

GOVERNMENT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

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FEBRUARY 15, 1871.—Ordered to be printed.

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Mr. COOK, from the committee of conference on the part of the House, made the following

REPORT.

[To accompany bill S. No. 594.]

*The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the House of Representatives to the bill (S. 594) to provide a government for the District of Columbia, having met, after full and free conference, have agreed to recommend, and do recommend, to their respective Houses as follows :*

That the Senate recede from its vote of non-concurrence and agree to the amendment proposed by the House of Representatives, with the following amendments, to wit:

In section 1, line 6, after the word "Columbia," insert "by which name it is hereby constituted a body corporate for municipal purposes, and may contract and be contracted with, sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, have a seal, and exercise all other powers of a municipal corporation not inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of the United States and the provisions of this act."

In section 2, line 1, strike out the word "reside," and in lieu thereof insert the words "shall have resided." In line 8, in the same section, after the word "district," insert the words "twelve months before his appointment."

In section 3, line 12, after the word "reconsidered," strike out the word "and."

In section 4, line 23, after the word "the," strike out the word "officers," and in lieu thereof insert the word "offices."

In section 5, line 5, after the word "members," insert "of whom two shall be residents of the city of Georgetown, and two residents of the county outside of the cities of Washington and Georgetown."

In the same section, line 18, strike out the words "qualified voters," and substitute in place thereof the word "population."

In the same section strike out all after the word "respectively," in line 21, as far as and including the word "that," line 30, and in place thereof insert: "For the purposes of the first election to be held under this act, the governor and judges of the supreme court of the District of Columbia shall designate the districts for members of the house of delegates, appoint a board of registration, and persons to superintend the election and the returns thereof, prescribe the time, places, and manner of conducting such election, and make all needful rules and regulations for carrying into effect the provisions of this act not otherwise herein provided for: *Provided*, That the first election shall be held

within sixty days from the passage of this act. In the first and all subsequent elections the three persons having the highest number of legal votes for the house of delegates, respectively, shall be declared by the governor duly elected members of said house."

After section 5 insert, as a new section :

"*And be it further enacted*, That the legislative assembly shall have power to divide that portion of the District not included in the corporate limits of Washington and Georgetown into townships, not exceeding three, and create township officers, and prescribe the duties thereof; but all township officers shall be elected by the people of the townships respectively."

In section 6, line 3, strike out the word "twelve," and substitute in lieu thereof the word "three."

In line 4 of said section 6 strike out the words "first election," and substitute in place thereof, "passage of this act."

In line 8 of the same section strike out the words "prior to," and substitute in place thereof, "immediately preceding."

In line 9 of the same section, after the word "District," insert "and for all subsequent elections twelve months' prior residence shall be required to constitute a voter."

In section 7, line 5, after the word "over," insert "upon final judgment duly recovered."

In section 9, line 20, strike out the word "provided," and substitute in lieu thereof the word "punished."

In section 13, line 7, after the word "elected," insert "or appointed," and after the word "house," insert "as herein provided." In line 19 of the same section, after the word "law," insert "in at least two newspapers in the District."

In line 21 of the same section, strike out the words "at the time," and substitute in lieu thereof "in the act."

In section 16, line 2, strike out the words "local or."

In section 21, line 10, after the word "other," add "nor shall said cities, or either of them, be taxed for the exclusive benefit of the county outside of the limits thereof: *Provided*, That the legislative assembly may make appropriations for the repair of roads, or for the construction or repair of bridges outside the limits of said cities."

Strike out all of section 24, after the word "District," in line 7 of said section.

After section 24, insert as a new section :

"*And be it further enacted*, That there shall be appointed by the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, a board of health for said District, to consist of five persons, whose duty it shall be to declare what shall be deemed nuisances injurious to health, and to provide for the removal thereof; to make and enforce regulations to prevent domestic animals from running at large in the cities of Washington and Georgetown; to prevent the sale of unwholesome food in said cities; and to perform such other duties as shall be imposed upon said board by the legislative assembly."

In section 25, after the word "of," in line 2, insert "register of wills, recorder of deeds."

At the end of section 26 add the following proviso: "*Provided*, That the powers of corporations so created shall be limited to the District of Columbia."

In section 29, line 2, strike out the words "police judge or judges," and substitute in place thereof "other officers." In the same section, after the words "take," in line 4, insert the words "and subscribe," and after

the word "take," in line 16, insert the words "and subscribe," and in line 23, after the word "taken," insert the words "and subscribed."

In section 32, after the word "Columbia," in line 4, insert "and shall have the qualifications of a voter," and in line 9 of the same section, after the word "representatives," insert "and shall also be a member of the Committee for the District of Columbia."

Strike out all of section 34.

