

Fifth. To provide and keep an official seal, upon which must be engraved the name of the district and the words "Notary Public," with the surname of the notary and at least the initials of his Christian name.

SEC. 19. The protest of a notary public under his hand and seal of a bill of exchange or promissory note for nonacceptance or nonpayment, stating the presentment for acceptance or payment and the nonacceptance or nonpayment thereof, the service of notice on any and all parties to such bill of exchange or promissory note and specifying the mode of giving such notice and the reputed place of residence of the party to such bill of exchange or promissory note and of the party to whom same was given and the post-office nearest thereto is prima facie evidence of the facts contained therein.

Protests of notaries of bills, etc., weight as evidence.

SEC. 20. It shall be the duty of every notary public, on his resignation or removal from office or at the expiration of his term and in case of his death of his legal representative, to forthwith deposit all the records kept by him in the office of the clerk of the division of the district court in which he resides, and on failure to do so the person so offending is liable in damages to any person injured thereby.

Notaries' records to be deposited with clerk of court.

SEC. 21. It shall be the duty of each clerk aforesaid to receive and safely keep all records and papers of the notary in each case above named and to give attested copies of them under his seal, for which he may demand such fees as by law may be allowed to the notaries, and such copies shall have the same effect as if certified by the notary.

—duty of clerk.

SEC. 22. Each notary must execute an official bond in the sum of one thousand dollars, which bond must be approved by the clerk of the division of the district court located nearest his residence.

Bond of notaries.

SEC. 23. Each notary public, upon approval of his official bond, so soon as he has taken his official oath, must transmit such bond and oath, signed by him with his own proper signature to the office of the secretary of the district, whereupon the governor must issue a commission.

—filing, etc.

SEC. 24. For the official misconduct or neglect of a notary public, he and sureties on his official bond are liable to the parties injured thereby for all damages sustained.

Liability of notary for misconduct.

SEC. 25. The officers properly qualified and actually discharging official duties in the district at the time of the approval of this Act may continue to act in their respective official capacities until the expiration of the terms for which they were respectively appointed unless sooner removed.

Continuance in office of existing officials.

SEC. 26. The laws of the United States relating to mining claims, mineral locations, and rights incident thereto are hereby extended to the District of Alaska: *Provided*, That subject only to such general limitations as may be necessary to exempt navigation from artificial obstructions all land and shoal water between low and mean high tide on the shores, bays, and inlets of Bering Sea, within the jurisdiction of the United States, shall be subject to exploration and mining for gold and other precious metals by citizens of the United States, or persons who have legally declared their intentions to become such, under such reasonable rules and regulations as the miners in organized mining districts may have heretofore made or may hereafter make governing the temporary possession thereof for exploration and mining purposes until otherwise provided by law: *Provided further*, That the rules and regulations established by the miners shall not be in conflict with the mining laws of the United States; and no exclusive permit shall be granted by the Secretary of War authorizing any person or persons, corporation or company to excavate or mine under any of said waters below low tide, and if such exclusive permit has been granted it is hereby revoked and declared null and void; but citizens of the United States or persons who have legally declared their intention to become such shall have the right to dredge and mine for gold

Mining laws.

Provisos.
Gold, etc., exploration on Bering Sea.

—miners' regulations

—not to conflict with federal laws.

Exclusive permits to mine void, etc.