discretion of the said Court.

SEC. 3. And it is further enacted that the the Shipping Masters of Grand Bassa, Sinoe and Maryland Counties shall be required to make a quarterly report as all other reporting officers, to the Court of Common Pleas and Quarter Sessions, of the number of boys shipped, and the amount of money deposited in the Treasury, presenting the Sub-Treasury's receipt as his voucher: and on failure to do so shall forfeit and pay the sum of not more than two hundred dollars nor less than one hundred dollars recoverable by the several County Attorneys before any Court having jurisdiction.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 7th 1898.

✓ Joint Resolution authorizing the sale of old and useless guns in the several commissaries of the Republic.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. The Secretary of War and Navy is hereby authorized and directed to dispose of, at public auction, all old and useless guns in the several commissaries in the Republic.

SEC. 2. That payment for such guns sold shall be made in gold or copper coin or Liberian Currency or approved bills, which

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shall be forwarded to the Secretary of the Treasury who shall destroy by burning, all the approved bills in the Treasury. The burning of said bills shall be in presence of at least two of the members of the Legislature, who shall on notice given, attend such burning.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 7th 1898

Joint Resolution granting unto the Trustees of Charity Hall, situated in the City of Monrovia, an Annuity for the furtherance of said Charitable enterprises.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That there is hereby granted unto the Trustees of Charity Hall of the City of Monrovia an annuity of one hundred dollars.

SEC. 2. That the Secretary of Treasury be and he is hereby authorized to draw for the same, under warrant of the President out of any monies in the Public Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 13th 1898.

An Act to amend the first section of an Act to prevent the setting of Spring guns and Spring knives passed 1861.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. It is enacted that from and immediately after the passage of this Act, all persons desiring to set Spring guns or knives, on his own premises shall be allowed to do so under the following regulations:—The person or persons desiring to do so shall give three public notices of his or their intention to do so, in his or their Township, or settlement for the space of twenty days, and he or they shall name and describe the said premises in said notices, so as to give all persons due notice: and at the expiration of the said time he shall be privileged to set Spring guns and Spring knives on his or their own premises, provided however that this right shall only extend to lands under cultivation and not to uncultivated or public lands.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 18th, 1898.

An Act for the purpose of apprehending and detecting vagrants within the Corporate limits of Towns, Cities, and Villages of this Republic.

Whereas there seems to exist in certain districts of Liberia a spirit of idleness and indisposition to labor, on the part of some of our subjects and citizens, as well as aliens who reside within the corporate limits of Towns, Villages and Cities of Liberia, and whose freedom of living is not conducive to their own interests, neither that of the community in which they reside; and Whereas it is becoming difficult to employ and control laborers among some of the common classes of our native subjects and citizens who show a disposition to live at will, therefore.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. It is enacted, that from and after the passage of this Act, it shall be lawful for any Sheriff, Constable, or Policeman regularly appointed and commissioned under the Laws of this Republic, to exercise vigilance in the line of their duty to apprehend and detect Vagrants and Idlers residing in any of the Towns, Villages, and Cities of this Republic.

SEC. 2. It is further enacted that when any Sheriff, Constable, or policeman shall have sufficient, justifiable grounds, supported by competent witnesses, to apprehend any person or persons for vagrancy, he shall cause such person or persons so apprehended to be summoned to appear before any Magistrate or Alderman to answer the charge of the complaint upon which he, she or they shall be apprehended suspected or detected for vagrancy.

SEC. 3. It is further enacted that all persons who shall be tried and convicted for vagrancy under the provision of this Act, it shall be the duty of the Court adjudicating the case to impose a Fine upon each and every person in the sum of Fifty Dollars, or six months imprisonment, for each and every offence, with all cost of Court; and the Constable or Policeman presenting such persons, if convicted shall receive as a special fee, Five Dollars, which shall be paid out of the amounts of Fine imposed upon the convicted persons: said Fine shall be paid in the legal tender of the Republic.

SEC. 4. It is further enacted that if any person convicted for vagrancy shall not be able to pay the Fine of the Court, his time shall be sold to meet the necessary expenses.

SEC. 5. It is further enacted that all surplus fines, after expenses are deducted shall be reported and paid over to the County or City Treasurer, as the Court shall be competent to direct.

Any law or parts of law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 13. 1898.

An Act making it a penal offence to put into the creeks, swamps,

lakes, and rivers in the Republic of Liberia any poisonous barks, leaves or roots of any kind for the destruction of fishes

Whereas there are plans adopted by certain individuals or parties in this Republic to put into the waters creeks, swamps, lakes and rivers in the Republic of Liberia certain classes of poisonous barks, leaves and roots for the purposes of destroying the fishes and diminishing their increase.

Therefore ;

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and after the passage of this Act it is hereby declared a misdemeanor for any person or persons to put in the waters known as creeks swamps, lakes and rivers and all waters belonging to this Republic, any poisonous barks, leaves, shrubs, roots or any poisonous substance for the purpose of destroying the fishes and diminishing their increase.

SEC. 2. And it is further enacted that all person or persons offending against this Act, shall before any court having competent jurisdiction be fined in a sum not less than fifty dollars nor more than one hundred dollars and be imprisoned at the discretion of the Court.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 13. 1898.

An Act to incorporate Saint James Church of Hoffman Station, in the County of Maryland.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. It is enacted that Rev. O. E. Shannon, Pastor, E. P. Messenger, Abraham Savage, Wardens, C. C. Penick, F. W. Proud, Thomas Proud and H. R. Scott, Vestrymen, all of the city of Harper in the County of Maryland and Republic of Liberia, and their successors in office together with such as now are, or may hereafter become members, are hereby constituted a body corporate and politic, by the name of "Saint James Church" with power to take, hold, and possess all property, real and personal, that may have heretofore, or shall be hereafter by grant, purchase, gift, demise, bequest with full power to sell and convey the same, subject to the provisions and conditions of this Act.

SEC. 2. It is further enacted that the said corporation shall be granted the privilege to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded before any Court having competent jurisdiction and shall be allowed to acquire and hold real and personal estate to the amount of (\$ 10,000) Ten thousand dollars.

SEC. 3. It is further enacted that the said corporation is hereby vested with full power and authority to make and es-

tablish such by-laws, rules and regulations for their own government, and to do all other acts and things usual to be done by similar bodies corporate and politic consistent with the doctrine, discipline and worship of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America providing such by-laws, rules and regulations be not repugnant to the laws or constitution of this Republic.

SEC. 4. It is further enacted that all laws or parts of laws conflicting with this Act are hereby repealed.

Approved January 13th 1898.

An Act granting eight miles square to the American Liberian Improvement Company of New Jersey, United States of America of the Public Domain.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and after the passage of this Act it is hereby granted unto the American Liberian Improvement Company of New Jersey, eight miles square of the Public Domain; and that said land so granted shall at all times be used by said American Liberian Improvement Company for the purpose of establishing a Colony thereon, and the making such improvements as will best advance civilization, the education of said Colonists and the native Liberians found thereon.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 13. 1898.

Joint Resolution requiring Constables and other reporting officers living in the Districts of Careysburg and Marshall to make their quarterly reports to the Provisional Monthly Courts established in said settlements.

Whereas the present system of officers living in the districts of Careysburg and Marshall being required to report to the Court of Common Pleas and Quarter Sessions of Montserrado County is expensive to Government by payment of mileage &c. And whereas it is the present aim to curtail expenses.

Therefore ;

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That all reporting officers, Navy Tax Collectors excepted, living in the districts of Careysburg and Marshall are required to make a quarterly report to the Provisional Monthly Courts, and if in case such reports are not in conformity with law, the Chairman of said Courts are empowered to impose the regular

finer of not exceeding twenty dollars upon all who fail to report according to law.

SEC. 2. In case any officer or officers who are detected as having acted dishonest in respect to any business intrusted into his or their hands, the Chairman of the said Monthly Courts shall have power to hold him or them to bail for his or their appearance at the ensuing term of the Court of Common Pleas and Quarter Sessions. Said bond shall be in the discretion of the Court.

SEC. 3. The Court of Common Pleas and Quarter Sessions in reviewing such matter as is contained in section second, may order a Foreclosure of bond and impose an additional fine not to exceed two hundred and fifty dollars.

SEC. 4. The Clerks of the several Provisional Monthly Courts shall forward all reports made by officers under this resolution, to the Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas and Quarter Sessions to be inspected by said Court if it should be deemed expedient.

SEC. 5. And it is further resolved that for each and every report made by said reporting officers the Clerk of said Court shall be entitled to fifty cents to be paid by Government.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 13. 1898.

An Act repealing a portion of an Act entitled an Act to amend the Acts establishing the Judiciary and fixing the powers of the several courts passed and approved January 14. 1895 and amended January 28. 1896.

Whereas the criminal jurisdiction of the Monthly and Probate Court has proven very unprofitable and expensive, and an encroachment on the liberties of the people who are compelled to be forced before the Monthly and Probate Court to stand a trial or examination of any criminal action without the privilege of exonerating themselves. And hereasw a double expense is incurred.

Therefore ;

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled,

SEC. 1. That the above cited Act approved January 14 1895, Section Third of said Act be and the same is hereby repealed.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 27. 1898.

✓ Joint Resolution requiring all persons who engage in the process of mixing spirits of alcohol or other intoxicants with water under the pretence of making or distilling rum &c. &c. to pay an annual tax fee of (\$ 5 000) five thousand dollars in gold coin.

Whereas divers persons, merchants, traders &c., have recently adopted the practice of mixing spirits of alcohol or other intoxicants with water under the pretence of distilling rum, and Whereas such a practice is not only unauthorized but destructive to the health, lives and well-being of the citizens of this Republic; who should be fully protected from fraud and other encroachments upon their persons, liberties and rights,

Therefore;

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and immediately after the passage of this Resolution any person or persons, whether merchants, traders factors, contractors or private individuals who may desire to follow or adopt the pretended method of distilling alcoholic liquors or mix spirits of alcohol or other intoxicants with water under that pretence; shall and they are required to pay in the Public Treasury at the County within which he, she or they reside an annuity of five thousand dollars in gold coin for such privilege.

SEC. 2. That the method of obtaining licenses for this privilege shall be to the Secretary of the Treasury of this Republic, provided said amounts for licenses have been paid in the Sub-Treasury of the particular County that the person or persons shall desire to make, mix or distill the liquor or spirits as referred to in section first, the same as that of obtaining licenses for traffic or in other words to sell goods, wares or merchandise.

SEC. 3. That any person or persons who shall be found pursuing this practice without being first licensed, shall be deemed guilty of fraud and on conviction before any court of competent jurisdiction, shall pay a fine of not less than five thousand dollars nor more than ten thousand dollars with all cost and the expenses of prosecution, one half of which shall go to the informer, provided the said information concludes a conviction of the person or persons accused. Said informant under this special resolution, shall not be disqualified from giving evidence on account of interest in the termination of the said cause before any court.

Any law conflicting with the provisions of this Resolution be and the same is hereby abrogated.

Approved January 27. 1898.

A Joint Resolution relieving the Citizens of the Township of Philadelphia in the County of Maryland.

Whereas from a petition of the Citizens of the Township of Philadelphia, in the County aforesaid, it has been shown that they immigrated to this Country in the year A. D. 1887, and

owing to the hostilities then existing between the natives of the Country and the Liberian Government they were unable to draw their proper apportionment of land, either in the Township, or farms, and were compelled to cultivate Town lots more than the number due them, under the laws regulating immigrant allotments therefore,

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. It is resolved, that from and immediately after the passage of this Resolution, the Superintendent of the County of Maryland, be, and he is hereby directed to have a survey of the aforementioned land that has been cultivated as aforesaid, allowing to each family one Town lot, as is provided for immigrants.

SEC. 2. It is further resolved that every other lot given to any, person or persons there, shall be deducted from the amount of farm land due each family, the amount of two and a half acres for each additional lot received in the said Township, provided, however, that no person or persons shall be allowed to receive more than four Township lots under the aforementioned arrangements.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 24. 1898.

Joint Resolution respecting the War and Navy Department.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That the office of Secretary of War and Navy is hereby suspended, the duties of said office shall be discharged by the Secretary of the Treasury, until otherwise ordered.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 27. 1898.

Joint Resolution for opening a Port of Entry at Nanna-Kroo on the Coast of Sinoe County.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That the President of the Republic open a Port of Entry at Nanna-Kroo on the Coast of Sinoe County, under such regulations as the Executive Government may deem expedient and necessary.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 27th 1898

Joint Resolution authorizing the Post Master General to establish a Branch Post Office in the settlement of White Plains, Montserrado County.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That immediately after the passage of this Joint Resolution the Post Master General be and he is hereby authorized to establish a Branch Post Office at the Settlement of White Plains.

That for the carrying into effect the provisions of this Joint Resolution, the sum of sixty dollars be and the same is hereby appropriated annually and the Secretary of the Treasury be and he is hereby authorized to pay the same under warrant of the President, out of any money in the public Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 28th 1896.

Joint Resolution removing E. T. Woods. Judge of the Court of Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas ; Maryland County, Republic of Liberia.

Whereas E. T. Woods, Judge of the Court of Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas, Maryland County ; has caused a great scandal upon the judiciary of said County, and,

Whereas he has been guilty of gross and unbecoming conduct as a Judge, to us known from a petition from several members of the bar of said court, and,

Whereas the Legislature is not desirous of impeaching the said Judge E. T. Woods ;

Therefore ;

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. It is resolved that from and immediately after the passage of this Joint Resolution the President is hereby authorized and directed to remove the said E. T. Woods Judge of the Court of Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas, Maryland County, and appoint another in his stead.

SEC. 2. It is further resolved that this Joint Resolution pass by a two third vote and constitute the joint address for the removal of a Judge in accordance with the Constitution of this Republic.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 28. 1898.

Whereas the Government and people of the Republic of Liberia have been greatly embarrassed during the fiscal year just closed, on account of the inadequacy of the revenue to meet the current demands; and Whereas it is apparent that retrenchment is necessary to afford relief to Government.

Therefore;

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and immediately after the passage of this Act, the Salaries of all the Officers and other employees of Government, included in the General and County Civil Lists of the several Counties and districts, whether Executive, Legislative, or Judicial Officers, and all other employees receiving per diem, compensation for services, as well as all Clerks of Courts, Marshals, Sheriffs, Jurors, Witnesses and Bailiffs, and general or special Commissioners, and all others performing any service, or entitled to any mileage except such officers as are exempted by the Constitution of the Republic from reduction of salaries or fees, shall be reduced Twenty five per centum of the amounts regulated by the Laws now in force, All mileage is hereby reduced to Five cents per mile, except members of the Legislature, who shall receive Ten cents per mile.

SEC. 2. It is further enacted that this rate of payment shall be enforced from the thirty first day of March, A. D. 1898 and the Secretary of the Treasury under the direction of the President, shall issue warrants accordingly.

SEC. 3. It is further enacted that any Officer ignoring any of the provisions of this Act, by ordering or making any disbursements of the public monies contrary to the provisions of this Act, shall upon complaint properly made to the President, of any violation hereof, and said charge made good, said offender shall be immediately suspended from office and the case forwarded to the Court having the proper jurisdiction, for trial, and upon conviction by a Jury shall forfeit the amount of their bond and also pay a fine of one thousand dollars or more.

SEC. 4. It is further enacted that all laws or parts of laws conflicting with any of the provisions of this Act, be and the same are hereby repealed.

Approved January 28. 1898.

✓
An Act to repeal a portion of an Act entitled an Act respecting Revenue and Commerce approved January 18th 1897.

Whereas the citizens of this Republic have been greatly damaged by said Act which tends to great evil along the coast and also tends to incite the natives to hostility against the Government.

Therefore: It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and immediately after the passage of this Act, that all that part of the Act as above cited, referring to foreign traders establishing factories and trading at the principal trading points, not Ports of Entry, either in the interior or along the coast of Liberia be and the same is hereby repealed.

SEC. 2. And it is further enacted that all persons who having availed themselves of said Act are hereby authorized to remove their business on or before the 30th day of September A. D. 1898.

SEC. 3. It is further enacted that the first Section of an Act to encourage Interior trade to Greenville by use of the Sinoe River, approved January 1891, be and the same is hereby repealed.

This section is to take effect on the 30th day of September A. D. 1898

Any law or parts of laws conflicting with the provisions of this Act be and the same are hereby repealed.

Approved January 28th 1898.

An Act incorporating the Monrovia City Lodge No. 3450 of the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and after the passage of this Act B. Y. Payne, P. N. F., W. H. Heard, N. F., C. Max. Manning, P. N. G., U. S. Cole, N. G., Iverson Thompson, V. G., A. F. Belgrave, Advocate, J. S. Cole, W. Treasurer, W. H. John, W. Chaplain, T. F. Lymas, P. S., W. O. D. Bright E. S., J. G. Thomas, Guardian, and T. S. Duncan, Warden of the County of Montserrado, Republic of Liberia, officers, their successors in office and such as may be associated with them are hereby constituted a body politic and corporate by the name of Monrovia City Lodge, No. 3450 of the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows, with power to take, hold, possess and enjoy property to the sum of Eight Thousand dollars, to sue and be sued plead and be impleaded before any Court of this Republic having competent jurisdiction, and to do all matters and things usual to be done in similar bodies corporate.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Joint Resolution exempting certain Missionary Training Institutions from paying import duties.

Whereas, the Missionary Training Institutions operating in the Republic are conferring a benefit on us by establishing and maintaining schools for which we should manifest our appreciation and gratitude by fostering their work: therefore:

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives, of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled,

SEC. 1. It is resolved, that from and immediately after the passage of this Joint Resolution, the Institutions for the training and education of the youths of Liberia be, and they are exempted from paying duties on all provisions, dry goods, building materials, and other articles imported for the use of their schools, except the following; Tobacco, Ardent spirits, Gun-powder Guns and Brass-Kettles.

SEC. 2. It is further resolved, that the Training Institutions are Cuttington, The Orphan Asylum for Girls School, St. John, Cape Mount, Ricks Institute, Muhlenburg Mission, and the Female Institution of Rev. Dr. Moort, Monrovia and such other Institutions of learning of a similar nature as are or may hereafter be established by any other religious denomination or philanthropic society, for the promotion of education in this Republic; and it shall be unlawful for any goods or merchandise imported free of duty under this Resolution to be used in traffic, provided that the exchange of them for commodities for the use of Schools shall not be deemed an infringement of this law.

SEC. 3. It is further resolved, that invoices for goods, merchandise, provisions, or building material imported into this Republic, under the provisions of this Resolution, shall be duly certified by oath before the Liberian Consul at the port from whence said goods or merchandise shall be shipped.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 31. 1898.

Whereas the Government is generally inconvenienced and annoyed by unlawful disturbances occurring on the Coast and Interiorward; and Whereas the President has to await the sitting of the Legislature in order to have these difficulties settled, which generally causes the loss of life and property, which is against the interest of the citizens trading at such points.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That immediately after the passage of this Act that the President is authorized and directed to interdict any trading point or points within the Republic, where the occupants of said trading points shall become disloyal by interfering with the trade boats, or any unlawful act (Ports of Entry excepted) and the President shall report the same to the Legislature at the following Session.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 31. 1898.