In section 35, strike out from the word "all," in line 2, to the word "belonging," in line 3, and substitute in place thereof the words "real estate." Strike out all of line 5 and line 6 in said section 35, as far and including the word "schedules," and insert "and the grounds which have been dedicated to the public parks and squares."

In line 6 of the same section strike out the word "two," and substitute in lieu thereof the word "five." In the same section strike out all after the word "taken," in line 10, as far as and including the word "afore-said," in line 12, and insert "and the aggregate of the valuation of private property in said District, whenever made by the authority of the legislative assembly, shall be reported to Congress by the governor."

Strike out all of section 35 after the word "appoint," in line 15, and substitute in place thereof "and under such regulations as he shall prescribe."

Strike out all of section 36.

In section 37, strike out the word "two" in line 3, and substitute in place thereof the word "four."

Strike out all after the word "therein," in line 8, as far as and including the "President," in line 12, and in place thereof insert "one of said board shall be a citizen and resident of Georgetown, and one of said board shall be a citizen and resident of the county outside of the cities of Washington and Georgetown."

In line 14, strike out the words "for misbehavior," and substitute in lieu thereof "by the President of the United States."

In line 15, strike out the word "ordinances," and substitute in place thereof the word "regulations."

In line 16, strike out the words "relating to," and substitute in place thereof the words "for keeping in repair," and after the word "avenues," in the same line, insert the word "alleys."

In line 19, strike out the words "received and," and after the word "disburse" insert the words "upon their warrant."

In line 20, after the words "United States," insert "in the District of Columbia," and after the words "property holders," insert the words "in pursuance of law."

In line 21, after the word "avenues," insert the word "alleys," and after the word "sewers," insert "and roads and bridges."

In line 22, strike out the words "and collect;" also strike out the words "they shall prescribe from," and substitute in place thereof the words "shall be prescribed by law upon."

In line 23, strike out the words "owners of any;" also strike out the word "speedily," and substitute in place thereof the word "specially."

In line 26, after the word "cost," insert "which sum shall be collected as all other taxes are collected."

In line 29, after the word "assembly," insert "all contracts made by the said board of public works shall be in writing, and shall be signed by the parties making the same, and a copy thereof shall be filed in the office of the secretary of the District; and the said board of public works shall have no power to make contracts to bind said District to the payment of any sums of money, except in pursuance of appropria-

tions made by law, and not until such appropriations shall have been made. All contracts made by said board in which any member of said board shall be personally interested shall be void, and no payment shall be made thereon by said District, or any officers thereof."

After the word "District," line 26, section 40 add: "*Provided*, That the charters of said cities severally, and the powers of said levy court, shall be continued for the following purposes, to wit: For the collection of all sums of money due to said cities, respectively, or to said levy court; for the enforcement of all contracts made by said cities, respectively, or by said levy court; and all taxes heretofore assessed remaining unpaid for the collection of all just claims against said cities, respectively, or against said levy court; for the enforcement of all legal contracts against said cities, respectively, or against said levy court, until the affairs of said cities, respectively, and of said levy court, shall have been fully closed; and no suit in favor of or against said corporations, or either of them, shall abate by reason of the passage of this act, but the same shall be prosecuted to final judgment, as if this act had not been passed."

Also add:

"SECTION 41. *And be it further enacted*, That there shall be no election holden for mayor or members of the common council of the city of Georgetown prior to the first day of June, eighteen hundred and seventy-one, but the present mayor and common council of said city shall hold their offices until said first day of June next. No taxes for general purposes shall hereafter be assessed by the municipal authorities of the cities of Washington and Georgetown, or by said levy court. And upon the repeal of the charters of the cities of Washington and Georgetown, the District of Columbia be, and is hereby, declared to be the successor of said corporations, and all the property of said corporations, and of the county of Washington, shall become vested in the said District of Columbia. All fines, penalties, costs, and forfeitures which are now by law made payable to said cities, respectively, or said levy court, shall be paid to said District of Columbia, and the salaries of the judge and clerk of the police court, the compensation of the deputy clerk and bailiff of said police court, and of the marshal of the District of Columbia shall be paid by said District: *Provided*, That the moneys collected upon the judgments of said police court, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be applied to the payment of the salaries of the judge and other officers of said court, and to the payment of the necessary expenses thereof, and any surplus remaining after paying the salaries, compensations, and expenses aforesaid shall be paid into the treasury of the District at the end of every quarter."

And the committee further recommend that the House agree to the amendments to the House amendment herein proposed.

J. W. PATTERSON,  
H. HAMLIN,

*Managers on the part of the Senate.*

BURTON C. COOK,  
JNO. A. BINGHAM,  
D. W. VOORHEES,

*Managers on the part of the House.*