

section of this act, under his hand and seal of office, to be true copies of the originals, the same shall be sealed up by him and returned to the Solicitor of the Treasury, who shall file the same in his office, and cause it to be recorded in a book to be kept for that purpose. A copy of said laws, judgments, orders, decrees, journals, correspondence, or other public documents, so filed, or of the same so recorded in said book, may be read in evidence in all courts where the title to land claimed by or under the United States may come into question, equally with the originals thereof.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the Solicitor of the Treasury shall cause a seal to be made and provided for his office, with such device as the President of the United States shall approve, and copies of any public documents, records, books, or papers, belonging to or on the files of the said office, under the signature of the said Solicitor, or, when the office shall be vacant, under the signature of such officer as may be officiating for the time being, accompanied by an impress of the said seal, shall be competent evidence in all cases equally with the original records, documents, books, or papers.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That all books, papers, documents, and records in the War, Navy, Treasury, and Post-Office Departments, and the Attorney-General's office, may be copied and certified under seal in the same manner as those in the State Department may now by law be, and with the same force and effect, and the said Attorney-General shall cause a seal to be made and provided for his office, with such device as the President of the United States shall approve.

APPROVED, February 22, 1849.

Solicitor of the Treasury to cause a seal to be made for his office.

Books, papers, &c., in the War, Navy, Treasury, Post-Office, and Attorney-Gen'l's Dep'ts, may be copied and certified in the same manner as in the State Dep't. Attorney-Gen'l to have a seal.

CHAP. LXII. — *An Act granting five Years' Half Pay to certain Widows and Orphans of Officers, Non-commissioned Officers, Musicians, and Privates, both Regulars and Volunteers.*

Feb. 22, 1849.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the provisions of the second section of the act entitled "An Act amending the act entitled 'An Act granting half pay to widows or orphans, where their husbands and fathers have died of wounds received in the military service of the United States,' in cases of deceased officers and soldiers of the militia and volunteers," approved July twenty-first, eighteen hundred and forty-eight, shall be so construed as to embrace all widows and orphans of officers, non-commissioned officers, musicians, and privates, whether of the regular army or of volunteers, who have received an honorable discharge, or who remained to the date of their death in the military service of the United States, and who have died, since their return to their usual place of residence, of wounds received, or from disease contracted while in line of duty, subject to such rules, regulations, and restrictions, as the Secretary of War, by the third section of said act, is authorized to impose.

APPROVED, February 22, 1849.

How the act of 20th July, 1848, ch. 108, amending the act granting half pay to widows, orphans, &c., shall be construed.

CHAP. LXX. — *An Act to establish an additional Land Office in the State of Missouri.*

Feb. 26, 1849.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That so much of the public lands of the United States included in the present Fayette district, in the State of Missouri, as lies within the following bounda-

Part of Fayette land district formed into new land district.