1897-8

Joint Resolution altering Spring Street, in West Harper, Maryland County.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

That from and after the passage of this Resolution, the street in West Harper City, Maryland County, commonly known as Spring Street, be and the same is hereby altered, and deduced from forty feet, to a lane of twenty feet.

The amount of land deduced shall be disposed of at public auction by the Land Commissioner of said County, and the proceeds thereof deposited in the County Treasury.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 31. 1898.

Whereas Black Tom, of the Settlement of Louisiana, in the County of Montserrado, has petitioned to the Legislature for the grant of land allowed his father by the Government, for valuable services rendered the Government in supplying carriers in the campaign of 1856, against the rebellious Tribes of Sinoe County, in recognition of which, the Government gave him a grant of land and a medal, with deed for the same and the said deed has been lost, as well as the medal,

Therefore ;

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

That immediately after the passage of this Joint Resolution, that the Government have surveyed for Black Tom, in the Settlement of Louisiana, One Hundred Acres of land in the place where he now resides ; and if the amount cannot be had in any given spot near him, the same is to be granted him out of any public land elsewhere.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 31. 1898.

Joint Resolution granting to the Widow and Heirs of the late E. L. Brumskine the balance due to them on account of his services as Senator.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

That from, and immediately after the passage of this Joint Resolution, the Amount of Two Hundred and fifty Dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated to the benefit of the Widow and Heirs of the late E. L. Brumskine, of Grand Bas-

sa County ; and the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to draw for the same out of the general appropriation for the year ending September 30th, 1898.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 31. 1898.

Joint Resolution restoring Daniel A. Duncan to the rights of citizenship,

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That Daniel A. Duncan of the County of Grand Bassa, is hereby restored to all the rights and privileges of citizenship in common with all good citizens of this Republic.

All laws or parts of laws to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 31. 1898.

Joint Resolution relating to Immigration.

Whereas it is evident that one among the greatest needs of Liberia is the immigration of thrifty, race-loving, intelligent and industrious Afro-Americans,—and Whereas it seems expedient that this Government should become more actively engaged in the cause of immigration,

Therefore :

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and after the passage of this Resolution, the President of this Republic is authorized and directed to grant unto the International Migration Society of Birmingham, Alabama, United States of America, five hundred acres of land in each of the Counties of this Republic, such lands thus granted and all buildings erected thereon by the said International Migration Society shall be used as a General hospital, Missionary School and Supply station for all immigrants upon landing and while being acclimatized and settled.

SEC. 2. It is further resolved that the land thus granted to said Society including all improvements made thereon when no longer needed by said Society, shall revert back to the Government.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 31. 1898.

Joint Resolution authorizing the building of a Court House and Jail in Robertsport, Grand Cape Mount.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and after the passage of this Joint Resolution, that the sum of Four Thousand Dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated for the building of a Court House and Jail in Robertsport.

SEC. 2. It is further resolved, that the President be, and he is hereby authorized to draw on the Public Treasury for the above amount, out of any monies not otherwise appropriated: and he shall give all directions in regard to said building.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 31. 1898.

✓ Joint Resolution for the further protection of the internal revenue of the Republic by requiring the Government to issue printed forms of receipts with receipt margins for the collection of all taxes that may hereafter be collected throughout the Republic.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and after the passage of this Resolution, the Secretary of the Treasury shall furnish each Tax Collector or Collectors in the several Counties of this Republic, printed forms of receipts with receipt margins annexed which shall be filled out by said Tax Collectors who shall also fill out the margin. Said receipt upon the payment of Taxes shall be given to the person or persons paying said Taxes.

The Tax Collector shall retain the receipt margin which shall be his voucher at the time of making his or their reports.

SEC. 2. It is further resolved that it will be considered a penal offence for any Tax Collector or Collectors to give out any receipts otherwise than is stated in this Resolution, provided however he has been furnished with the receipts with margins as is provided. Should any Tax Collectors violate the provisions of this Resolution he or they shall be fined in a sum not less than one hundred nor more than three hundred dollars before any court having competent jurisdiction.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 31. 1898.

Joint Resolution granting Thirty Acres of land at New Cess, in the County of Grand Bassa, to Rev. S. D. Ferguson, Bishop, of Cape Palmas and parts adjacent, for Missionary purposes.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives, of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. It is resolved, that from and after the passage of this Joint Resolution, that the President is hereby authorized to grant Thirty Acres of land in New Cess, in the County of Grand Bassa, to Rev. S. D. Ferguson, Bishop of Cape Palmas and parts adjacent, for Missionary purposes; and the President is further authorized to direct the Land Commissioner to have the same surveyed out of any public lands that the said Rev. S. D. Ferguson, Bishop of Cape Palmas and parts adjacent, may select, at the expense of said Bishop.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved Feb. 1. 1898

✓ An Act reducing the Tariff on Powder, Tobacco, Salt, Brass Kettles, Bill Hooks and Cutlasses.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and immediately after the passage of this Act, the duty on Powder shall be 5 cents per pound, Tobacco 5 cents per pound, Salt 5 cents per cwt., Brass Kettles 5 cents per pound, Bill hooks and cutlasses 25 cents per dozen payable in gold.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved February 1. 1898.

Joint Resolution approving of the arrangements made with the East African Company in April 1897, by the Secretary of the Treasury.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. It is resolved, that the financial arrangement made by the Secretary of the Treasury with the East African Company in April, 1897, is approved.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved 3. February 1898.

An Act supplementary to an Act to amend the Charter of the City of Buchanan approved January 14. A. D. 1897.

Whereas sundry practices respecting the mode of conducting electoral polls in the Municipality of Buchanan, in the County of Grand Bassa have attained that of allowing persons to use their electoral franchise other than those qualified by law in consequence of there being no regularly established system set forth in the Charter of said Corporation, and—Whereas such a practice having become extant in that Municipality has caused

considerable encroachments on the established principles of law and good reason, and is also calculated to involve considerable trouble upon the citizens thereof if measures are not adopted to alleviate this evil.

Therefore ;

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled,

SEC. 1. That it shall be unlawful for any person or persons, in the County of Grand Bassa or elsewhere in the Republic of Liberia, to vote at or use his or their electoral franchise at any regular or special election held in the city of Buchanan for the benefit of that City other than those who are citizens thereof and are constitutionally qualified or who, although they be citizens of another City, town or village within this Republic possess unencumbered real estate within said city.

SEC. 2. It is further enacted that any person or persons owning land or real property within said city of Buchanan but are residents of another as set forth in the preceeding section of this Act, desiring to vote or use his or their legal franchise at the municipal election held in said City, shall at least three days before such election takes place appear before the Clerk of the Monthly and Probate Court of the County of Grand Bassa, and swear as to his being a legally qualified voter ; when his or their names shall by said Clerk be duly registered and a copy thereof filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court of Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas of the County to be laid before the Grand Jury at the then ensuing term of said County for inspection.

SEC. 3. It is further enacted, that should it appear that any person or persons who have thus sworn that he or they were legally qualified to vote and were not, such person or persons shall be deemed guilty of perjury, and on conviction before the Court of competent jurisdiction shall suffer the penalties in such cases made and provided. And such illegal votes shall also be a bar to the person or persons thus apparently elected taking his or their seats as Mayor or Common Councilmen.

SEC. 4. It is further enacted that the Clerk of the Monthly and Probate Court shall receive for the services to be performed by him to wit : swearing parties 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ cts each, registration of names 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ cts each which amounts shall be paid by said Municipality,

Failing to vigilantly perform his duty he shall be subjected to a prosecution for official misconduct and on conviction shall pay a fine of not less than one hundred dollars for the first offence with all costs incurred and double this sum for the second.

Any law or parts of law conflicting with this, be, and the same is hereby repealed.

Approved February 3. 1898.

✓ An Act respecting the Tariff and amending the Act approved January 18, A. D. 1897.

1897-8

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That immediately after the passage of this Act, there shall be assessed, levied and collected upon Rum and Gin, not exceeding in strength the standard proof of (50%) fifty per cent a duty of seventy five cents per gallon in gold; and for every degree above 50% imported into this Republic, there shall be paid an additional duty of 25 cents in gold upon each degree; and all Gin imported into this Republic must be imported in large cases of fifteen bottles each, and small cases of 12 bottles each, or jugs of one pint each: the same to be tested by the hydrometer, by or under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury or Collectors of Customs. Provided however that nothing in this section shall be so construed as to interfere with an Act regulating the manufacturing of alcoholic spirits or other intoxicants.

SEC. 2. It is further enacted that the retail liquor license shall be one hundred Dollars in gold, one half to the Corporation, and one half to the Government. Quantities of liquor exceeding three gallons must be sold under wholesale license. Retailers of goods, wares or merchandise shall pay a license of twelve dollars in gold or Liberian paper currency. Wholesale license shall be Twenty five dollars per annum in gold or Liberian currency. Peddlers or Hawkers shall pay a license of six dollars annually in gold or Liberian currency; Alien Artizans, including, Cooks Laundrymen, Pages and Valets shall pay twenty five dollars in gold annually, Physicians, Lawyers and Auctioneers shall pay a license of twelve dollars in gold or Liberian currency.

SEC. 3. It is further enacted that all license shall be paid to the Corporations and Townships. All owners of boats engaged in trade shall pay a license of six dollars in Liberian paper currency annually.

SEC. 4. It is further enacted that the Secretary of the Treasury shall cause hand bills of this Act to be printed and immediately forwarded to the several collectors of customs of this Republic.

SEC. 5. It is further enacted that upon all other goods not herein enumerated there shall be assessed, levied and collected the duty as is set forth in the Tariff Act approved January 1898-7.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Joint Resolution with respect to the shipment of laborers from Liberia.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That A. Humplmayr, be and he is hereby constituted and appointed General Agent of the Republic of Liberia for the shipment of Laborers beyond the Liberian territories, for the whole territory of Liberia, with power to appoint Sub-Agents at all the ports of Entry for the term of Five years from the date of the passage of this Resolution under the following regulations:—

FIRST. The said General Agent must pay into the Treasury of the Republic at Monrovia the sum of seven thousand and five hundred dollars in gold coin immediately after the passage of this Resolution.

SECOND. Each boy can only be shipped for twelve (12) months, and then only to the place to which he voluntarily elects to go. Contracts for a longer term can only be made by express permission of Government. Laborers going to Fernando Po are not covered by this Resolution.

THIRD. The laborers are not to be carried beyond the West Coast of Africa. They are not to be employed in Military service, nor as carriers for Military Expeditions unless such service is notified and agreed to by Government. The intention is that they shall be employed only in factory and plantation work.

FOURTH. The General Agent shall pay a fee of Two dollars (\$ 2 00) for each boy shipped, to the Government, and shall in addition retain in his hand for Government the Navy Tax of Fifty cents (\$ 0.50) for each boy shipped.

FIFTH. The said Agent must endeavour to the the best of his ability to ship laborers only to such firms or persons who are known to treat laborers well. He must see that the laborers are paid the promised wages and are returned home at the end of that term of engagement.

SIXTH. This Resolution shall not apply to boys engaged to work on board steamers or war vessels, provided, however that the number so engaged does not exceed forty (40) men.

SEVENTH. The Government is not to be made responsible for any boys surreptitiously shipped, but upon application of the said General Agent it will cause any part of the Liberian Coast to be patrolled by one of its Revenue vessels. The cost of the coal used in consequence of such patrol shall be paid by the said General Agent.

EIGHTH. The Agent shall have the right to transfer this agency to any other resident person or persons, firm or firms, provided however that notice of said transfer shall have been made to the Treasury Department, Monrovia, and the intended purchaser is approved by the Government of Liberia.

NINTH. Should the Government at any time revoke the Agency before the expiration of the Five (5) years, it shall thereupon pay to the said General Agent or his assigns, the sum of Fifteen hundred dollars for each unexpired year, provided that in the interval nothing has been in violation of the Regulations.

to the said Agent, he shall be allowed upon notice given at the Treasury Department, to withdraw from the arrangement without paying any indemnity.

ELEVENTH. Upon application of the said Agent his appointment may be renewed for another term of Five years on the same conditions.

TWELFTH. The said Agent may ship laborers on Sundays in case steamers cannot wait and necessity so requires.

THIRTEENTH. Any person found guilty of surreptitiously shipping boys or sending on board vessels to be shipped contrary to the provisions of the above Regulation or Act, or of shipping boys on their account in violation thereof, shall on conviction before the Court of Admiralty pay costs and a fine of one hundred (\$ 100.00) dollars in gold for each boy shipped; one half of which shall go to the Government the other half to the General Agent. The like penalty shall be inflicted on any Master of a vessel sending his boats on shore to take off laborers contrary to these Resolutions.

FOURTEENTH. That the shipping Master of the several countries shall supervise the shipment of all boys shipped by the several Agents under this Act, and deposit a list of all the boys so shipped into the Treasury or Sub-Treasury of this Republic, after recording the same in a book to be kept for that purpose, the shipping and Navy Tax recited in paragraph 4th shall be paid in gold, and the Treasurer or Sub-Treasurer of this Republic shall reserve the same for Navy purpose.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved February 4th 1898.

Joint Resolution granting to Isaac Moort Fifteen Acres of land in lieu of same quantity of his land given through mistake to J. T. Berrian.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That Fifteen Acres of public land is hereby granted to Isaac Moort in lieu of the same quantity of his land given through mistake to John T. Berrian, and the Land Commissioner is hereby directed to execute Deed for same and have the Deed of Isaac Moort rectified.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved February 4th 1898.

Joint Resolution respecting Shipping Masters.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. It is resolved that from and immediately after the

passage of this Joint Resolution, the Shipping Master shall receive 50 cts. for the shipment of each laborer, and 25 cts. for each Krooboy shipped, as deck hand under the Treaties for the free engagement of laborers, instead of the present fee of 75 cts., to be paid out of the amounts collected for the shipment of laborers.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved February 4th 1898.

✓ Joint Resolution authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to enter into negotiations looking to the better regulation of the finances of the Republic in such a manner as to ensure prompt payment of local obligations.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. It is resolved, that the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized to formulate and to negotiate with a banker, firm, or syndicate, a scheme for the better regulation of the finances of the Republic, in such a manner as to secure a prompt, regular and systematic payment of public obligations.

Such a scheme shall provide for advances to the Treasury at certain specified periods, of not less than three months, for the capitalization of the local public floating debt, for the payment of the interest on the debt of the country, for the issuing of bank notes if necessary. As security for the advances to the Treasury, the Secretary may arrange that the Revenue arising from customs, stamps and so forth, be paid and received by the banker, firm, or syndicate, who shall also be appointed financial Agents of the Republic here and in Europe, without interventions, and that said person or persons shall have the right to make representations to government through the Secretary of the Treasury relative to the fitness and financial interests of the Country. The scheme when negotiated and arranged, shall be first considered by the Executive Government, and shall then be laid before the Legislature for approval, accompanied by the draft of such laws as will be necessary for and promote its working. One thousand dollars are hereby appropriated for the expenses of the Secretary in case he should find it necessary to visit Europe and arrange the matter.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved Feb. 5. 1898.

Joint Resolution empowering the President to settle native difficulties in Montserrado County.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

Sec. 1. It is resolved that from and immediately after the passage of this Joint Resolution, the President is fully authorized to put on foot a Military force as he may find necessary to bring in subjugation to the Government Bar Singby and Parklar Tush in Montserrado County.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved Feb. 7. 1898.

Joint Resolution providing for a Krupp Gun for strengthening the County of Maryland.

Whereas timely preparation is considered by all civilized countries of the world to be very essential to the preservation of peace and quietness, and should be the policy for Liberia to pursue as far as it is consistent ;

And whereas the southern County of the Republic is surrounded by a strong and formidable number of aborigines who are to be kept under subjugation and made to obey the laws and respect the sovereignty of the Republic of Liberia.

Therefore ;

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

Sec. 1. That the Secretary of the Treasury, under the direction of the President, is hereby fully authorized to contract for and purchase an Eighteen Pounder Krupp Gun with three hundred or more rounds of suitable Ammunition for better strengthening the County of Maryland.

Sec. 2. That in order to procure said Krupp Gun and ammunition, the sum of One thousand and five hundred dollars be and the same is hereby appropriated to meet the expenses of purchasing and delivering the same at Harper, Cape Palmas, and the President shall draw under warrant on the Treasury for the same.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

An Act placing and restricting Officers of the Government.

Whereas it appears that the present existing regulations respecting the appointment of Cabinet Officers are inadequate to meet the requirements of the several conditions, as it is but just and equitable that the several Counties should have a representation and participation in the working of the Executive Government, as well as the Legislative and Judiciary Departments as each County within the Republic of Liberia contributes its quota toward the pecuniary working of the Government, in common with Montserrado : And whereas it appears that certain officers in each branch of Government are holding other positions that

the Legislature deems incompatible and which militates against the interest of the Government.

Therefore ;

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That after the passage of this Act, the President in making his selection of Cabinet officers, shall, as far as is practicable, extend his appointments to the other Counties within the Republic of Liberia, in order that all the Counties may have a representation in the Executive Department of Government, as well as the other two co-ordinate branches.

SEC. 2, It is further enacted, that any person or persons acting as Counsel, Agent, or Legal adviser to any mercantile house within or without this Republic shall be deemed incompetent to hold a Commission, unless he or they shall exhibit a certificate of his or their resignation to the proper source.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

✓ An Act for the encouragement of the Coffee Industry.

Whereas in view of the low price at present obtained for Liberian Coffee, believed to be due largely to the improper manner in which it is cured and put on the market ; and, Whereas unless stringent measures are taken this budding industry will be materially injured if not extinguished ;

Therefore ;

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. It is enacted that after the passage of this Act that the Secretary of the Treasury is directed to enter into negotiation with some foreign capitalist or machinist for the erection of suitable coffee cleaning Plants in some central spot on the St. Paul's River, Montserrado County, or in other Counties of this Republic.

SEC. 2. It is further enacted, that all coffee exported from Montserrado County, or other Counties of this Republic, after the erection of a Plant must be cleaned at some Plant, or any branch thereof, or else pay an export duty of five cents per lb in gold. This duty shall not be enforced in any district where a Plant is not laid down or not accessible,

Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent the introduction of machinery worked by hand in any County or district in which a steam Plant is not erected by the Capitalist or Machinist.

SEC. 3. It is further enacted that the Capitalist introducing said Coffee cleaning Plant shall have as a reward for his

the sole right of bringing in and laying down such Plants for a term of twenty years from the date of the acceptance of this proposal, in such districts of the Republic as he or his Agent may designate, and shall further have a grant of public land free of cost for the erection of the machinery, buildings and warehouses, and at such place or places as he or they may request.

Sec. 4. It is further enacted, that the Tariff to be paid by the producers at the Mills shall not be more than one and a half cents per pound.

