

five per centum on the said price heretofore allowed in addition to such price: *Provided, however,* That it shall be the duty of the President at some convenient time, and before offering any of said islands for sale, to have an examination made by, and a report from, a board of engineers, to ascertain whether any of said islands or parts of them, and if so, which of them, should be reserved from sale for the use of the United States; and that all islands or parts of islands recommended by such board to be reserved for public use shall be reserved from sale.

APPROVED, June 28, 1848.

Provision for an examination before sale.

CHAP. XC. — *An Act for the Relief of the bona fide Settlers under the Acts for the armed Occupation and Settlement of a Part of the Territory of Florida.*

July 1, 1848.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That in all cases in which proof shall be made to the satisfaction of the Commissioner of the General Land Office that any person who obtained a permit under the act entitled "An Act to provide for the armed occupation and settlement of the unsettled part of the peninsula of Florida," approved August fourth, eighteen hundred and forty-two, and who was an occupant under that act, and the act amendatory thereof, approved June fifteenth, eighteen hundred and forty-four, and who actually occupied or settled under said acts, and did not voluntarily relinquish and abandon the same, but continued to reside on said frontier south of said line specified in said act of eighteen hundred and forty-two, thereby aiding to effect the object of said acts, and who has not received the lands provided by said acts, such settler shall be entitled to a grant and patent for the land so occupied or settled by him, the same as if all the conditions and stipulations of said acts and requirements of the General Land Office in relation thereto had been fully and strictly fulfilled and complied with.

Bona fide settlers under the act for the armed occupation and settlement of a part of the Territory of Florida to be entitled to patents for the lands settled and occupied by them.

1842, ch. 122.

1844, ch. 71.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted,* That in all cases where the lands settled or occupied by such settler, or any part thereof, were or are not legally subject to donation under the said acts on any account whatever, then such settler may locate his right, or the part so interfered with, on any vacant public lands in the same, or any adjacent township.

Settlers may locate their rights, if interfered with, by prior claims on other lands in the same or adjacent township.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That this act shall extend to, and be construed and executed for, the benefit of the widow and heirs of any settler, according to the principles of the fifth section of said first above-recited act.

This act extended to widows and heirs of settlers.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That immediately after the passage of this act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall appoint an agent to proceed forthwith to the different county seats of the counties of the State of Florida, where said lands lie, who shall attend at least ten successive days at each county seat, if so long time be necessary, to take and receive proof by depositions before him, or in such manner as he may prescribe in relation to such settlement or occupation, and of settlers being entitled under this act to a grant or donation of land as aforesaid; and said agent shall also attend at such other places in said settlements as the convenience of such settlers in furnishing their proofs may demand, under the instructions of the General Land Office; and said agent shall, within five months after he shall commence his duties in said State, transmit all the proofs he may take, and make report of his opinion as to each case to said Commissioner of the General Land Office, who shall proceed forthwith to examine and decide said cases: *Provided,* That if any settler does not submit his proof to such agent within four months after reasonable notice, by ad-

Secretary of the Treasury to appoint an agent to proceed to Florida, where the said lands lie, to receive proof in relation to such settlement and occupation.

Said agent to transmit all the proofs taken by him, with his opinion in each case, to the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

Time of proof limited. Decision, how made. Salary of agent.

vertisement of the times and places of his attendance to receive such proof, said settler shall not have the benefit of this act; and all the cases reported as aforesaid shall be definitively decided by the Commissioner of the General Land Office within two months after the report thereof is received at his office; and said agent shall be allowed the same compensation as is allowed by law to examining agents of the Treasury Department.

APPROVED, July 1, 1848.

July 5, 1848.

1846, ch. 35.

CHAP. XCII. — *An Act supplemental to the Act passed on the ninth Day of July, in the Year eighteen hundred and forty-six, entitled "An Act to retrocede the County of Alexandria, in the District of Columbia, to the State of Virginia."*

The Supreme Court of the United States to have power to hear and determine all causes removed into said court from the Circuit Court of the District of Columbia for Alexandria county, at the time when the jurisdiction and laws lately existing in said county had finally ceased.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Supreme Court of the United States shall have full power and jurisdiction to hear and determine, and shall proceed in due course to hear and determine, all causes which had been removed into said court from the Circuit Court of the District of Columbia, holden in and for the late county of Alexandria, by writ of error or appeal, at the time when the jurisdiction and laws lately existing in said county had finally ceased and determined in the manner provided for in and by the third section of the act to which this is supplemental, and shall deal with and dispose of the same in the same manner, and pursuant to the same laws, rules, and regulations as would have applied to and governed the said causes if the same had been duly heard and determined in the said Supreme Court before the said jurisdiction and laws had ceased and determined as aforesaid; and all judgments, decrees, and mandates, after that time, issuing from the said Supreme Court in any such cause or causes, shall be certified and transmitted by the clerk of said Supreme Court to such court, or to the judge or judges of such court, as has been vested, or shall or may be vested, with jurisdiction or authority to take cognizance of the same, or in any manner to carry the same into effect, or to act judicially touching the same, by any law of the State of Virginia in such case provided, or hereafter to be enacted and provided.

The Circuit Court of the county of Washington, and the clerk of said court, required to certify and transmit exemplifications of all proceedings, &c., rendered in any action commenced in said Circuit Court for the county of Alexandria.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That it shall be the duty of the Circuit Court of the District of Columbia for the county of Washington, and of the clerk of said court, and they and each of them are hereby authorized and required to certify and transmit exemplifications of all proceedings, and of all judgments, decrees, and orders rendered or passed, or at any time hereafter to be rendered or passed, in any action, suit, or prosecution originally commenced in the said Circuit Court holden for the county of Alexandria, and thence removed into the said Circuit Court holden for the county of Washington, together with all original documents and other papers filed in the same, to such court, judge, judges, or clerk, be now required or authorized, or as shall or may be required or authorized, by any such law of Virginia as aforesaid, to receive or take cognizance of the same, or to carry the same into effect, or in any manner to act judicially or officially touching the same.

APPROVED, July 5, 1848.

July 5, 1848.

CHAP. XCIII. — *An Act further to extend the Time for locating Virginia Military Land Warrants, and returning Surveys thereon to the General Land Office.*

Act further to extend the time for locating Vir-

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Act entitled "An Act further to extend the time for locating Virginia military