

jurisdiction over the same, during the time the United States shall be or remain the owner thereof, for all purposes except the administration of the criminal laws of said State and the service of civil process therein; nor shall any site be purchased until estimates for the erection of a building which will furnish sufficient accommodations for the transaction of the public business, and which shall not exceed in cost the balance of the sum herein limited after the site shall have been purchased and paid for, shall have been approved by the Secretary of the Treasury; and no purchase of site nor plan for said building shall be approved by the Secretary of the Treasury involving an expenditure exceeding the said sum of one hundred thousand dollars for site and building.

Approved, March 2, 1899.

CHAP. 392.—An Act For the erection of a public building at Norwich, Connecticut.

March 2, 1899.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to acquire, by purchase, condemnation, or otherwise, a site, and cause to be erected thereon a suitable building, including fireproof vaults, heating and ventilating apparatus, and approaches, for the use and accommodation of the United States post-office and other Government offices, in the city of Norwich and State of Connecticut, the cost of said site and building, including said vaults, heating and ventilating apparatus, and approaches, complete, not to exceed the sum of one hundred thousand dollars.

Norwich, Conn.
Public building au-
thorized.

Limit of cost.

Proposals for the sale of land suitable for said site shall be invited by public advertisement in one or more of the newspapers of said city of largest circulation for at least twenty days prior to the date specified in the advertisement for the opening of said proposals.

Proposal for site.

Proposals made in response to said advertisement shall be addressed and mailed to the Secretary of the Treasury, who shall then cause the said proposed sites, and such others as he may think proper to designate, to be examined in person by an agent of the Treasury Department, who shall make written report to said Secretary of the results of said examination and of his recommendation thereon and the reasons therefor, which shall be accompanied by the original proposals and all maps, plats, and statements which shall have come into his possession relating to said proposed sites.

Investigation of
sites.

If, upon consideration of said report and accompanying papers, the Secretary of the Treasury shall deem further investigation necessary, he may appoint a commission of not more than three persons, one of whom shall be an officer of the Treasury Department, which commission shall also examine the said proposed sites and such others as the Secretary of the Treasury may designate, and grant such hearings in relation thereto as they shall deem necessary; and said commission shall, within thirty days after such examination, make to the Secretary of the Treasury written report of their conclusion in the premises accompanied by all statements, maps, plats, or documents taken by or submitted to them, in like manner as hereinbefore provided in regard to the proceedings of said agent of the Treasury Department; and the Secretary of the Treasury shall thereupon finally determine the location of the building to be erected.

—commission.

The compensation of said commissioners shall be fixed by the Secretary of the Treasury, but the same shall not exceed six dollars per day and actual traveling expenses: *Provided, however,* That the member of said commission appointed from the Treasury Department shall be paid only his actual traveling expenses.

Compensation.

Proviso.
—of Treasury mem-
ber.

No money appropriated by this Act shall be available, except as hereinbefore provided, until a valid title to the site for said building

Title, etc.

shall be vested in the United States, nor until the State of Connecticut shall have ceded to the United States exclusive jurisdiction over the same, during the time the United States shall be or remain the owner thereof, for all purposes except the administration of the criminal laws of said State and the service of civil process therein.

Balance available.
etc.

After the said site shall have been paid for, and the sketch plans and detailed estimates for the building shall have been prepared by the Supervising Architect and approved by the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Postmaster-General, the balance of said appropriation shall be available for the erection and completion of the building, including fireproof vaults, heating and ventilating apparatus, and approaches.

Fire space.

The building shall be unexposed to danger from fire by an open space of at least forty feet on each side, including streets and alleys.

Approved, March 2, 1899.

March 2, 1899.

CHAP. 393.—An Act To provide for terms of the circuit and district courts of the western judicial district of the State of Texas to be held at the city of Laredo, and for other purposes.

Texas western ju-
dicial district.
Terms of court at
Laredo.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there shall be two terms of the circuit and district courts of the western district of Texas, held on the third Monday in March and the first Monday in December in each year, at the city of Laredo.

Process, etc.

SEC. 2. That all process issued after this Act shall take effect against defendants residing in the counties of Webb, Zapata, Duval, Encinal, Lasalle, and McMullen shall be returned to the city of Laredo. That all actions or proceedings now pending in the courts at Brownsville and San Antonio against parties residing in the counties of Webb, Zapata, Duval, Encinal, Lasalle, and McMullen may, on the application of either party to such actions or proceedings, be transferred to the court at the city of Laredo; and in case of such transfer all papers and files therein, with copies of all journal entries, shall be transferred to the office of the deputy clerk of the court at the city of Laredo, and the same shall proceed in all respects as if originally commenced in said court.

Pending cases.

Deputy clerk, La-
redo.

SEC. 3. That there shall be appointed, in the manner provided by law, a deputy clerk, who shall keep his office at the city of Laredo.

Repeal.

SEC. 4. That all laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

Approved, March 2, 1899.

March 2, 1899.

CHAP. 394.—An Act To provide for enlarging and improving the United States Government building at Macon, Georgia, and to appropriate fifty-eight thousand dollars therefor.

Macon, Ga.
Improvement of
public building au-
thorized.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to cause the post-office and court-house building at Macon, Georgia, to be extended and enlarged so as to provide necessary accommodations for the post-office, courts, and other branches of the Government service, and to purchase additional ground on Third street, in his discretion, for this purpose, and that the total cost of all said improvements, changes, and repairs, including the purchase price of an additional site, shall not exceed the sum of fifty-eight thousand dollars.

Limit of cost.

Approved, March 2, 1899.