Sec. 5, It is further enacted, that in order to facilitate his business, the right is also conceded to said Capitalist of improving the roads in the districts in which he operates in order to make easy the bringing of the crops to the Plant, but he must submit his proposal to Government in every case before entering upon said work, which must always be executed under Government sanction and authority; the question of expense being a matter of agreement.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Joint Resolution restricting Foreigners transacting mercantile business in this Republic to Ports of Entry, and forbidding those engaged in agricultural pursuits transacting mercantile business in said farming districts, where the said Foreigners are operating.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives, of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

Sec. 1. That from and immediately after the passage of this Resolution, it shall be unlawful for any Foreigner or Foreigners, transacting mercantile business in this Republic, to trade at any place other than a regular Port of Entry as defined by the present Statute Laws of this Republic regulating Ports of Entry.

Sec. 2. It is further resolved, that it shall be unlawful for any Foreigner or Foreigners engaged in agricultural, pursuits in any of the Interior settlements of this Republic, to do any mercantile business whatsoever, under the penalty of confiscation of all produce bought at said farms, and a fine of Five hundred dollars for the first offence, and a fine of Two thousand dollars for the second offence.

Sec. 3. It is further resolved, that any Liberians applying to take out license to transact retail business on premises leased by Foreigners, to engage in agriculture shall make oath that such business is his own; and if afterwards it shall be known or proven to be the Foreigner's business, and not his own, he shall be subject to the like penalty.

Sec. 4. It is further resolved that, any person or persons giving information which will lead to the apprehension and conviction of any one violating the provisions of this Resolution or any part thereof, shall be entitled to one fourth of the fine so imposed and collected.

Joint Resolution fixing the day of adjournment of the Twenty sixth Legislature, First Session.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. It is resolved that the First Session of the Twenty sixth Legislature adjourn its present Session *Sine Die*, on Friday the 11th day of February, 1898.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved February 4th 1898.

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ACTS

PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

DURING THE SESSION 1898--1899

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

MONROVIA

T. W. HOWARD, PRINTER.

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.

1899.

ACTS.

Joint Resolution providing for the adoption of children.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

That from and after the passage of this resolution, any person desirous of adopting a child or children shall be permitted to do so by making known such desire to the Court of Monthly and Probate Sessions in the presence of the child or children to be adopted, and shall solemnly affirm to treat the said child or children in the same manner as though they were their children by nature. The said child or children so adopted shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges of any other legitimate child or children belonging to the person so adopting.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 17th 1899.

Joint Resolution restoring sundry persons to citizenship.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. It is resolved that from and immediately after the passage of this Joint Resolution Ellen Taylor, A. A. Holensby and J. K. Perkins of the County of Montserrado are hereby restored to the rights of citizenship.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 17th 1899.

Joint Resolution creating a monthly and Probate Court at Cavalla in the County of Maryland.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. It is resolved that from and after the passage of this

Joint Resolution there shall be constituted and established at Cavalla in the County of Maryland, to be held on the second Monday in each month a Provisionary Court having jurisdiction within the Territory of Cavalla, but said court shall not have Jurisdiction in the appointment of Judges and Clerks of election. Appeals shall be had from said Court as by law provided for, to the Court of Common Pleas of Maryland County and further there shall be a deputy Sheriff who shall be the Ministerial Officer of said court, who shall be required to give bond in equal proportion as is by law required of a Sheriff.

SEC. 2. It is further resolved, that the said Court shall have jurisdiction in all cases of misdemeanor where the fine is not less than Ten nor more than Twenty dollars and in all actions of trespass, trover, slander and detinue where the amount in litigation is not less than one hundred, nor more than one hundred and fifty dollars, and in all infractions of the peace where the fine is not less than Ten Dollars nor more than Twenty Dollars.

SEC. 3. It is further resolved that the President be and he is authorized to appoint for the the Provisionary court at Cavalla one Judge, a District attorney and Clerk, and make all other arrangements necessary to carry out fully the provisions of this Resolution.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved Jany. 17th 1899.

An Act incorporating the Eliza Turner Memorial African Methodist Episcopal Church of Monrovia.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC 1. That from and after the passage of this Act the Rev. C. J. Lawton Pastor, Thomas W Haynes Trustee Steward F. J. Hooke, T. S. Duncan, Trustees, George Overton, Samuel W. Overton Stewards, together with the other officers and members of the city of Monrovia and those who may hereafter become officers and members are hereby declared a Body corporate and politic to be known as the Eliza Turner Memorial Church of Monrovia with perpetual succession with full power to receive purchase, hold and enjoy property real and personal to the amount of Fifty Thousand dollars to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded in any of the Courts of this Republic under the name and style of Eliza Turner Memorial Church of Monrovia.

Any law or laws conflicting with this Act, be and the same are hereby repealed.

Approved January 17th 1899.

A Joint Resolution repealing a joint resolution suspending the Office of the Secretary of War and Navy and requiring the Secretary of the Treasury to perform the duties of the same.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and immediately after the passage of this Joint Resolution, that the Joint Resolution suspending the office of Secretary of War and Navy and requiring the Secretary of the Treasury to perform the duties of the said office, is hereby repealed, and the duties hereafter is invested are the office of the Secretary of War and the Navy.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 17th 1899.

Joint Resolution granting to the heirs of James M. Horace of the County of Grand Bassa certain monies due them on account of claims presented by the guardians of the heirs of James M. Horace deceased.

That whereas the said guardians for the heirs of J. M. Horace of the County of Grand Bassa have petitioned the Legislature to re-imburse the heirs of J. M. Horace deceased for a lawful and just claim due by Government to said heirs, and whereas it is the policy of Government not to defraud any of her citizens.

Therefore, it is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That the sum of Two hundred and twenty dollars be and the same is hereby appropriated for benefit of the heirs of the said James M. Horace deceased, and the President is hereby authorized to draw for the same out of any monies not otherwise appropriated.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 17 1899.

Joint Resolution ordering payment of indemnity to the East African Company of Rotterdam, Holland.

Whereas, the East African Company has made through the Department of State a claim for damages for loss of produce brought about by the actions of the officers of the Republic on the English frontier in may 1898, and whereas the matter is now under investigation.

Therefore, it is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That the Secretary of the Treasury shall under the direction of the President of the Republic, pay to the East African Company of Rotterdam, Holland, the sum of not more than Two thousand dollars, or such other sums as shall appear

just, if after an investigation of the facts, the agents of the Government shall appear to have acted illegally or unjustly.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved Jany. 19. 1899.

Joint Resolution amendatory to a Joint Resolution repealing portions of an Act amendatory and supplementary to the several existing Military Acts approved January 7th 1898.

Whereas it is undesirable that the quarterly drills of the First and Fifth Regiments should come off on the same day, And, whereas it would enhance the Military interest to have the two regiments drill on different days;

Therefore, it is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

That from and after the passage of this Joint Resolution, the quarterly drill of the Fifth Regiment shall take place on the Third Thursday in the months of February, May, August and November; and Officers-drill on the day preceeding.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 17th 1899.

Joint Resolution authorizing and providing for the building of a Floating Dock for the purpose of cleaning the bottoms of the Gun Boats of this Republic.

Whereas it is absolutely necessary that the bottoms of all ships, especially Iron or Steel claded ships, be cleaned and painted, at least, once or twice a year in order to prevent corroding and other damages, and,

Whereas the bottoms of the Gun Boats of this Republic have not had proper attention paid to them at least for three or more years, because of the want of facilities for doing so, and,

Whereas all Nations should have within themselves the means and facilities to keep Gun Boats and other war vessels in good order,

Therefore ; it is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That the Secretary of War and Navy is hereby authorized and directed to have built in as short a time as circumstances will warrant, a Wooden Floating Dock of the following dimensions :— One hundred and thirty feet long, twenty five feet wide and nine feet deep after the design and plan as will be furnished by J. B. Dennis or some other plan if found more practicable.

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SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized under the warrant of the President to draw for and place at the disposal of the Secretary of War and Navy, to carry out the provisions of the first section of this Joint Resolution the sum of four thousand and five hundred dollars out of any moneys in the public Treasury not otherwise appropriated and the sum of \$ 4.500 be and the same is hereby appropriated.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved Jany. 19. 1899.

Joint Resolution pensioning sundry persons.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

That the following named persons be placed on the pension list under the law governing Pensions Viz :—

Capt. C. H. Capehart, Lieut. B. Peal, the widow of Lieut. A. Nunn of Montserrado County ; Gurner Saunders E. Ellis of Sinoe, and Private H. D. Hodge of Maryland County.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved Jany. 19. 1899.

Joint Resolution restoring C. R. Young to the rights of citizenship.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That C. R. Young of the County of Maryland, is hereby restored to all the rights and privileges of citizenship in common with all good citizens of this Republic.

All laws or parts of laws to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved Jany. 19. 1899,

Joint Resolution granting to J. A. Toliver of Hartford, Grand Bassa County, Fifteen acres of public land in Grand Bassa County.

Whereas J. A. Toliver has petitioned the Legislature for a grant of fifteen acres of land which he has been unable to recover, having deposited the certificate for said land in the office of the Land Commissioner of Grand Bassa County during the year 1894 and have now in his possession an order for the survey of said land given him in lieu of his certificate :

Therefore : it is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That the Superintendent of Grand Bassa County be, and he is hereby authorized to order the Surveyor of Grand Bas-

sa County to survey fifteen acres of public land for J. A. Toliver.

SEC. 2. That the Secretary of State be, and he is hereby requested to grant a Deed or Deeds for said land.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved Janry. 19. 1899.

Joint Resolution Chartering Widow's Son Lodge Number 7. of Free and Accepted Masons of Grand Cape Mount.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That B. K. McKeever, W. M. T. J. Watson S. W. E. Z. B. Jones, J. W. and other members and officers of said Lodge and such others as may be hereafter connected with them be and they are hereby constituted and declared a body corporate and politic, under the name and style of the Widow's Son Lodge number 7 of Grand Cape Mount of the Republic of Liberia. And shall be capable in Law to receive hold and enjoy real and personal estate to the amount of Three Thousand dollars, for the use and benefit of said institution, and shall have perpetual succession of officers and members, and as such may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded before any court of law or equity of this Republic having competent jurisdiction.

SEC. 2. The said Lodge shall be permitted to do all other matters and things done in similar bodies under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Liberia.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved Janry. 19. 1899.

Joint Resolution for the settlement of the difficulties in the interior; Paklah Twah's section of the Pessy country, Montserrado County.

Whereas divers reports have reached the citizens of this County relative to the Beligerent Paklah Twah wishing to surrender to the authority of Government; if the proper commissioners are appointed to meet him at some town in the Guagy section of the country; and whereas it is not the desire of the Government to wage war against its subjects when peace can be restored otherwise; And as the messengers Robert Johnson alias Jallah Mahly and Pombo Poller and others were sent out in October to ascertain from Paklah if he is willing to surrender to the Government;

Therefore; it is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled..

SEC. 1. That from and immediately after the passage of this

Joint Resolution, that the President be and he is hereby directed to appoint not more than three commissioners with the Secretary of the Interior and an escort of fifteen or twenty soldiers to proceed at once to the Guay section of the country or any other place better suited with full power to treat with the said Paklah Twah and to settle the existing difficulties.

Sec. 2. It is further resolved that for the carrying out of section first, the sum of Two Thousand dollars is hereby appropriated: and the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to draw for same out of any monies not otherwise appropriated.

Sec. 3. It is further resolved, that in case the Secretary of the Interior and Commissioners cannot come to a satisfactory settlement of the difficulties while out in the interior, on their return shall report that Paklah Twah will not surrender to the Government; the President is then authorized and directed to put on a sufficient armed force under the proper commanding officers to subdue the said Paklah Twah; and for the carrying out of this section Eight Thousand dollars is hereby appropriated and the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to draw for the same out of any monies not otherwise appropriated.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved Janry. 19. 1899.

✓ Joint Resolution Respecting Licenses payable to Corporations.

Whereas considerable difference of opinion exists with respect to the class of Licenses which are payable into the Treasuries of the municipalities of this Republic.

Therefore, it is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

Sec. 1. That one half of the Licenses of the sale of spirits, the retail and wholesale merchandise Licenses, also all monies arising from auctioneers and peddlers Licenses shall be paid into the Treasury of the several corporations. All other licenses are to be paid into the several County Treasuries.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 20th 1899.

Joint Resolution restoring Joseph Ricks of the County of Grand Bassa to the rights and privileges of citizenship.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

That from and immediately after the passage of this Joint Resolution, Joseph Ricks of Grand Bassa County is hereby restored to all the rights, privileges and immunities of citizenship of this Republic.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 23rd 1899.

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Joint Resolution chartering the Burns Memorial M. E. Church of Brewerville, Montserrado County.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That C. A. Lincoln, Pastor, William Lucus, Alfred Brayler, Charles Banks Sr. James H. Sears Sr. N. P. Holt Charles Wilson, George Green, Thomas Martin and J. B. Moore Trustees of the said Burns Memorial M. E. Church of Brewerville and their successors in office, are hereby declared a body corporate and politic, and as such may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded before any court of this Republic having competent jurisdiction.

SEC. 2. The said corporation shall be permitted to acquire possess and hold real and personal estate by bequest, donation, purchase or otherwise to the amount of Fifteen thousand dollars and shall do all other acts and thing usually done in similar bodies corporate.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 23rd 1899.

Joint Resolution imposing a penalty for infringement of Art 9 and 10 of the Brussels Act of 1890.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled-

SEC. 1. That the penalty for an infringement of articles 9 and 10 of the Brussels Conference of 1890 shall be one year's imprisonment and a fine of five hundred dollars with confiscation of the arms and ammunition of both.

SEC. 2. Nothing in this resolution shall be intended to prevent the carrying of arms by the civilized inhabitants of this Republic in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of Liberia and that so much of the Brussels treaty as directly concerns the Republic of Liberia be published immediately after the passage of this resolution.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 23rd 1899.

Joint Resolution approving the arrangements made by the Executive Government for the payment of the Loan of 1871.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

That the arrangements signed by the Secretary of the Treasury and the Attorney General and the Committee of Liberian

Bondholders in London, on the 28th day of September 1898 is approved, on condition that the following is substituted for the 6th clause in said agreement.

CLAUSE 6TH.

The service of the debt shall be further secured by one half the duties on Tobacco and Powder, which are hereby further assigned for the service of the said loan. The said duty shall be collected under special regulations and shall be paid over quarterly to the British Consul for transmission to the Bankers charged with the service of the debt.

Any law to the contrary be and the same is hereby repealed.

Approved January 23rd 1899.

✓ Joint Resolution respecting the 7 % Loan of 1871.

Whereas the Government of Liberia is extremely desirous of making just and equitable arrangements for the payment of the 7 % English Loan of 1871, and whereas the Secretary of the Treasury has negotiated an arrangement with the Committee of Bondholders which arrangement was signed September 28th 1898, and whereas the Legislature accepts nearly all of the principles set forth in said arrangement and is desiring that it be carried into effect.

Therefore it is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and after the first day of April 1899, the duty on Tobacco and Powder shall be increased to eight cents per pound to be paid absolutely in Gold coin, one half of said duty being hereby assigned for the service of the Loan of 1871.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Treasury shall issue at once, special instructions and forms for the collection of the revenue on Tobacco and Powder.

SEC. 3 The duty collected on these articles and assigned for the working of the said Loan shall at the close of each quarter be paid over to the British Consul for transmission to the Bankers charged with the service of the debt. The expense of said transmission shall be paid by the Republic.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 23rd 1899.

Joint Resolution chartering the Evening Star Lodge No. 121 of the United Brothers of Friendship of Clay-Ashland, Montserrado County.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. R. V. Richards, W. M., H. B. Ricks, D. M., W. D. Lomax, W. S., A. Brisbane, Assistant Secretary, P. F. Simpson, Treasurer S. F. Brown, M. C., J. N. Dixon, E. S., J. S. Ricks, L. S. and J. W. Cooper, W. T., of Clay-Ashland and their successors in office, are hereby declared a body corporate and politic, and as such may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded before any court of this Republic having competent jurisdiction.

SEC. 2. The said corporation shall be permitted to acquire, possess and hold real and personal estate by bequest, donation or otherwise to the value of twenty-five thousand dollars and do all other acts done by similar bodies corporate.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 23rd. 1899.

Joint Resolution incorporating the Providence Baptist Church of Hartford, Grand Basa County.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That Coy C. Brown, Pastor, H. Frazier, Henry Smith, J. A. Toliver, W. S. Dunn, Deacons of the Providence Baptist Church, Hartford, and their successors in office are hereby declared a Body corporate and Politic and as such may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded before any Court of this Republic having competent jurisdiction.

SEC. 2. That said corporation shall be permitted to acquire, possess and hold real and personal estate by bequest, donation or otherwise to the value of Fifty thousand dollars, and do all other acts and things done in similar bodies corporate,

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 23rd 1899.

Joint Resolution relieving Witnesses from approving and executing Bonds.

Whereas it is unjust and often burdensome on poor persons who are required to give Bail for their appearance at Court to testify on behalf of the State, and

Whereas it very often causes persons to withhold what they know rather than be put to expense and thus justice is often defeated.

Therefore; it is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and after the passage of this joint Resolution, whenever any person or persons are to be held to appear as witnesses, it shall be the duty of the ministerial officer of said

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Court, to have said bond executed, and shall receive from Government the sum of fifty cents for each bond executed.

Sec. 2. The Bail Commissioner shall require no fee from witnesses or such class of persons giving bail in the interest of the State; but shall receive a fee of fifty cents from the Government for each bond approved: No fee whatever shall be paid by witnesses. This joint Resolution however shall not apply to civil cases.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved Janry. 19. 1899.

Joint Resolution continuing the Liberian Rubber Syndicate for the full unexpired term.

Whereas the term of the Rubber Syndicate has not been strictly carried out by the Concessionaires but for good reasons the Government is desirous that the concession be continued for the full unexpired term of years, and not cancelled:

Therefore, it is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

That the concession granted by the Republic of Liberia in the year 1890 to certain parties giving them the sole right to collect, gather, prepare and export caoutchouc, gum elastic, India rubber and Guttapercha, be and is fully ratified for the full remaining number of years to the Liberian Rubber Syndicate of London, or its assigns on condition that the said Rubber Syndicate or its assigns pay to the Consul General of the Republic of Liberia in London as shall be required by the said Consul General before September 15th, 1899 the sum of Three thousand pounds (£ 3.000) sterling, in gold, in advance of royalties. Said sum to be paid on the Loan of 1871.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved Janry. 19. 1899.

Joint Resolution chartering the Robertsport Union Lodge No. 4463 of the G. U. O. of O. F.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

That R. H. Marshall, P. N. F., L. H. Huff, N. G., A. L. Brisbane, V. G., E. Skinner, Advocate, A. R. Chriswick, W. F. C. H. Marshall, P. S. and R. F. Campbell E. S. officers of the Union Lodge of Robertsport No. 4463, and their successors in office are hereby declared a body politic and corporate and as such, may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded before any of the courts of this Republic having competent jurisdiction.

The said corporation shall be permitted to acquire and possess real and personal estate, by bequest, donation, purchase or otherwise, and shall hold property to the amount of three thousand dollars and do all other acts and things done in similar bodies corporate,

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 23. 1899.

Joint Resolution incorporating the Methodist Episcopal Church of Clay-Ashland, Montserrado County.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

Sec. 1. That Joseph E. Clark, Pastor, S. D. Richards, J. A. Houston, E. H. Johnson, R. V. Richards, J. B. Burton and G. W. Parker, Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Clay-Ashland, Montserrado County, and their successors in office are hereby constituted a body corporate and politic by the name and style of "The Methodist Episcopal Church of Clay Ashland," with power to take, hold and possess any and all property real and personal that may hereafter or shall be hereafter acquired by grant, purchase, gift or otherwise.

Sec. 2. That the said Corporation may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded before any of the courts having competent jurisdiction and shall be allowed to acquire and hold real and personal property to the value of Twenty five thousand dollars and shall do all other acts and things usually done in and by similar bodies corporate.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved Jany. 23. 1899.

Joint Resolution amending the Charter of the City of Monrovia.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

Sec. 1. That Sec. 3. of the Charter of Monrovia after the word "County" shall read, "Justices of the Peace shall have concurrent jurisdiction within the said City, and shall exercise their office therein. The Magistrates of the City shall, each in rotation, sit daily in some place to be fixed by the Mayor."

Sec. 2. That the following clause be added to section 19th. "The Corporation of Monrovia shall have the power to impose a poll tax of not more than \$ 1.00 on each person living within the precincts of the corporation. but not owners of real estate, and to collect such tax and other taxes in gold, silver and copper coin or Liberian currency. The said corporation shall also

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have the power beside the ordinary property tax, of levying special taxes for street improvements, for lighting the streets, for sanitary and health purposes, for corporation buildings, markets and school purposes, and to collect such taxes in gold, silver, copper or Liberian currency.

SEC. 3. Add to section 7th, of the charter the following : "That whenever for any reason or by any oversight the election provided for by the charter cannot be or have not been held on the day appointed by law, the Mayor may order a special election to be held after a week's notice given in all places of public resort by printed notice or outcry. This clause shall be held to give the Mayor power to order a special election for councilmen for the year 1899. This Joint Resolution shall not go into effect until the 1st. of October 1899 Sec. 3rd, excepted.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved Jany. 23. 1899.

✓ Joint Resolution amending an Act passed by the Legislature approved January 18. 1897, chartering the Enterprise Mining Company of Grand Bassa County.

Whereas the Enterprise Mining Company of Grand Bassa County, having made researches and discoveries of valuable minerals deposit of the mineral resources, a good capital is required, and whereas foreign capitalist may be induced to invest in the enterprise.

Therefore ; it is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That the Act chartering the Enterprise Mining Company be so amended as to read, "That the grantees are permitted to carry on the said enterprise with the assistance of any capitalist foreign or Liberians.

SEC. 2. That section second of said Act be so amended as to read, That the Twenty five per centum to be paid by the company on the net proceeds shall be paid over to the Secretary of the Treasury in Monrovia. And this Charter shall not be transferable to any Foreigner or Foreigners.

SEC. 3. A general Manager shall be appointed annually by the Company who shall transmit to the company a quarterly report of such transactions as he may be required to do by special agreement for conducting said company.

SEC. 4. The special agreement for conducting the company shall be made in duplicates and a copy shall be deposited in the State Department. The operation of said Company shall commence in twelve months after the publication of this Joint Resolution.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved Jany. 23. 1899.

1898-9

Joint Resolution amending the Act of 1858 regulating the taxes and Licenses.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

Sec. 1. That in proceeding to assess real property, the persons employed for the purpose by Government, must personally view separate pieces of land, declare its value, ascertain the number, and name of owner add whether under cultivation or in forest, the value of property shall then be declared.

Sec. 2. Churches, Asylums and School houses with the lands on which they stand, shall not be objects of taxation, but all other property shall be taxed.

Sec. 3. The assessment with respect to poll taxes shall always be the subject of a separate report. No native citizens or subjects shall be subject to payment of the poll tax in any township not his place of residence, who shall not have resided there at least six months before assessment and collection.

Sec. 4. The Secretary of the Treasury shall issue to assessors the necessary instructions and prescribe the proper forms to be employed by them in the discharge of their duty.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

A Joint Resolution amending the Act of 1898 respecting the shipment of Labourers.

Whereas many complaints have been made to the Government of Liberia by its native subjects, who go to the neighboring Colonies to labour; with respect to the exactions and robberies practiced upon them there, on the pretence that the money taken from them has been paid to the Liberian authorities; and whereas the Grebo tribes of Maryland County, have presented a petition to the Legislature at its present session, complaining and asking for information on the subject,

It is therefore resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

Sec. 1. That the Secretary of the Treasury shall cause to be inserted in the Shipping articles a clause to the effect—That employers can only charge labourers with the fee of Two dollars and fifty cents, should they pay that sum to the Government of Liberia on shipping of the labourers, and they shall further stipulate that they make no other charge against the wages of the labourers as incurred at time of shipment.

Sec. 2. The shipping agents are entitled to charge a fee of One dollar and twenty-five cents for each boy for the services of agents procuring and shipping boys to applicants, this sum and other preliminary expenses not being the tax, it must be agreed, shall not be charged to the wages of the labourers hired.

Sec. 3. In case the exactions complained of continue, the Executive Government is directed to procure the services of legal practitioners and to institute the necessary proceedings, for the protection of the subjects of the Republic going abroad to labour

Sec. 4. The local authorities of the Republic in each county; shall use their best endeavors, to see to it, that labourers coming from interior districts reach their homes without molestation or robbery and shall when required and the number of labourers Warrant it, send a guide with them to their homes.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding,

ACTS

Manfield F. Parker

PASSED BY THE

Legislature

LEGISLATURE

OF THE

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

DURING THE SESSION 1899-1900.

PRINTED BY AUTHORITY.

MONROVIA:

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—1900.—

ACTS.

CRIMES AND MISDEMEANORS AND THEIR PUNISHMENTS.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

It is enacted that from and after the passage of this Act, all crimes and misdemeanors committed in this Republic of which any person is found guilty upon due trial, or who in open Court upon arraignment shall confess guilty commission of said crime or misdemeanor, shall be sentenced and punished as is hereinafter provided.

It is the sole intent of this Act to name or define, or both name and define the various crimes and misdemeanors and to prescribe their appropriate punishment.

Nothing in this Act shall be construed so as to deprive any person of the rights and privileges guaranteed to him by the laws of the land, common or statute, unless a difference shall appear between the sentence and punishment in said law and this, Act when and where in all cases the provisions of this Act shall be the law of the land.

MURDER.

Murder is the killing of any person whatever, by any person of sound mind and discretion with malice aforethought, and without legal excuse, and shall be punished with death by hanging.

TREASON.

Treason shall be where any person shall levy war against the Republic in an overt manner, or who shall aid and give advice and comfort to its enemies. All persons found guilty of this offence shall be punished by fine not exceeding One thousand dollars and imprisonment not exceeding ten years. Where death has been inflicted by such traitor or traitors, they may be punished by death or imprisonment for life.

BURGLARY.

Burglary is the breaking and entering a dwelling house by night with the intent to commit a felony It shall be punishable with imprisonment, with hard labor, for a term not less than two nor more than ten years in the discretion of the Court, ac-

cording to the felony, less than capital which may have been then and there committed.

ARSON.

Arson is the wilful and malicious burning of a dwelling house. The punishment of the crime shall be imprisonment with hard labor for a term not less than two nor more than ten years. Where death results from arson, the person found guilty shall suffer death by hanging.

RAPE.

Rape is the having carnal knowledge of a woman by force and against her will. Any person found guilty of this offence shall suffer imprisonment for not more than ten years nor less than two years, with hard labor.

MANSLAUGHTER.

Manslaughter is the unlawful killing of another without malice aforethought expressed or implied: it may be either voluntary or involuntary. It shall be punishable with imprisonment with or without hard labor for a term not less than two nor more than twenty years.

ADMINISTERING POISON WITH INTENT TO DESTROY LIFE.

All persons convicted of administering poison with the intent to destroy life, shall suffer imprisonment with hard labor for a term not exceeding ten nor less than two years in the discretion of the Court according to the gravity of the offence, and the deleterious consequences.

ASSAULT AND BATTERY.

With a deadly weapon, or stabbing cutting or wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm.

All persons found guilty of actual and serious commission of assault and battery with deadly weapon, and cutting, stabbing or wounding, shall be punished by fine or imprisonment or both; the fine shall not exceed five hundred dollars, nor be less than fifty, and the imprisonment not more than two years nor less than six months. Where the offence is cutting, stabbing or wounding with intent to murder, upon due conviction thereof the punishment shall be imprisonment for not more than five nor less than three years. This section applies to cases where the cutting, stabbing or wounding is actually committed and intent clearly shown.

ASSAULT AND BATTERY WITH INTENT TO COMMIT A FELONY.

Assault and battery when committed with any atrocious de-

sign as with intent to kill, to rob, to ravish, to main or any other misdemeanor are included under this head, the punishment shall be fine or imprisonment or both with or without hard labor.

Where the crime was committed with intent to kill or ravish, the act or felony not accomplished, a fine of not more than Two hundred nor less than fifty dollars, or imprisonment of not more than two years nor less than six months. There being no bodily harm committed in other cases enumerated or included above, the punishment shall be a fine of not less than twenty-five nor more than one hundred dollars or imprisonment for not less than one nor more than six months.

ASSAULTING A PEACE OFFICER OR REVENUE OFFICER AND RESISTING OR OBSTRUCTING LEGAL PROCESS.

The punishment shall be fine or imprisonment. The punishment shall not be less than one month nor more than six. The fine where no deadly weapon was held in hand shall be not more than twenty five nor less than five dollars where no bodily harm was done. Where any deadly weapon was held in hand though without attempting to use it and without accomplishing any personal hurt not less than twenty-five nor more than one hundred dollars; and in all cases where a deadly weapon was used, though without effecting bodily hurt, not less than fifty dollars. Where serious bodily harm was actually done by using such deadly weapon, the punishment shall be the same as in assault and battery with intent to do grievous bodily harm.

ASSAULT AND BATTERY.

Common assault is an unlawful offer or attempt with force or violence to do a corporeal hurt to another, and shall be punished with a fine of not less than five dollars nor more than twenty-five dollars.

The foregoing applies where no deadly weapon was used; but where such weapon was used and the intention unlawfully to do bodily hurt was only prevented by causes over which the assaulter had no control, as the wresting of the weapon from his hand by a bystander, the punishment shall be a fine not more than one hundred dollars nor less than fifty dollars, or imprisonment for a term not less than one month nor more than three months. Where assault is completed by a battery; the punishment may be double that provided above for mere assault or in proportion.

AFFRAY.

An affray is the fighting of two or more persons in some public place to the terror of the people, and the disturbance of the public tranquility, and shall be punished by a fine not

ceeding fifty dollars; or by imprisonment not exceeding three months, where no deadly weapons are used: or a fine not more than one hundred and fifty dollars, or imprisonment not more than six months where deadly weapons are used, and no serious bodily harm done.

RIOT.

A riot is a tumultuous disturbance of the peace by three or more persons assembling together of their own authority, with an intent mutually to assist one another against any one who shall oppose them in the executing of some enterprise of a private nature and afterwards actually executing the same in a violent and turbulent manner, to the terror of the people, whether the act itself were lawful or unlawful.

The punishment shall be a fine not exceeding two hundred dollars: or imprisonment not exceeding six months. Rout and unlawful assembly shall be punished as in Riot in the discretion of the Court.

FALSE IMPRISONMENT.

False imprisonment is a forcible detention of the person of another without legal authority and shall be punished by fine not exceeding two hundred dollars in the discretion of the Court according to the gravity of the offence, or imprisonment not exceeding six months.

SLAVE TRADING.

Any person who shall by force or deceit unlawfully carry off another without legal authority, and shall deliver such person into custody of another, who has no legal right to hold or detain such person, shall be deemed guilty of slave trading and shall upon conviction thereof be fined in a sum not exceeding five hundred dollars nor less than one hundred, or be imprisoned for a term not less than one year for each person so delivered.

AIDERS AND ABETTORS; AND ACCESSORIES BEFORE THE FACT.

All persons actually present aiding and abetting any crime or misdemeanor described in the code shall be amerced in a punishment not exceeding that inflicted upon the principal, nor less than one half the sum or time of sentence imposed upon said principal in the discretion of the Court according to the degree of his activity or guilt.

All accessories before the fact shall suffer the same punishment as the principals in the case.

ATTEMPTS.

Any person who shall by overt act attempt to commit any

crime or misdemeanor, and all persons who shall assent or agree to join in such attempts and the act is thereafter attempted by one or all such persons, all such persons, shall be deemed to have made the attempts, though some were absent at the time the attempt was afterwards made, and upon conviction, be fined in a sum not more than five hundred dollars, or imprisonment for a term not longer than two years, in case of felony; or a fine not exceeding seventy five dollars in case of misdemeanor.

AGE OF CONSENT.

Carnally knowing a girl under twelve years of age, shall be deemed rape, and shall be punished in like manner as rape, and all attempts to carnally know such girl under twelve years of age, shall be punished as an attempt to commit a felony. Such girl under twelve years of age shall be deemed incapable of giving consent.

PERSONATING AN OFFICER.

Any one who shall be convicted of personating an officer of the law, and under cover shall do any act detrimental to any inhabitant, or extort money or other valuables from any person, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon due conviction thereof, shall be mulcted in such damages as the jury shall find, which amount shall be paid over to the person injured, and in addition, shall be fined in a sum not less than twenty five dollars nor more than one hundred dollars.

ESCAPE.

Any Sheriff, Jailor or other officers whose duty it is to have the custody and safe keeping of prisoners who by negligence or collusion, suffer such prisoner to escape, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor; upon due proof thereof, or when the negligence is apparent, the Court may in a summary manner impose a fine not less than Twenty five dollars nor more than two hundred dollars, in case less than felony.

In case of larceny where gross negligence, or collusion is proved, such officer shall upon indictment and conviction, be mulcted in a sum equal to the value of the goods and chattels stolen, and in case of higher felony, he shall be imprisoned for a term not exceeding ten years.

FORGERY.

Forgery is the falsely making, or materially altering with intent to defraud any writing, which if genuine might apparently be of legal efficacy, or the foundation of a legal liability; and any person guilty of this act shall be imprisoned for a term not less than six months nor more than five years, or pay a fine not less than seventy five dollars nor more than three hundred dollars and make restitution.

HOUSE BREAKING.

If any person shall break and enter any dwelling house in the day time, (which is here intended to include all that part of the day not included in the word night as construed in burglary,) and steal therein, he shall be deemed guilty of a felony and shall be punished as in larceny, and in addition shall be fined in a sum not more than two hundred dollars.

BREAKING AND ENTERING A SHOP, STORE, WAREHOUSE OR ANY HOUSE NOT A DWELLING HOUSE.

Any person convicted thereof shall be punished by a fine not more than two hundred dollars in addition to the punishment for the crime or misdemeanor committed therein.

MALICIOUS INJURIES.

Any person who shall set fire to a house, outhouse, farm building, Church or Chapel, riotously begin to demolish any such building, destroy by gun powder or other explosive, deface such buildings, destroy or injure goods in a store or warehouse with malicious intent or pull up or cut down coffee trees or scions, or other valuable or ornamental trees or plants belonging to another without his consent, or otherwise damage his property, remove or destroy his boundary mark, destroy or break his fish traps or nets, shoot or injure his live stock without sufficient notice for their trespassing, destroy or damage any bridge or causeway, shall be held guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction be amerced in punitive damages to the amount of the injury inflicted which shall be paid over to the party injured, and in addition be fined in a sum not exceeding Two hundred dollars.

ASSAULT WITH INTENT TO KILL.

An assault with intent to kill is, where any person armed with a sufficiently deadly weapon, as a gun, pistol, sword knife, razor or other such dangerous weapon as a loaded cane, huge club, or other things, capable in the hand or hands of a strong man to cause death by a blow or blows, or where a very strong person with sufficient strength in hands or limbs, or butting of the head, assault another person very much inferior in strength or health, and his action or language show clearly his intention to use such weapons or members of his body to kill the person assaulted, being restrained from the actual commission of the deed not of his own accord, but by act of others or circumstances beyond his control.

Any person committing this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be punished

by fine not less than one hundred dollars nor more than five hundred dollars, or imprisonment not exceeding one year.

ASSAULT AND BATTERY IN CASE OF ACCIDENT.

Where an assault and battery has been committed and the party assailing or committing the injury, plead that it was done by accident, the *onus probandi* shall be upon the defendant, his intent to do the same or gross negligence shall be presumed, and he shall furnish sufficient evidence to convince the jury of his innocence, or prove a reputation for peaceableness and humanity such as will negative the presumption of guilt, and if he fail to so exonerate himself and is convicted of having done the act with intent so to do through gross negligence, he shall be punished, in case the intent stand proved in such manner as the said act done, is commanded to be punished in the provisions of this Code; and where gross negligence is not disproved by the defendant, he shall be fined in the sum not exceeding three hundred dollars in the discretion of the court according to the degree of negligence or culpability.

PERJURY.

Perjury is a corrupt, wilful false oath, taken in a judicial proceeding in regard to a matter or thing material to a point involved in the proceedings taken before some officer or court having authority to administer it. Prosecution shall be brought only in a court of Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas; and tried by record and jury.

Any person found guilty of this crime shall be imprisoned not less than six months nor more than ten years.

SUBORNATION OF PERJURY.

Subornation of Perjury is an offence in procuring a person to take a false oath amounting to perjury who actually takes such oath.

Any person who shall unlawfully and corruptly procure any witness by any means whatsoever to commit any wilful or corrupt perjury in any cause, matter or proceeding in or concerning which such witness shall be legally sworn and examined, shall be adjudged guilty of subornation of perjury and upon conviction shall suffer imprisonment not less than three months nor more than eighteen months, or pay a fine of not less than one hundred dollars nor more than three hundred dollars for each witness so suborned.

LARCENY.

1. Larceny is the felonious taking, stealing and carrying away the goods money or other personal property of any

value of another unlawfully with the intent feloniously to convert them to his the taker's own use and make them his property without the consent of the owner. The articles mentioned in the word "personal" above; shall include "Larceny of moveable property."

2. Petty Larceny is where the value of the property stolen is twenty (20) dollars or less.

3. Grand Larceny is where the value of the property stolen is more than twenty (20) dollars.

4. In all cases of Petty Larceny where the defendant is adjudged guilty, two magistrates concurring, the said defendant shall receive twenty strokes of the lash on his bare back to be laid on by the constable or other persons deputed by the magistrates, and shall be immediately released without further punishment. Provided always that nothing herein contained shall be construed to take away or diminish the defendant's right of appeal to the Court of Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas.

5. In all cases of appeal where the law allows twenty four hours to give bond, the defendant shall be held to be in the custody of the Court through its ministerial officer, and although such officer may attend said defendant from place to place, to allow him a chance to make his bond; yet the defendant shall not be allowed to go at large unattended until satisfactory bond be given; otherwise such officer shall in case the defendant abscond, be deemed guilty of aiding and abetting an escape and be punished accordingly.

6. Upon hearing and review in the Quarterly Court, the Judge thereof shall hear the evidence for and against the prisoner, and affirm or reverse the judgement according to the evidence. The defendant may have jury at his option.

7. Any person duly convicted of grand larceny, shall be sentenced to pay a fine not more nor less than two fold the value of the goods stolen and be imprisoned for not less than two months nor more than twelve months at hard labor.

8. Upon failure to pay the fine imposed, the defendant shall be kept in prison at hard labor until such time as such fine shall be liquidated, at six dollars a month.

9. In all cases where the fine is paid by the defendant, one half such fine shall be paid over to the loser of the goods stolen, but in no case, where the fine cannot be collected the defendant having no property attachable, shall the Government be held to pay any sum to such loser.

10. Provided always, that whenever the stolen goods are recovered, they shall be forthwith restored to the loser, without charge, in that case nothing shall be paid to the loser.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

RECEIVING STOLEN GOODS.

In all cases of larceny, a count may be inserted for receiving the said goods, knowing them to be stolen, and the jury

may convict on either count, as they shall find, and the punishment for receiving shall be the same as for larceny.

ROBBERY.

1. Robbery is the felonious and forcible taking from the person of another, goods or money to any value by violence, or putting him in fear.

2. The felonious and forcible taking of the goods or money, or personal property of another in his presence by violence, or putting him in fear, shall be deemed robbery.

3. Moveable property of whatever kind soever is hereby declared the subject of robbery, and included in the above words "goods, money or personal property," including cattle or other livestock or fruits or growing crops.

4. All persons who are convicted, or shall plead guilty to any indictment of robbery shall be imprisoned for a term not more than two years, or be fined not more than two hundred dollars after making equitable restitution. Accessories before the fact shall be punished as principals.

ASSAULT WITH INTENT TO ROB.

Any person found guilty of assault with intent to rob shall suffer imprisonment for not more than six months, where no bodily injury resulted from the assault, or pay a fine of not less than twenty-five nor more than one hundred dollars.

CHILD STEALING.

Any person who shall by force or fraud, take, lead, decoy or entice away any minor under the age of fifteen years, and forcibly or fraudulently detain the same, with intent to unlawfully obtain the labor of such minor shall be adjudged guilty of child stealing, and shall suffer imprisonment not more than two years, or be fined not more than five hundred dollars.

LARCENY OF MOVEABLE PROPERTY.

All moveable property including cattle and all other livestock as well as cats and dogs, poultry and tamed birds or other animals and their product; all growing crops not yet harvested, and fruit on cultivated trees or plants, scions of any kind in nursery beds, or transplanted vegetables or other garden plants, fish in traps, bills of exchange or other written securities for money, and deeds, are hereby declared to be the subject of larceny, and any person feloniously taking, stealing and carrying away the same may be tried and convicted as in all other cases of larceny. The indictment in all cases may be of the same form.

EMBEZZLEMENT.

Embezzlement is the appropriation to one's own use or benefit of property or money entrusted to him by another; as

where clerks, agents, common carriers, servants or public officers, Treasurers or other officers of a society appropriate the money or property entrusted to them in the line or course of their duty.

If the taking is found to be felonious as in larceny and the jury so find, the punishment shall be the same as in larceny, otherwise the conviction shall be misdemeanor and punishable with restoration of the value of the things taken and a fine of not less than twenty-five dollars nor more than two hundred and imprisonment not exceeding twelve months.

OBTAINING MONEY BY FALSE PRETENCES.

False pretences are false representations and statement made with a fraudulent design to obtain money, goods, wares and merchandise with intent to cheat.

A representation of some fact or circumstance alleged to be existing calculated to mislead which is not true, or does not exist with intent to cheat or defraud.

The punishment of all persons convicted of this offence shall be a fine not exceeding two fold the amount thus fraudulently obtained, nor less than twenty-five dollars in all cases where the amount obtained is less than twenty-five dollars, or imprisonment with or without hard labor, for a term not exceeding two years. Restitution shall be made when fine is collected.

RECEIVING GOODS OBTAINED BY FALSE PRETENCE.

Wherever any person shall receive and cloak or conceal any goods obtained by false pretence knowing them to be so obtained, he shall be deemed equally guilty with him who obtained them by pretence, and shall receive the same punishment.

SMUGGLING.

1. Smuggling is hereby declared to be the bringing into this Republic, or the carrying out of it merchandise which is lawfully forbidden,

2. The importation of dutiable merchandise not properly or truthfully invoiced with intent to evade the payment of legal duties.

3. The purchasing on board steamers of merchandise, and bringing it on shore without reporting the same to the revenue officers on shore with intent to evade the payment of legal duties.

4. The landing of steamer purchased merchandise by night or at a place or wharf not legally designated with intent to evade the payment of legal duties.

5. The surreptitiously landing any merchandise by night or at a wharf not legally designated, whether such goods are invoiced or not without the knowledge or consent of the revenue officers, and with the intent to evade the payment of duties.

6. Merchants desiring to land merchandise after 6 o'clock

n. m. must give notice to the Wharfinger in due time, who shall himself or by proxy remain at his office and oversee the landing of such merchandise and receive from Government extra allowance to be fixed by the Secretary of Treasury, which amount shall be paid to Government by the merchant so landing.

7. Any person found guilty of smuggling according to this act, shall be punished by forfeiture of the goods seized, and pay the cost of the Admiralty court.

And when the merchandise is not seized or competently proved to have been landed, the person so offending shall forfeit the assessed value of said merchandise, pay the estimated duty and the cost of court.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

EXTORTION.

Extortion is the unlawful or violent wringing or wresting of money or money's worth from any one; a taking more than is due or before it is due under color of some right or office; or demanding and taking more fee than the law allows.

All persons found guilty of extortion shall be required to make equitable restitution and shall pay in addition a fine of fifty dollars.

All indictments for extortion shall be commenced within one year of the time of the commission of the act.

BLACKMAILING.

Accusing, threatening to accuse or menacing, with intent to extort money or anything of value from another, shall be a misdemeanor to be described as "Blackmailing." Any person convicted of blackmailing shall be fined not less than twenty five dollars nor more than one hundred dollars for each offence. And in all cases when money or other valuables were actually extorted, the person convicted shall be required to make equitable restitution in addition to the fine in this article.

ABORTION.

Any woman married or single who shall be found guilty of the crime of abortion, by procuring or taking any poison or other noxious thing, or any person who shall procure and administer any such poison or noxious drug or any thing to any woman, thereby causing abortion, shall be deemed guilty of felony, and upon conviction thereof shall be imprisoned for a term not exceeding three years. All accessories before the fact shall be punished as principals.

CONCEALING THE BIRTH OR DEATH OF A CHILD.

Whenever any woman having given birth to a child, shall by any means endeavor to conceal the fact of the birth of such

child by secretly burying or otherwise secretly disposing of it shall be adjudged guilty of felony and upon conviction thereof shall be imprisoned for a term not exceeding three years.

BIGAMY.

1. Bigamy shall be when any person now married or who shall be hereafter married, takes to him or herself another husband or wife while his or her former wife or husband is still living, and from whom no divorce has been granted by any court of competent jurisdiction.

2. When the former husband or wife has been voluntarily absent, or not known to be living for a term of five years, and has been unheard of by the party marrying again, no prosecution for bigamy shall be brought against him or her.

3. This Act applies only to the civilized inhabitants of Liberia, admitted to exercise the functions of citizenship; no allusion being here made to the uncivilized aborigines.

4. The indictment may be found in any County where the person resides or is apprehended, and shall be tried by jury in the Court of Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas.

5. The punishment shall be imprisonment for not more than one year or a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars.

The judgement shall declare them separated. The first wife is the lawful wife.

In Indictment for bigamy either of the parties, the former husband or wife, the second husband or wife together with the necessary documentary evidence, shall be a competent witness for or against the Defendant. But no oral testimony of itself shall be sufficient to convict of bigamy.

FORNICATION AND ADULTERY.

Wherever any adult male and female persons, who are not married to each other shall live and cohabit together in a notorious manner, whether either party be, or be not married to some other person, the person so offending against public decency, shall be deemed guilty of *fornication and adultery*, and upon conviction shall be fined in a sum not exceeding one hundred dollars, or imprisonment for a term not more than three months.

SEDUCTION.

1. Any man who shall under promise of marriage seduce and have illicit connection with an unmarried woman of previous chaste character, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be imprisoned for a term not exceeding twelve calendar months in the County jail.

2. Provided that a subsequent marriage of the parties may be pleaded in bar of the action.

INDECENT ASSAULT

Wherever any man shall take indecent liberties with any fe-

male against her will, such act tending to violate her modesty or chastity, he shall be deemed guilty of an indecent assault, and upon conviction, shall be punished in a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars or imprisonment not exceeding three months.

PROCURING DEFILEMENT OF GIRLS.

Wherever any person shall by any means whatever, induce, persuade or procure any girl under the age of eighteen years to have illicit carnal knowledge of, or connection with any man such person so procuring shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined in a sum not exceeding two hundred dollars or imprisoned for a term not exceeding twelve months in the County jail.

ABANDONMENT.

When any person or guardian, or other person having the care or custody of children or aged and infirm dependents shall wilfully refuse or neglect to provide food and clothing according to their ability or the case requires, such person shall be held guilty of a misdemeanor.

2. In all cases of abandonment described in this article, upon conviction such person shall be required to make suitable provision for such child, children, dependent or wife, and in the discretion of the Court may be required to give bond to this effect and in addition may be fined in such case in the sum not exceeding two hundred dollars or be imprisoned for a term not exceeding three months upon failing to comply with said order of the Court.

SPREADING INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Wherever any person is infected with small pox or other infectious disease, he or she shall upon the order of any judge, justice of the peace or Mayor of a Corporation, be required to remain in some isolated building until fully restored to health. When such person is unable to provide means of support and proper medical attention such support and attention shall be provided at the expense of the settlement or township.

2. When such persons shall go abroad along the highway, or near inhabited house, or when any person not infected shall visit such infected house the fact of such infection being generally known, or notice having been publicly posted, with intent to spread infectious disease, he or she shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction, shall be fined in a sum not exceeding one hundred dollars or imprisoned for a term not exceeding three months.

3. When upon trial it is found that the person visiting an infected house had been informed of the fact, the intent to spread infectious disease is presumed.

4. Provided that nothing herein contained shall apply to Physicians attending such patients, or to nurses or other persons, who upon visiting such infected house, shall remain therein isolated until such patients are restored to health, and the premises disinfected, or to such person who first learning the existence of such disease, goes abroad to notify the authorities.

SELLING UNWHOLESOME FOOD.

All persons are hereby forbidden to sell to any native, or to any other person whatsoever the carcass of any animal that has died a natural death.

All persons are hereby forbidden to kill and offer for sale the flesh of any animal suffering from any disease.

Any person offending against this act, shall upon conviction pay a fine equal to twice the amount such animal would be worth if in a live or healthy state, the amount to be determined by the Justice trying the case, or in default of such payment, shall be imprisoned for a term not more than twenty days.

ACCIDENTAL HOMICIDE, OR SHOOTING CUTTING OR WOUNDING.

In all cases of accidental homicide, or shooting where there is no evidence tending to prove the allegation of murder, manslaughter or justifiable homicide, but that the act was purely accidental, it shall be incumbent upon the defendant to prove that he was engaged in a lawful act; that he was exercising due precaution; that he was never known to have committed the same or similar act before, and must prove by competent witnesses a good character for carefulness in handling weapons, and that he has a proper abhorrence of shedding human blood.

2. Where the person committing the homicide is out hunting with fire arms, and shoots at an object which he does not see, or where he sees the object and shoots it, and it proves to be a human being, gross negligence shall be presumed, and the defendant so offending shall be imprisoned for a term not less than three months nor more than twelve months, or pay a fine not less than twenty five nor more than two hundred dollars.

3. Any such person failing to comply with the provision of section one (1) of this act shall suffer the penalty prescribed in Sec. (2) two of this act.

4. Where any persons are engaged in friendly combat, or playing with gun pistol, knife, razor or other dangerous weapon, and one of them shall cut or seriously injure or kill the other, or where any person of the years of accountability shall aim and fire any gun or pistol at another, and said

other persons is thereby shot or wounded, the person so shooting, not knowing the gun or pistol to be loaded, shall be deemed guilty of gross carelessness; and upon conviction or confession shall be punished as provided in section (2) of this act.

5. Provided that nothing in this act shall be construed, to apply to any case, where the evidence discloses any ground to presume any degree of criminal intent.

DEFRAUDING AND CHEATING.

When a person by deceitful practices defrauds, or attempts to defraud another knowingly, wilfully and deceitfully, by some artful device or false device, or act of writing, contrary to the plain rules of common honesty, as by causing an illiterate person to execute a deed or sign an obligation to his prejudice, by reading it over to him in words other than those in which it is written, suppressing a will.

2. Or where a person announcing himself to be agent for some company, firm or person residing abroad with intent to defraud, and wilfully and deceitfully defrauds another out of his rights, property, money or produce, by drawing and giving in exchange therefor a draft payable by his principal or some company, firm or bank or business house abroad knowing at the time that he has no balance in the hands of such company, firm, bank or business house, and that said draft or bill of exchange will not be paid when presented, such person so offending against the plain rules of honesty shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be imprisoned in the common jail for a term not exceeding six months, nor less than one month, or pay a fine not less than twenty five nor more than one hundred dollars, in addition to making full, exact and entire restitution to the party injured of the amount thus defrauded.

All crimes and misdemeanors not herein treated of, shall be dealt with according to the law as heretofore existing and practiced.

PROCEDURE.

The procedure, pleading and practice in the courts of this Republic, shall be in accordance with the principles of common law of England and the United States of America, not inconsistent with the Constitution and Statute Laws of Liberia as heretofore practiced in this Republic, subject to the final approval of the Supreme Court of this Republic, until such time as this Government shall by statute make a national Code of Procedure.

INFAMOUS AND HEINOUS CRIMES.

Any person or persons who shall be convicted of committing the following crimes are hereby disfranchised, viz:

Murder, Treason, Burglary, Arson, Rape, Administering poison with intent to destroy life, Slave-Trading, Forgery,

House breaking, Assault with intent to kill, Perjury, Larceny, Receiving stolen goods, Robbery, Child stealing, Embezzlement, Obtaining money under false pretence.

Approved January 24. 1900.

Joint Resolution incorporating the M. E. Church at Central Buchanan, Grand Bassa County, Republic of Liberia.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That John T. Carney, Pastor, John H. Porter, Samuel Horace, Henry Smith and W. H. Reyland, Trustees of the M. E. Church, Central Buchanan, Grand Bassa County and their successors in office, are hereby declared a body corporate and politic by the name and style of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Central Buchanan, Grand Bassa County, with power to take, hold and possess any and all property, real and personal, that may be acquired by grant, purchase, gift or otherwise.

SEC. 2. That the said corporation may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded before any of the courts having competent jurisdiction, and shall be allowed to acquire and hold real and personal property to the value of twenty thousand dollars; and shall do all other acts and things usually done in and by similar bodies corporate.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding:

Approved January 5th. 1900,

Joint Resolution incorporating the M. E. Church in Bex'ly, Grand Bassa County, Republic of Liberia.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That A. Morgan, Pastor; Spencer Parker, Vanker Greece and T. W. Carter, Trustees of the M. E. Church of Bexley, County of Grand Bassa, Republic of Liberia, together with others and their successors in office, are hereby constituted a body politic and corporate by the name and style of M. E. Church Bexley, Grand Bassa County, with power to hold real and personal estate to the value of Twenty five thousand dollars (\$25,000) that may be acquired by purchase, bequest, gift or otherwise.

SEC. 2. The said corporation shall have power to sue, and be sued, plead and be impleaded before any of the Courts of this Republic having competent jurisdiction, and shall have the privilege to do all other things done by similar bodies corporate.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 5, 1900.

Joint Resolution incorporating the M. E. Church at Lower Buchanan, Grand Bassa County.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. D. M. Herron, Pastor; J. S. Montgomery, W. H. Strong and E. Harrison, Trustees of the M. E. Church at Lower Buchanan and their successors in office are hereby declared a body corporate and politic and as such, may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded before any of the courts of this Republic having competent jurisdiction.

SEC. 2. The said corporation shall be permitted to acquire, possess and hold real and personal estate by bequest, donation or otherwise to the value of Twenty thousand dollars (\$ 20.000) and do all other acts done by similar bodies corporate.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 5, 1900.

An Act revoking the Charter of Harper in Maryland County.

Whereas the corporation of the City of Harper, in the County of Maryland, has failed to meet the ends for which it was intended, and instead of relieving the citizens it has become oppressive by taxation and laws incompatible with the laws of this Republic, notwithstanding the constant remonstrances, memorials and petitions of the citizens for relief,

Therefore it is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and immediately after the passage of this act, the Charter incorporating the City of Harper, be, and is hereby revoked and declared null and void as completely as though no such charter ever existed.

SEC. 2. The Mayor and City clerk are hereby allowed sixty days to pay off and complete all unfinished business appertaining to the said corporation. After the expiration of the said sixty-days the Mayor shall pay over to the Sub-Treasurer of Maryland County all surplus moneys, if any there be, to be held subject to order under the law regulating town and villages, and see that the City clerk transmit to the State Department all the books containing records and transactions of the said corporation of the City of Harper.

All laws to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 5, 1900.

Joint Resolution regulating the Mileage and Laydays of the officers and employees of the National Legislature.

Whereas the Secretary of the Senate, Chief Clerk of the House, Chaplains, Clerks, Sergeant at arms and Messengers of each branch of the National Legislature, receive no citation to meet the Legislature; and whereas it has become necessary to positively define when Mileage and Lay Days should commence in the case of the officers and employees of the National Legislature,

Therefore, it is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and after the passage of this Joint Resolution all persons who shall come to seek office, shall come at their own risk, and shall not receive any Mileage or Laydays for coming to Monrovia, but the officers and employees so elected by ballot shall receive their Mileage and Laydays on their return home the first session, also to and from the next session.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding
Approved January 5. 1900.

Joint Resolution authorising the removal of Judge C. B. Reeves of Grand Bassa County.

Whereas the citizens of Grand Bassa County have exercised their constitutional rights and privileges, and have petitioned the President of the Republic of Liberia to remove Hon. C. B. Reeves, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas and Quarter Sessions, in consequence of certain charges set forth in said petition, which charges in their nature are very grave; and whereas the wishes of the people should at all times be respected, in order to perpetuate peace and happiness throughout this Republic; and whereas the President was under the necessity of suspending the said C. B. Reeves from the said office of Judge, and supplying his place with another,

Therefore it is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That the President be, and he is hereby authorized and directed to remove the said C. B. Reeves, Judge as aforesaid and supply his place permanently with the present incumbent, or any other that he shall be pleased to appoint.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.
Approved January 12th, 1900.

Joint Resolution restoring Henry Brown and Mary Brown, both of the County of Montserrado, to all the rights and privileges of citizenship.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and after the passage of this Joint Resolution, Henry Brown and Mary Brown of Montserrado County be, and they are hereby restored to all the rights, privileges and immunities of other good citizens of this Republic

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 12th, 1900

Joint Resolution reimbursing J. T. Gibson, of the County of Maryland.

Whereas the said J. T. Gibson of the County of Maryland had in his possession, Government Audited Bills to the amount of one hundred and sixty-five dollars (\$ 165.00) at the time that a registration of all Government claims was ordered by an Act of the Legislature, and whereas the said J. T. Gibson of the County of Maryland had misplaced the said "Audited Bills," forwarded with the petition, praying the Legislature to make good the claims:

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That the Superintendent of the County of Maryland be, and he is hereby authorized to register the bills of J. T. Gibson of the County of Maryland, to the amount of (\$ 165.00) one hundred and sixty-five dollars.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 12th, 1900.

Joint Resolution granting three hundred acres of Land in the settlement of Royesville to the Board of Foreign Missions of the African Methodist Episcopal Church of the United States of America for Mission and Educational purposes.

Whereas the board of Foreign Mission of the A. M. E. Church of the United States of America has by C. J. Lawton pastor of the Eliza Turner Church of Monrovia, petitioned the Legislature, for a grant of three hundred acres of land in the settlement of Royesville in the County of Montserrado for Mission and Educational purposes, and, whereas, it is the desire of the Legislature to encourage christianity and Education and to do all in their power to promote the same.

Therefore it is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled

SEC. 1. That from and immediately after the passage of this

Joint Resolution: the number of three hundred acres of land is hereby granted to the board of Foreign Missions of the African Methodist Episcopal Church of the United States of America for Mission and Educational purposes out of any public land in the settlement of Royesville and next adjoining a hundred acre block of land already owned by said board, in the said settlement of Royesville.

SEC. 2. It is farther resolved that the President be, and he is hereby authorized and directed to cause the proper officer to legally convey the said land to the said board for the purpose of Mission and Educational work as aforesaid under the laws of this Republic, governing the same.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 12th, 1900.

Joint Resolution granting the citizens of Robertsport aid to clear out the Marpha river and Coahmah creek from the Lake section to the Golah section.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That the sum of (\$ 400.00) four hundred dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated to aid the citizens of Robertsport in cleaning out the Marpha River and the Coahmah creek, Montserrado County.

SEC. 2. And the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby authorized to draw for the same under warrant of the President out of any money in the Public Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 12th, 1900.

Joint Resolution restoring James Outland of the County of Montserrado who was convicted for Larceny in the year 1889 to citizenship.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and immediately after the passage of this Joint resolution, James Outland of the County of Montserrado is hereby restored to all the rights and privileges of a citizen of this Republic.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 12th, 1900.

Joint Resolution restoring William Coleman of Montserrado County, Republic of Liberia, to the rights and privileges of citizenship.

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It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and after the passage of this resolution, William Coleman of the County of Montserrado, be, and he is hereby restored to all the rights, privileges, and immunities granted to all other good citizens of this Republic.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 12th, 1900.

Joint Resolution incorporating the Russell Memorial Lodge Number 4451 Grand United Order of Odd Fellows of the County of Montserrado.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1 That J. A. Railey, Past Noble Father, D. L. Minor, Noble Father, B. V. B. Melville, Noble Grand, A. D. Williams, Advocate, R. H. Kennedy, Chaplain, P. C. Parker, Permanent Secretary, T. G. Fuller, Elective Secretary, R. H. Hill, Treasurer, F. J. Hooke, Guardian, D. L. Cephas, Warden, and other members and officers of said Russell Memorial Lodge Number 4451, United Order of Odd Fellows of Monrovia, and such others as may be hereafter connected with them, be, and they are hereby constituted and declared a body politic and corporate under the name and style of the Russell Memorial Lodge Number 4451, Grand United Order of Odd Fellows, Monrovia of the Republic of Liberia and shall be capable in law to receive, hold and enjoy real and personal estate to the amount of Five Thousand Dollars for the use and benefit of said institution, and shall have perpetual succession of officers and members, and as such may sue, and be sued, plead and be impleaded, before any Court of this Republic having competent jurisdiction.

SEC. 2 It is further resolved that the said Lodge is permitted to do all other matters and things done in similar bodies under the jurisdiction of the Russell Memorial Lodge Number 4451 Monrovia.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 12 1900.

Joint Resolution Reimbursing C. O. Tuning.

Whereas, C. O. Tuning has petitioned the Legislature to reimburse him for two War certificates amounting to Forty five acres of bounty land which were lost by the late President J. J. Cheeseman, and, whereas it has been made to appear in the said petition, that the said certificates were

forwarded to the President in pursuance of a Joint Resolution calling in all War certificates now in circulation within this Republic approved January 3rd 1895, and, Whereas, the Act of the Government should prejudice no man;

Therefore, it is Resolved by the Senate, and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1 That the President be, and he is hereby authorized to grant unto the said C. O. Tuning Forty five acres of bounty land, out of any public land not otherwise appropriated.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 12, 1900.

A further Act respecting the Collection of Customs.

Whereas it clearly appears that the Government loses annually large sums of money through the manner in which the Customs are collected at the different Ports of Entry of this Republic, and whereas it is imperatively necessary that a better system be put on foot, therefore,

It is enacted by the Senate, and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1, That from the first day of April 1900, all persons importing or landing goods in the Ports of Entry must do so into designated Customs sheds, or Warehouses, where they will be retained until entry is passed, and the proper duty paid.

SEC. 2. It is further enacted that the Secretary of the Treasury shall prepare, and issue the necessary forms and regulations.

SEC. 3. It is further enacted that responsible firms may for the present have private Warehouses, but access thereto cannot be had unless with and under permission of Collectors of Customs who shall always have a key.

SEC. 4. It is further enacted that all boats coming into, or going out of any Port of Entry, must go to the Customs wharf for inspection under a penalty of one hundred dollars.

SEC. 5. It is further enacted that Collectors may have any case, package, or cask, of any kind opened and an account taken of the articles, when contents are not specifically described in such a manner that the duty can be easily assessed, or where they have reason to believe that the importer intends to evade the payment of the proper duty.

SEC. 6. It is further enacted that all goods deposited in a public Bonded Warehouse, shall pay storage from the fifteenth (15) day after being placed therein.

SEC. 7. It is further enacted that Collectors of Customs

must transact their business in the Warehouse, or as near thereto as possible: in order to have general oversight of matters connected therewith. The Secretary of the Treasury shall put the present Act into force in the different counties as fast as the necessary arrangements can be made. He shall give notice of its going into force at each port as fast as arrangements are completed.

Any law, or parts of laws conflicting with the provisions of this Act, be and the same is and are hereby repealed.

Approved February 1, 1900.

Joint Resolution removing, Jas. K. P. Greene Judge of the Monthly and Probate Court of Sinoe County.

Whereas Jas. K. P. Greene, Judge of the Monthly and Probate Court of Sinoe County, has caused a great scandal upon the Judiciary of Sinoe County, and, whereas he has been guilty of gross, and unbecoming conduct as a Judge to us known, and, whereas this Legislature is not desirous of impeaching the said Judge, Jas. K. P. Greene;

Therefore it is resolved by the Senate, and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled;

SEC. 1. That from and immediately after the passage of this Joint Resolution, the President is hereby authorized and directed to remove Jas. K. P. Greene, Judge of the Monthly and Probate Court, of Sinoe County, and appoint another in his stead.

Any law to the contrary, notwithstanding.

Approved January 18th 1900.

Joint Resolution incorporating the M. E. Church of Bullock town Grand Bassa County.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That James T. Williams, Pastor, H. M. Adams, J. H. Williams, Joe. Preston, Spencer Moore, George Preston and John Toliver, Stewards, all of the settlement of Bullock town, Grand Bassa County and Republic of Liberia and their successors in office together with such as are now and may hereafter become members, are hereby constituted a body corporate and politic, by the name of the M. E. Church of Bullock town, with power to take, hold, and possess property, real and personal, with full power to sell and convey the same: subject to the provisions of this Resolution.

SEC. 2. That the said corporation shall be granted the

privilege to sue and be sued; plead and be impleaded before any of the courts of this Republic having lawful jurisdiction, and shall be allowed to acquire and hold real and personal estate, to the amount of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15000.00) and do all things usually done by such bodies corporate and politic.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 23, 1900.

An Act authorizing the Secretary of State or the Attorney General to examine and review the manuscripts of Josiah P. Artis purporting to be the History of Liberia.

Whereas it is the policy of Government to encourage its citizens in every landable enterprise, and,

Whereas it appears from a petition from one Josiah P. Artis, a citizen of this Republic that he has prepared a History of Liberia, from the founding of the Republic, to the year 1899.

Therefore it is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

Sec. 1. That the Secretary of State, or the Attorney General, is hereby authorized to examine and review the manuscripts prepared by Josiah P. Artis, purporting to be the History of Liberia and report the same to the annual session of the Legislature.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 23, 1900.

Joint Resolution reimbursing Gilbert Deans of Montserrado County.

Whereas the said Gilbert Deans of the County of Montserrado, has petitioned to the Legislature, that he had in the month of April, 1896, a certain amount of goods come out recently after his immigration in Monrovia, Liberia, and, through the miscarriage of the Government the said petitioner's goods were lost, and, whereas the Legislature believe that the petitioner has sustained loss thereby.

Therefore, it is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That the sum of one hundred and eighty dollars (\$189.00) be, and the same is hereby appropriated for the said Gilbert Deans and the President be, and he is hereby authorized to draw for the same, out of any money not otherwise appropriated.

SEC. 2. It is further resolved that the President be empowered to instruct the Attorney General to exhaust all means to ascertain the truthfulness of the claims laid by the said Gilbert Deans and endorsed by Robt. T. Sherman, former immigrant Agent; and if he finds that the loss was an actual loss, and can be traced to the carelessness of the said Robt. T. Sherman, that he be authorized to institute legal proceedings against him at once, for the recovery of the property and money as endorsed by him.

Any law to the contrary, notwithstanding.

Approved January 23, 1900.

Joint Resolution restoring E. M. Johnson of the County of Montserrado to Military franchise.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and immediately after the passage of this Joint Resolution, Edward M. Johnson of the County of Montserrado is restored to military franchise as any other citizen of this Republic.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 23, 1900.

ELECTION REGISTRATION LAWS.

An Act to prevent illegal voting at elections and to preserve the blessings of intelligent government.

Whereas there is manifest a tendency on the part of some enthusiastic partizans in the different political parties in certain districts to procure illegal votes for their candidates and whereas a republican form of government cannot long exist without the leadership of the intelligent portion of its citizens and, whereas fraudulent voting tends to undermine and destroy public confidence;

Therefore it is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. The Judge of Monthly and Probate Court shall on the first Monday in February next preceeding the Biennial Election in May, appoint one discreet, capable man in each voting precinct in the County to register in a proper book all persons eligible and desirous of voting at that poll. He shall be called the Registrar.

SEC. 2. It is further enacted that the said Judge of the Monthly and Probate Court shall at the time of said appoint-

ment of registrars, through the sheriff, during the month of February, cause to be publicly posted in each settlement a printed notice giving the names of the Registrars thus appointed designating the settlement for which each is appointed.

SEC. 3. It is further enacted that the Clerk of said court shall under seal immediately notify each such person of his appointment, placing such notices in the hand of the sheriff, who shall deliver to each registrar the notice of his appointment; said notice requiring each registrar to appear at the March Term of said Court to be sworn to perform the duties of registrar and to receive the registration book of his settlement or voting precinct.

SEC. 4. It is further enacted that a proper broad blank book shall be furnished the registrar of each voting precinct neatly labelled with the name of the settlement, and with alphabet tags duly infixed with columns in which to enter the name, age, place of residence, and property qualification in the settlement. These blank books shall be thus ruled and prepared by said Clerk of Court; and, to secure promptness in the fixed registration under this act, the said blank book shall be placed in his hands for preparation on or before the first Monday in February next preceding said next ensuing Biennial Election; and said clerk shall at the time of sending notice of appointment, notify each registrar to appear at the March Term of said Court to receive his registration book, and be sworn by the judge.

SEC. 5. It is further enacted that it shall be the duty of each registrar, upon being duly qualified under this Act, to return to his settlement and on the second Monday in March to open the registration book of his settlement after having posted notice stating the place of his sitting for that purpose. He shall sit for registration either at his house, place of business, his regular office, or some public place more convenient for the electors. After having selected the place of sitting and given notice, he shall not remove to another place without the consent of the judge of said Court first had and obtained; provided that should he be deprived of the place so designated by power beyond his control he may select another place immediately and post notice to that effect.

He shall sit in his registration office from the hour of nine o'clock in the morning until six o'clock in the evening on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday in each week for one month with an intermission of one hour and a half for meals, and shall receive for his services one-dollar and a half a day and an additional sum of two cents for each name registered.

SEC. 6. It is further enacted that every male citizen of Liberia of the age of twenty one years and owning land in the settlement or precinct shall be entitled to register and vote in that settlement or precinct, and where two or more settle-

ments must vote at the same poll, they must register and vote at that precinct where the polls are opened according to law. Whenever an elector presents himself for registration, the registrar shall ask his name, age, residence, if he owns land in that settlement or voting precinct, the description of the land as lot no.—on range no.—or such other description of such land as shown in the deed and if fully satisfied of the qualification of the elector, he shall enter his name, and these facts in the book in their proper places, the names being alphabetically arranged; thus: a person named Henry Smith will fall under the letter (S.), as Smith, Henry etc.

Before entering his name, he shall swear as follows.—“You solemnly swear (or affirm) that you will support the constitution and laws of the Republic of Liberia; that you are the person you now represent yourself to be; that you are of lawful age and the owner of land in this settlement or precinct, and are otherwise qualified to vote in this election; so help you God”

SEC. 7. It is further enacted that in any case where the registrar has doubts as to the ownership of the land he may require the elector to produce his deed, and such deed shall not be deemed valid unless probated and registered, if from a private citizen; or duly signed by the President and registered, if a public grant, said deed must be a grant or sale to the person presenting it and convey the title to said land to him in severalty.

Two or more persons owning land by the same deed and whose names are mentioned therein as grantees; and persons owning land by descent evidenced by a will or devise may all register under said deed or will.

When the registrar requires the deed to be produced, he shall read it to satisfy himself that the same is genuine and that the person presenting it is the grantee named therein.

SEC. 8. It is further enacted that each person qualified to vote shall register and vote at one poll only. Any person who shall register and vote at more than one poll shall upon conviction in the court of Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas, pay a fine of one hundred dollars, one half in gold, silver or copper coin, the other half in Liberian currency or government paper, or be imprisoned in the county jail for the term of thirty days. This fine shall be applied in kind to the salary of teachers of the government schools in that settlement; provided, that where a person owns land in one settlement and his occupation causes him to reside in another settlement, he shall register in the settlement where his land is, and upon application, shall receive from the registrar of that settlement a certificate of his registration, which certificate may be in the following or similar form:—“This certifies that _____ is a duly qualified and registered voter in the settlement of _____
signed _____ Registrar

Upon presenting this certificate to the registrar of the settlement where he wishes to vote, said registrar shall enter him

upon his book, and instead of entering his age, property, qualification, etc, he shall write opposite his name the words, "By certificate from the settlement of _____;" which shall be sufficient to entitle him to vote at that poll. This shall be done before the registrar deliver his book to the Monthly Court and not afterwards.

Any person who is duly registered and unchallenged wishing to work in another precinct, on the day of election may obtain from the judge of said Court during the said special session, beginning on the second Monday in April a certificate of his registration under seal, and upon depositing said certificate with the judge of election, vote at the poll.

SEC. 9. It is further enacted that the registrar shall allow two or three of the representatives of each political party (they being recommended by the general or local chairman of their party) to inspect his book in his presence on any day while said book is yet in his possession, in order to challenge any elector so registered; but such persons shall not be allowed to write or mark in said book.

If they shall find any name registered and believe such person is not qualified to vote they may so state it to the registrar, who shall there upon write in the margin opposite such name the word "Challenged."

If the person so challenged upon being informed by his party friends, or otherwise shall produce his deed or other legal evidence as a will, or swear to his age, as the case may be, the challenge shall be withdrawn.

These challenged persons who neglect to satisfy the registrar as above provided may appear at the sitting of the Monthly Court and upon producing the proper evidence of qualification the judge shall withdraw the challenge and cause each person to be enrolled upon the poll book unchallenged.

SEC. 10. It is further enacted that the registration shall cease on Thursday before the second Monday in April, and the registrar shall on the next day bring his registration book and deposit it with the Clerk of said Monthly Court, taking his receipt for the same.

SEC. 11. It is further enacted that on the second Monday in April the Monthly Court shall convene to hear in a summary manner the complaints brought orally or otherwise by challenged persons. If in any case a person marked "Challenged" shall produce in said court his "*bonafide*" deed or other legal evidence qualifying him a lawful voter the Judge shall cause such challenge to be withdrawn and cause the person so duly entered on the poll book as "unchallenged."

SEC. 12. It is further enacted that the Clerk of said Court shall then forthwith prepare a copy of each registration book on Foolscap or other suitable paper with the corrections provided for in Section 11, of this Act, which he shall deliver to the registrar on or before Friday before the first Monday in May. The Copy shall be certified by said Clerk (under seal

with judicial corrections) and shall be the test of qualification for every one voting at that poll subject to the challenge remaining not removed as above provided.

SEC. 13. It is further enacted that the party inspectors shall have the free privilege to take a list of the names enrolled on either of the books herein mentioned with notes of challenged persons, while the books are in the hands of the registrar, during the month of registration, or the corrected copy from the Monthly Court, for the purpose of guarding against secret illegal registering; but in so doing they shall not delay or obstruct the duties of the registrar.

SEC. 14. It is further enacted that the Clerk of said Court shall receive fifty cents for each copy of the registration book so made and an additional sum of two cents for each name copied. Failure or neglect to prepare the books as herein provided shall subject said Clerk to the penalty imposed in Section 8 of this Act, which fine when collected shall be applied as therein directed, and forfeiture of his fees and emoluments in each case. In case of failure to prepare these books in time the assessment roll is to be used instead, at the election, and in that event any person presenting a "bonafida" deed made to himself duly probated and registered shall be allowed to vote.

SEC. 15. It is further enacted that the Sheriff shall receive fees and mileage as in other cases of serving processes of the court.

SEC. 16. It is further enacted that whenever it shall clearly appear to the satisfaction of the Judge of the Monthly Court sitting the second Monday in April as herein provided that the challenge was made maliciously for the purpose of annoying or giving trouble and expense to a legally qualified elector, said Judge may in his discretion award said challenger to pay the cost of the challenged person.

The said Monthly Court may adjourn from day to day during the one week until the challenges are all decided.

SEC. 17. It is further enacted that when the Clerk has finished making the corrected list of voters, he shall submit them to the Judge for inspection: they being correct he shall deliver them to the registrars who shall call for them at his office on or before the day before the election, he taking their receipt therefor.

SEC. 18. It is further enacted that on the day of election the registrar shall sit with the Judges of election with his certified copy, and any person whose name appears on said poll book unchallenged shall be allowed to vote as well as those holding certificates as provided in Section eight.

Whenever any person comes forward and offers to vote, the registrar shall speedily search his book to ascertain if his name is duly registered; and if it appear unchallenged the ticket shall be taken and deposited in the ballot box by either one of the Judges of election, and the registrar shall write opposite the name of the person so voting the word "vctd."

But persons marked "challenged" on the certified registrar's copy or poll book shall not be allowed to vote in that election.

SEC. 19. It is further enacted that in case of the death or inability of a registrar to perform the duties of his office, the Judge of the Monthly Court shall forthwith appoint another who shall continue the registration.

SEC. 20. It is further enacted that the Clerk shall receive two dollars for each registration book properly ruled, labelled and indexed by him as provided in Section four of this Act.

SEC. 21. It is further enacted that immediately after the election the registrar shall deposit his poll book in the office of the Clerk taking his receipt therefor; and, the Clerk shall safely keep the same. The registrar shall have his mileage.

SEC. 22. It is further enacted that the registrar shall faithfully perform the duties of his office according to the intent of this Act. During the period of registration lasting from the second Monday in March till Thursday evening before the second Monday in April, he shall be available and accessible to all persons eligible to register; shall be courteous and attentive to his duties; and for any malfeasance in office shall be subject to the penalty imposed in Section eight of this Act, and shall forfeit all his fees and emoluments and pay.

SEC. 23. It is further enacted that the registrar shall enter and register every male citizen who is apparently twenty one years old, he so swearing, and who presents a "bona fida" probated and registered deed of land granted to himself in that precinct, or who presents undoubted evidence of title as by descent or devise under the penalty provided in Section eight of this Act.

SEC. 24. It is further enacted that all fines collected under this Act shall be applied as directed in Section eight.

SEC. 25. It is further enacted that the certified copy or poll book herein provided for shall consist of all the names of persons registered without mentioning the qualification as in registration book. But where the word "challenged" has not been removed as herein provided for, it shall be copied opposite the name of the person challenged. After election the Clerk shall deposit the book for safe keeping in the State Department; and in leeward counties, with the clerk of the Court of Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas.

SEC. 26. It is further enacted that any person who shall procure or cause any person to register and vote fraudulently by supplying false deeds or assuming the name not his in a "bona fida" deed shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be punished as provided in Section eight of this Act.

SEC. 27. It is further enacted that the Clerk of the Court shall make no entry or erasure in any of the books deposited with him, except such as are provided for in Section eleven, by order of the Judge in open court, under the penalty provided in section eight of this act.

In the first Monday in March preceding each biennial election, he shall in open court deliver the original registration book to the registrars severally as they are sworn by the Judge.

SEC. 28. It is further enacted that the same registration book shall serve for three biennial elections; and in the fourth biennial election an entirely new registration may be ordered by the said Judge. But it shall not be required of "bonafide" unchallenged electors duly registered to re-register, except when an entirely new registration is ordered: only such as have become qualified to vote since the last election, or who failed to be registered in the first registration being required to register. Persons who stood challenged in the former election and thereby failed to vote, may produce the necessary evidence to the registrar or Judge during the registration period preceding any later election and have such challenge removed.

Sec. 29- It is further enacted that any registrar who shall enter any new name upon the certified copy or poll book supplied him by the Court, or shall secretly and fraudulently register any unqualified person upon his registration book, or who shall fraudulently enter or erase the word "challenged" opposite any name registered, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction, shall pay a fine of twenty-five dollars for each name so entered, or fraudulently tampered with, or be imprisoned for sixty days: one half of fines herein imposed shall be paid in gold, silver or copper coin.

SEC. 30. It is further enacted that any person who shall maliciously destroy or so deface any registration or certified poll book as to render it useless shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, when convicted, shall be fined five hundred dollars or be imprisoned for six calendar months.

SEC. 31. It is further enacted that where any person is challenged only upon the ground of being under age, and who is apparently of age, there being no record or other good proof of his age, swears that he is twenty one years of age, he shall be registered and allowed to vote. But swearing to the ownership of land without presenting the other legal evidence thereof shall not entitle him to register. Where a person is challenged on the ground of disfranchisement, the judgment of the court being given in evidence before the registrar, or the Judge in open court, he shall not register and vote unless he show the Act of Legislature restoring him.

SEC. 32. It is further enacted that any person who shall attempt to intimidate the registrar or other officers of election, by trying with force and arms, or by threats and menaces to compel the registrar to enter any unqualified person on his registration book, or force the Judges of election to receive votes contrary to the provisions of this Act, shall be fined and imprisoned as provided for in Section eight of this Act.

And where a battery has occurred such person may also be dealt with as provided in law for punishing assault and battery.

SEC. 33. It is further enacted that whenever a person owning land in one County or far away district resides in another

County or far away district and would be at great expense to travel to that County or district to register as provided in Section eight, he may obtain a certificate from the registrar of deeds of the County or district where his land is, certifying, under seal, that said person owns land registered in the book of said County or district and upon presenting this certificate to the registrar at the place where he wishes to vote, upon taking the prescribed oath, he shall be registered and vote under the provision of Section eight.

But the extent of the franchise of such person voting outside the County where his land lies, is not increased by this section.

SEC. 34. It is further enacted that this Act shall be in force from and after its ratification.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 24th 1900.

Joint Resolution appointing an Agent of governmental affairs at the Port of Half Cavalla and parts adjacent from Half Cavalla to River Cavalla and from thence up the Cavalla River as far as Webó.

Whereas it is expedient to maintain an officer on the Liberian banks of the Cavalla River, to co-operate with the French authorities in keeping order on the stream and in surpressing tribal disturbances between the inhabitants of the two countries, and whereas the chief people of Half Cavalla, and other districts near the Cavalla River have petitioned the Government for the appointment of such an officer to guide, advise and assist them in their relations to the Republic.

Therefore it is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled

SEC. 1. That from and immediately after the passage of this joint Resolution, the President of the Republic, is hereby authorized to appoint an officer to be styled Travelling Commissioner for the Cavalla River. The head quarters of said officer shall be at Half Cavalla. He shall have authority under the direction of the Superintendent of Maryland County as far as Webó on the said River.

SEC. 2. Said Commissioner shall once at least every quarter proceed up the River stopping at the chief town of all the tribes, hearing complaints, settling disturbances, stimulating trade, opening roads, overseeing the collection of the internal revenue, giving advice and in every possible and legitimate way improve and cement the attachment of the tribes to the local and general government; he shall report disturbances, and complaints at least monthly to the Superintendent, with such suggestions as he may deem suitable and shall in all cases obey his order and direction in the premises.

SEC. 3. Said officer shall when necessary be accompanied by a small escort.

SEC. 4. His salary shall be three hundred dollars annually with travelling expenses.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 24th 1900.

Resolution providing for the appointment of a General Superintendent of Public Instruction and Common Schools and for other purposes.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1 That the President be and he is hereby directed to appoint immediately after the passage of this resolution, an officer to be styled General Superintendent of Public Instruction and Common Schools; said officer shall superintend the operation of public and private schools and see that the school laws are enforced.

He shall issue to the Commissioners of Education, circular letters of instructions and suggestions; he shall collect information concerning the condition and operations of common schools in the different Counties and districts; and digest and report upon the same together with suggestions and recommendations annually to the Legislature; and he shall visit all the schools in each of the Counties at least twice a year; and he shall require all the School Commissioners to visit the schools in each County at least once a quarter and report their visitation in their Quarterly Reports.

SEC. 2 It is further resolved that the Commissioners of Education shall make their quarterly Report to the said Superintendent and shall be subject to his instructions and directions.

The Superintendent of Education shall always prepare and send in with his report all bills relative to the educational interest of the County, whose passage he may recommend.

His salary shall be seven hundred (\$700) dollars yearly with travelling expenses.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 26, 1900.

A Joint Resolution providing for the support of Liberia College.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1 That from, and immediately after the passage of this Resolution; one half of the entire land sales and one

half of the duty on Pias-ava annually, with all escheats, appropriated as a special fund for support of Liberia College until otherwise ordered.

SEC. 2 The Treasurer and Sub Treasurers shall make special mention in their quarterly reports, and the Secretary of the Treasury shall account with the Treasurer of the Board of Trustees for the income on the items of revenue set aside in the first section.

SEC. 3 The officers in charge of the Educational interest of the Republic, shall report annually upon the amount, and disposition of the funds above granted, and shall have power to require information from the Treasurer of the Board with respect thereto.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 26th 1900

Joint Resolution protecting the Revenue of the Republic of Liberia against fraud.

Whereas it is the policy of some merchants transacting business in this Republic to import in this Republic empty demijohns some filled with water, some with rice and some with sawdust, for the purpose of defrauding the government of its revenue by importing into this Republic liquors above the degree of proof for the purpose of adulterating said liquors as above stated.

Therefore, it is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and immediately after the passage of this joint Resolution there shall be levied and collected a duty of one dollar on every empty demijohn imported into this Republic.

No person shall be allowed to import into this Republic in demijohns any other substance than rum and vinegar under penalty of confiscation of the goods so effected, including the said demijohns.

SEC. 2. Said duty on empty demijohns is to be paid absolutely in gold.

SEC. 3. That on all liquors imported below 50% proof the duty shall be one dollar and fifty cents: and for every degree above proof, Twenty five cents and for every additional degree so effected.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 26, 1900.

Joint Resolution regulating the fees in Equity cases.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and immediately after the passage of this resolution, the clerks and ministerial officers of the County Superior and Supreme Courts of this Republic, shall receive the same fees in Equity cases as those paid in other civil cases in accordance with the fees prescribed in the fee bill on the 292 page of Liberia Statute, old blue book.

SEC. 2. All laws or parts of law conflicting with the provisions of this Resolution, be and. the same are hereby repealed

Approved January 26th 1900.

An Act relative to the public forest.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. It is enacted that from and immediately after the passage of this Act, the Superintendent of each County or district is constituted a Commissioner of the forest.

SEC. 2. It is further enacted that he shall exercise jurisdiction over all forest grounds on the public domain in his County or district, and shall have power to issue regulations for the care and regulation thereof.

SEC. 3. It is further enacted that the citizens of the Republic shall at all times have the right to resort to the public forest for wood and timber for their individual use.

SEC. 4. It is further enacted that no alien shall enter the forest of the Republic for the purpose of taking timber or other products for commercial use, nor shall employ any citizens as mere servants to do so unless he shall have obtained a concession for the products from the central government.

SEC. 5. It is further enacted that nothing in this Act shall be construed to the prejudice of the concession granted the Rubber Syndicate in 1891.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January, 26, 1900.

An Act authorizing the cleaning out of Fishtown River from a petition by the citizens of Maryland County.

Whereas it is of paramount importance for the Government to make accessible by way of cleaning out the Fishtown river, leading to the great interior of Maryland County for the purpose of opening up and bringing into market the wasting millions of undeveloped resources, and whereas this river if cleaned will give a new impetus to various enterprises, and encourage foreign capital into the County and thereby secure to Government a large revenue,

Therefore it is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled

SEC. 1. That from and after the passage of this Act, the President be and he is hereby authorized to draw out of the public Treasury the amount of two thousand dollars for the carrying out of the same, out of any public money not otherwise appropriated.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 26, 1900.

Joint Resolution closing the Port of Entry and delivery at River Cess Grand Bassa County.

Whereas the Liberian Citizens, traders transacting mercantile business at the Port of River Cess has petitioned the Legislature against outrages committed upon them at sundry times, and, whereas the revenue is not successfully collected, and cause great falling off of the revenue at said port.

Therefore it is resolved by the Senate, and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled;

SEC. 1. That from and after the third day of April A. D. 1900 the Port at River Cess in the County of Grand Bassa be and the same is hereby closed.

SEC. 2. It is further resolved that the President be empowered to instruct the Attorney General to exhaust all means to ascertain the truthfulness of the merchants and traders transacting mercantile business at River Cess; and if the damages complained of are traceable to the Chiefs and headmen of the River Cess tribe in Grand Bassa County, that he the said Attorney General be authorized to institute legal proceedings against them at once for the recovery of one (\$ 1000.) thousand dollars or such damages as may be found to have been sustained by said Liberian merchants and traders of said port.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 26, 1900.

Joint Resolution authorizing the building of Bonded Warehouses in each of the Counties of the Republic of Liberia for the better collection of the revenue.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and after the passage of this Joint Resolution, the sum of Thirteen thousand and five hundred dollars (\$ 13,500) be and the same is hereby appropriated for the building of Bonded Warehouses in each of the Counties of the Republic

SEC. 2. It is further resolved, that the President be, and he is hereby authorized to draw on the Public Treasury for the above amount, the money arising from the shipment of kroo boys and any other moneys not otherwise appropriated are hereby set aside and appropriated for this purpose, and that the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized to pay the same as follows Bonded Warehouse Montserrado County including Robertsport, four thousand five hundred dollars (\$4,500.00)

SEC. 3. Bonded Warehouse Grand Bassa County, three thousand dollars, Bonded Warehouse Sinoe County three thousand dollars, Bonded Warehouse Maryland County three thousand dollars.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 26, 1900.

✓ An Act amendatory to an Act fixing a duty on Piassava approved January 16th 1897.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That after the first day of March 1900, the export duty on Piassava shall be so amended as to read, one cent, instead $\frac{1}{4}$ cent, payable one half in gold or silver coin and one half in Liberian paper currency.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 30th 1900.

Joint resolution respecting the duty on spirits. ✓

Whereas the Secretary of the Treasury has reported to the Legislature at the present session, that the revenue assigned for the payment on the Loan of 1871 is not sufficient and asked for further assistance; and.

Whereas the Legislature is anxious that no hitch occur in the arrangement for the settlement of said Loan;

Therefore, it is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled:—

SEC 1 That immediately after the passage of this Joint Resolution one third of the duty on spirits shall be set aside to pay the deficiency in the annual charge for the payment of the Loan of 1871.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved February 1, 1900.

Joint Resolution respecting the importation of corrugated Iron
free of duty.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That after the passage of this Joint Resolution, all corrugated Iron imported by any citizen for his own dwelling house and not for sale, shall be admitted free of duty.

SEC. 2. It is further resolved that any person availing himself of the benefits of this Joint Resolution, shall immediately upon the receipt of such corrugated iron make oath before the Collector of Customs, who shall be qualified to administer an oath for this purpose, that the said corrugated iron, is to be used for his own house only, and is not for sale. And any person convicted for selling such corrugated iron after making said oath, shall be deemed guilty of smuggling and be punished accordingly.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved February 1, 1900.

Joint Resolution requiring the Secretary of State to supply each member of the Legislature and certain other officers with a copy of the Acts of the Session of 1899 and 1900, as soon as printed.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and after the passage of this Joint Resolution the Secretary of State be and he is hereby required to supply each member of the Legislature, the Judges of the several courts of record, the Attorney General, and the several County Attorneys, and Collectors of Custom, of this Republic, with Acts of the Legislature as soon as they are published.

SEC. 2. It is further resolved that the said Acts shall be published and distributed to the above named persons on or before the first day of April, A. D. 1900.

Nothing in this Joint Resolution shall be so construed as to prevent the sale of Acts to persons not herein named.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved February 1, 1900.

Joint Resolution chartering Stokes Union Lodge No. 4279 G. U. O. of O. F. at Crozierville in the County of Montserrado.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1 That I. N. Holder, P. N. F., A. C. Hollowonger, N. F., H. T. Wesley, Advocate, S. Solomon Eastman, P. S., J. R. Carter, W. T., J. C. Clark, W., J. B. Padmore, P. N. G., J. H. Lockette, V. G., W. O. Crawford, O. G. and other officers and members of said Lodge, and such others as may

be here after connected with them, be, and they are hereby constituted and declared a body corporate and politic under the name and style of Stokes Union Lodge No. 4279 G. U. O. of O. F. at Crozierville in the County of Montserrado, Republic of Liberia, and shall be capable in law to receive, hold, and enjoy real and personal estate to the amount of Five thousand dollars for the use and benefit of said Institution; and shall have perpetual succession of officers and members and as such may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded before any court of law or equity of this Republic, having competent jurisdiction.

SEC. 2 The said Lodge shall be permitted to do all other matters and things done in similar bodies under the jurisdiction of this Charter.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved February 1, 1900.

An Act incorporating the Number Eight Division of East Harper, Maryland County.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. It is enacted that from and after the passage of this Act, the number Eight Division of East Harper, Maryland County is hereby incorporated and declared to be a body politic and corporate; that is to say Wm. R. Harris, Master, Samuel A. Hutchins, Vice Chairman, E. M. Cummings, Secretary, D. W. Wilson, Treasurer and A. L. Moulton, Chaplain together with others at least twenty three in number all of the County of Maryland, Republic of Liberia, and such others as may here-after connect themselves there-with are constituted a body corporate and politic, to have perpetual succession by name of the number Eight Division of East Harper, Maryland County, to take hold and enjoy real and personal estate to the amount of ten thousand dollars with other like bodies by grant, bequest, purchase or otherwise.

SEC. 2. It is further enacted, that the said corporation shall be granted the privilege to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded before any Court of this Republic having competent Jurisdiction, and shall be allowed to acquire, and hold real estate to the value of Ten thousand dollars and to do all other Acts and things done in similar bodies corporate and politic.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 26, 1900.

Joint Resolution to encourage agricultural pursuits throughout the Republic.

Whereas it has become clearly apparent to the present ses-

sion of the National Legislature that since the declination of the price of Liberian Coffee in the foreign markets of the world something should be put on foot at once to save the farming interest of the Republic from bankruptcy, and; Whereas agriculture is the mother of all industries, and it is absolutely necessary that the attention of the farmers, planters, gardeners and stock-raisers should be called immediately to the importance of raising and putting on the market a diversity of crops as well as improving the methods of curing Liberian Coffee—the staple of the country :

Therefore, it is Resolved by the Senate, and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1 That in order to encourage the growing of a diversity of crops by the farmers, planters, gardeners, and stock-raisers and breeders of the Republic the sum of ten dollars be paid as a bounty to each individual who shall grow and produce in an inviting marketable state Two Hundred pounds of clean white lint-cotton, and that the following bounties shall be paid every person who shall grow and bring to market in a presentable shape viz :

Fifty bushels of shelled Corn twenty five dollars ; five hundred pounds of Cocoa Beans twenty five dollars ; five hundred pounds of Soap free from lye fifteen dollars ; two hundred pounds of cured marketable Tobacco fifteen dollars ; two hundred pounds of cured marketable Kolah Nuts ten dollars ; two hundred pounds of cured marketable Red Pepper ten dollars ; two hundred pounds of cured Fish by salt or smoke ten dollars ; two hundred pounds of cured Meat ten dollars ; five hundred pounds of dry brown Sugar twenty dollars ; one hundred pounds of Malaga Pepper twenty dollars ; one hundred pounds of Preserved Fruits twenty five dollars ; fifty bushels of Ground Nuts ten dollars ; ten bushels of cured Beans or Peas ten dollars ; two hundred bushels of Clean Rice fifty dollars ; 25 Cows or 50 Hogs, 50 Sheep or Goats twenty five dollars.

Any citizen who shall first introduce a gin or loom in the township in which he resides and have the same in continuous operation for the space of three years shall receive a premium of one hundred dollars.

All gins, looms, and all agricultural tools, implements and appliances shall be admitted free of duty.

SEC. 2 It is further resolved, that the premiums shall be paid by the proper County authority, after inspection on the spot by local Magistrates and sworn statements of claimants.

SEC. 3 It is further resolved, that any farmer who shall obtain a higher price on the sale of his coffee or ginger to the merchant either at home or abroad on account of its superior preparation for the market, shall receive a bounty of ten dollars on every thousand pounds of coffee, and of five dollars on every thousand pounds of ginger thus sold, on the presenta-

tion of a bonafide certificate from the merchant or consul.

Sec 4 It is further resolved, that this law shall remain in force for the space of five years from its passage.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved February 1, 1900.

Joint Resolution granting the Episcopal Mission Two hundred acres of land at Tabaconee—Grand Bassa.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and after the passage of this Resolution, Two hundred acres of land at Tabaconee, grand Bassa County, is hereby granted to the Mission of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States of America to be used for Missionary and Educational purposes by the mission.

SEC. 2. It is further resolved that the Land Commissioner shall grant to the Representatives of said mission an order to any legal surveyor to survey the above granted land out of any public lands not otherwise appropriated; the missionary Society bearing all expenses of said survey.

SEC. 3. It is further resolved that the said Mission shall possess and hold said granted land subject to the laws governing similar grants.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved February 1, 1900.

Joint Resolution providing for the repair of the Gunboat Rocktown.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby directed to arrange with the "East African Company," and in case of their refusal, with other parties, for the efficient repair of the Gunboat "Rocktown" now lying at Monrovia.

SEC. 2. The said Company shall also be asked to procure for service, under Government an efficient Engineer and Commander, in whose charge the said vessel shall be placed.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved February 1, 1900.

Resolution creating the Territory of Grand Cape Mount and providing for the Government of same.

Whereas the Territory of Grand Cape Mount at present a part of the County of Montserrado, has within the last ten years increased in Commercial importance, and popula-

tion, and whereas on account of its distance from the capital and county seat, it is important to make better provision for the local government of its population;

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That the District of Robertsport shall hereafter be known as the Territory of Grand Cape Mount.

SEC. 2. The Territory shall include all the County belonging to the Republic between the English frontier and the Little Cape Mount River.

SEC. 3. It shall be entitled to one Representative in the Legislature. The first Election under this Resolution shall take place at the Biennial Election of 1901. The person so elected shall sit in the House of Representatives, and shall be elected by the people of the Territory, under the same condition at the same time as other members.

SEC. 4. For the present the Territory shall continue to be represented in the Senate of this Republic, by the members of Montserrado County, who shall therefor, be voted for, by the people of said Territory.

SEC. 5. The Provisional, Monthly, and Probate Court of Robertsport shall hereafter be known as the Monthly and Probate Court of Cape Mount, and shall be constituted, and conducted, and shall have the same powers as the Monthly and Probate Court of Montserrado and other counties.

SEC. 6. The said Territory shall have a court of Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas with Admiralty Jurisdiction, which shall meet on the second Monday in February, May, August and November; and shall sit for (2) two weeks and shall have power to try all cases usually tried by courts of Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas in this Republic. For the present the Judge of the court of Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas of Montserrado County shall continue to exercise Jurisdiction over said Territory the Judge of said court shall go there, and shall try cases within the Territory; the Attorney for Montserrado County shall prosecute for the State within said Territory; the Judge of the Court, and County Attorney, shall receive Mileage and two dollars and fifty cents (\$2.50) a day during the sitting of the Court, for expenses during their stay in the Territory; this amount shall be paid out of the Territory fund.

SEC. 7. The Territory of Grand Cape Mount shall constitute a separate Military district. The officer in command shall have the rank of Major, shall be assisted by an Adjutant and both shall be Commissioned as required by law. Reports shall be made to the Brigadier General of Montserrado Military District, first Brigade.

SEC. 8. The President shall appoint for the Government of said Territory a Superintendent and all other executive and judicial officers necessary, not previously designated in

this Resolution; and the President is also directed to appoint a Clerk of Court and a Sheriff for said Territory.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved February 7, 1900.

An Act supplementary to An Act to promote the progress of the arts of manufacture, agriculture and commerce, approved December 22, 1864.

It is enacted by the Senate, and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and after the passage of this Act, any person whether Liberian citizens or foreigner shall have the privilege of registering a "Trade Mark" or "Trade Marks" under the sanction and protection covering the granting of Letters Patent of said Act of 1864; the applicant in all cases furnishing the Department with a clear concise description of such trade mark together with an accurate drawing of the design to be registered.

SEC. 2. It is further enacted that the fee for registering a trade mark under this act shall be ten dollars.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved February, 1, 1900.

Joint Resolution granting an extension of time to Ricks Institution for three years; allowing one thousand dollars annually.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

That from and immediately after the passage of this Resolution, the Secretary of the Treasury be and he is hereby authorized to pay under warrant of the President to the Board of Trustees of the Ricks Institute of Montserrado County, the sum of one thousand dollars annually for three years out of any moneys in the public Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved February, 1, 1900.

Joint Resolution pensioning sundry persons of the Republic of Liberia.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That the following named persons to wit:—	
Mr. Charles Smith,	\$ 50.00
Mrs. Henrietta and Anikee Outland,	" 75.00

Col. A. Rodd of Grand Bassa County,	" 150.00
Mr. Allen Barker, Montserrado County	" 75.00
Mrs. Jane Alexander, Montserrado County	" 50.00
Mr. S. A. Hutchings, Maryland County	" 50.00
Mr. J. L. Moulton " "	" 100.00
Mr. W. A. Johnson " "	" 50.00
Mrs. W. G. McKnight " "	" 100.00
Mr. J. C. White, Montserrado County,	" 50.00
Mr. Jas. Miller Grand Bassa,	" 50.00

be and they are hereby pensioned as above stated.

SEC. 2. And the Secretary of the Treasury be and he is hereby authorized under warrant of the President of the Republic of Liberia, to pay the same out of any money not otherwise appropriated.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved February 1, 1900.

An Act authorizing the taking of census of the inhabitants of the Republic of Liberia.

Whereas the material progress and prosperity of all civilized counties or states are based upon their census; and whereas it is very desirable that there be an enumeration of the inhabitants and industries of the Republic of Liberia and, whereas the Government has been deterred from making this necessary enumeration now for many years,

Therefore it is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That at the next regular "Annual Town Meeting" of the several townships and villages in October 1900 the citizens shall appoint two competent persons, who shall take the census of that particular township including its eight square miles. Where towns and villages are situated near together, the census taker in their enumeration shall divide the distance between the said settlements and take in the balance of the eight miles on the opposite side of the said towns and villages.

SEC. 2. That this census shall be taken within two months after the appointment of the Census takers, and they shall immediately report in triplicates, depositing one copy with the town clerk, one with the Superintendent of the County, and one with the State department as archives of those officers; the copy deposited in the State Department being, however, certified to by the Superintendent of the County as correct.

That the remuneration for this service of census taking shall be one dollar and fifty cents (\$ 1.50) per day; they being allowed not over twenty days to do the work in, and their bills shall be certified by the Superintendent.

SEC. 3. This enumeration shall include in separate columns

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all males 16 years of age and over; all females 16 years of age and over; all male children 15 years and under; all girl children 15 years and under; their ages, whether married or single, the religious denomination to which they belong, if any, and whether Americo Liberian, Recaptive or Aborigine.

SEC. 4. The agricultural report shall include all cultivated acreage; the acres of uncultivated land; acres in eddoes, rice, cassada, potatoes, corn, coffee trees, sugar-cane, cotton, and cocoa; poultry, cattle, sheep and goats.

The commercial list shall include all fibre, coffee, ginger, pal-moil, palm-kernels, rubber, chocolate, and ivory coconuts exported.—The number of dwellings, stores, factories, churches, tables, cupboards and furniture of all kinds made during the year.

SEC. 5. That from the copies deposited with the State Department as soon as the reports from all the settlements in any one Country is deposited, then, the Secretary of the State shall proceed from these to make up the general census for the country, and when the census from all the Counties are thus made up he shall totalize them and cause the census to be published in circular form for the information of the public.

SEC. 6. And for the pay for the several Census takers, the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized under warrant of the President to draw from any moneys in the public Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved February 1, 1900.

Joint Resolution better defining the duties of the Secretary of War and Navy, and fixing the authority of the War and Navy Department.

Whereas the working of the War and Navy Department is hampered because of the incompleteness and vagueness of the existing laws governing the same;

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That all matters pertaining to the War and Navy Department, shall be under the immediate control of the Secretary of War and Navy under the direction of the Commander-in-Chief.

SEC. 2. It is further resolved, that all military and Naval appointments shall be made by the Commander-in-Chief, and all military and naval orders emanating from the Commander-in-Chief shall in all cases be made to the Secretary of War and Navy, who shall duly issue them to the Major General to be issued to the Brigadier General, and from the Brigadier General to the other under officers.

SEC. 3. It is further resolved, that it shall be the duty of

the Secretary of War and Navy to keep a record of all military and naval matters and operations; also a proper account of all monies accruing to the Department, and all disbursement made for and on account, Military and Navy.

SEC. 4. It is further resolved that it shall be the duty of the War and Navy Department to provide, and furnish all things necessary for both Army and Navy purposes as far as the means at the command of the Department will warrant.

SEC. 5. It is further resolved, that full power and authority is given to the Secretary of war and Navy over his department, equal to that exercised by the heads of other Departments, subject however to the control of the Commander-in-chief; and all orders, and commands issuing from the Department, shall be rigidly enforced by the Government. Nothing however in this section shall be construed to refer to any unlawful commands that may be issued by him.

SEC. 6. It is further resolved that all labor to be given out by the Department must be under Contract and bond as a guarantee.

SEC. 7. It is further resolved that a bond of Ten thousand dollars shall be given by the Secretary of war and Navy to be approved by the Commander-in-Chief, for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office, for the proper management of the Department and the honest disbursement of its funds.

SEC. 8. It is further resolved that he shall report annually to the Legislature the condition of the Department together with an account of monies received and disbursed.

SEC. 9. It is further resolved, that in all matters arising in the Department where the Statutes are silent, it shall be lawful for the Department to have recourse to the Army and Naval regulations of the United States of America.

Any law to the contrary be, and the same is hereby repealed.

An Act incorporating the Liberian Mining Association Limited.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and immediately after the passage of this act, A. C. Tucker, A. L. Elam, J. J. Dossen, T. T. Brewer, A. B. Stevens, F. O. Thorne, J. W. S. Thomson, F. E. R. Johnson, A. L. Gibson, J. T. E. Brooks, R. H. Jackson, A. B. King, H. W. Travis, D. F. Ware, R. H. Marshall, H. J. R. Cooper, R. A. Wright, J. H. Logan, and such other persons, as may hereafter become members of the association entitled and styled the Liberian Mining Association Limited, be and they are hereby declared a body politic and corporate under the name and style of the Liberian Mining Association Limited, and under its corporate name may sue, and be sued, plead and be impleaded in any court of law or equity of this Republic.

SEC. 2. It is further enacted, that the said association shall be competent in law to hold property, real and personal to the value of three Hundred thousand dollars, and shall have the right in its Corporate name to purchase or otherwise acquire land for the benefit of the association, and it may grant, sell, lease, exchange, assign, transfer, or otherwise dispose of any part or portion of property of the association, to any person or persons whomsoever, provided the same be made in accordance to the Constitution of Liberia and the regulation of this Charter.

SEC. 3. It is further enacted, that the said association shall have the sole right to all mineral of whatever kind and disposition which may be discovered and found on any of its lands, by whatever means acquired, and shall have the absolute right to smelt, and wash and do all other things necessary and incident to the development and working of mines, and and for this purpose may engage and employ the service of foreign individuals or companies as prospectors, who shall have the right under the direction of the association to enter upon all lands acquired by the association, and prospect for such minerals discovered on lands belonging to the association, shall go to the sole benefit and behoof of the association, provided however, should any minerals be discovered on lands obtained from Government by grant or lease as hereinafter provided for, one tenth of the net proceeds of all such mineral shall be by the association paid into the Government.

SEC. 4. It is further enacted, that the association shall have the full right and power to issue all Certificates to the amount of three hundred thousand dollars, of twenty dollars each, and may dispose of the same in some domestic or foreign market to citizens, agreeably with the Constitution and bylaws of this association as hereinafter provided for, providing however the same shall be done agreeably with the Constitution and laws of Liberia relative to real property.

SEC. 5. It is further enacted, that the officers of the association shall be a President, Vice President Secretary, accountant Counsellor and Treasurer and a board of directors and such other officers as the association may by its bylaws and Constitution create and provide for the duties and functions of each and every officer, and the mode and manner of their several elections shall be defined in the Constitution, they shall be responsible for all contracts and deeds and shall only be binding on the association when attested by its seal.

SEC. 6. It is further enacted, that all machinery and tools imported by the association for the working of its enterprise shall be freed and exempted from all import duties whatsoever.

SEC. 7. Meetings of the association and share-holders shall be held at the city of Harper in the county of Maryland at such times and for such purposes as the association shall under its bylaws elect, the association shall be competent to admit under its bylaws any person as a member

those of whose rights, privileges and emoluments shall be the same as other members, every member of the association shall be entitled an equal share of the profit arising and accruing from all grants or leases of land from Government, but the profit arising from the operation of land or other property obtained otherwise, he shall only be entitled to a share, correspondent with his share of the capital invested in the particular case.

SEC. 8. It is further enacted, that in case of the death of any of the members of the association, his interest and share in the association shall descend to his heirs except he shall by demise otherwise direct. It shall be unlawful for any member of the association to assign his interest in the association to any person whomsoever without first giving notice to the association, which shall be competent to make such regulations giving the same as it may deem necessary and proper.

SEC. 9. It is farther enacted, that the said association shall have the right to adopt a Constitution and bylaws for the governance which shall be enforceable before any Court of competent Jurisdiction of Liberia, and may repeal, amend or supplement the same whenever expedient, it shall also have a right to use a seal.

A Joint Resolution supplementary to a Joint Resolution regulating the granting of leases to Foreigners approved January 7th. 1899.

Whereas the indiscriminate leasing of lands by the citizens of the Republic has bred much misunderstanding between the aborigines and Foreigners, which threatened to disturb seriously the friendly relations existing between the Government and the Powers with whom Liberia is in treaty stipulations; and whereas there is extant on the pages of the Statutes of 1876 a general Act by which the Government is empowered to lease lands to Foreigners; and whereas the Government desires to avoid as far as possible the complications likely to arise in the future, and the Act of 1876 opens to Foreigners the land of the Republic under the judicious guardianship of the Executive, with the approval of the National Legislature;

Therefore it is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled,

SEC. 1. That from and immediately after the passage of this Joint Resolution, if any person or citizen of this Republic is known to lease, grant, let or transfer, any real estate in any place of this Republic to Foreigners other than Ports of Entry and delivery, he shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction of the same, before any court or courts of this Republic having competent jurisdiction, shall forfeit the said land and shall be fined the sum of not less than three hundred nor more than six hundred dollars to be paid as follows:—One half in gold, silver, or copper coin, and the other

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half in Liberian currency or Government audited bills for every ten acres of land so leased.

SEC. 2. It is further resolved, that if any clerk or clerks of the monthly and probate courts of this Republic, are known to present surreptitiously to the court for probation, any deeds of lease, grant, let, or transfer in favor of any Foreigner in any place of this Republic other than Ports of Entry and delivery, shall be tried for malfeasance in office and if convicted before any court having competent jurisdiction to try the same, shall forfeit his bond as clerk of said Court and pay to the Government a fine of one hundred dollars half of said fine to be paid in gold, silver, or copper coin, and the other half in Government audited bills for every such deed he offers or attempts to offer in court for probation.

SEC. 3. It is further resolved that any Judge of the monthly and Probate Court of this Republic who is known to induce or encourage any Foreigner or Foreigners to attempt to lease lands in this Republic at any place other than at the regular Ports of Entry, shall be dismissed from office and shall forfeit and pay to the Government the sum of five hundred dollars.

SEC. 4. Concessions granted by Government to Foreigners excepted.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

* A Joint Resolution amending the 1st. section of a Joint Resolution respecting the duty on tobacco and powder, approved January 28, 1899.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That six months from and after the passage of this resolution two (2/4) quarters of the duty received on tobacco, and powder is assigned for the service of the Loan of 1871, and one quarter shall be for the service of General Government claims, and the remaining one quarter (1/4) for the service of County Claims.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

A further Act concerning the collection of taxes. ✓

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That from and after the first day of September 1900, the taxes imposed in the Republic by authority, shall be collected in the following manner: The assessments having been taken in the manner prescribed by law, copies of the

same shall be supplied to the Superintendents, and shall be by them posted in the township or district to which they respectfully apply, sixty days before the first day of December of each year, or sixty days before the first day of March in each year.

SEC. 2. It is further enacted that the Superintendents of the several counties and districts shall receive the bills for the amount assessed against each person in each separate township; and shall hand the same to the collector of taxes for the district, township, or hamlet.

SEC. 3. It is further enacted that the Collector shall receive the money, and receipt the bill. He shall report as ordered in previous Acts to the court of Quarter Sessions and the Treasury Department. His debit being the bills given him for collection; his credit the money paid into the Treasury.

SEC. 4. It is further enacted that all poll and navy taxes must be paid by the thirty first day of December in each year, all taxes on real estate by the thirty first day of March in each year.

SEC. 5. It is further enacted that after those dates respectively, all uncollected bills shall be returned to the Superintendent upon whose written application accompanied by the bill, any magistrate may issue a writ of execution directed to the Sheriff of the County for the Collection of said bill.

SEC. 6. It is further enacted that in the case of Chiefs of native towns in or near any settlements, and paying taxes, the execution shall be issued against the chiefs only; but at least sixty days notice of the sum assessed upon his town and people must be given him.

SEC. 7. It is further enacted that in every case where an assessment is made on native towns for navy or poll taxes it shall be sufficient to state on the assessment the name of the town and head men, and the number of men permanently residing there.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Joint Resolution making appropriation for the Inauguration of the President of the Republic of Liberia, January 1st A. D. 1900.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1. That the sum of Three hundred Dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Inauguration of the President of the Republic of Liberia, January 1st A. D. 1900; and the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby authorized to draw for the same out of any moneys not otherwise appropriated.