

two thousand dollars, payable quarterly, at the treasury of the United States.

Land offices to be established.

SEC. 8. *And be it further enacted*, That, for the disposal of the lands of the United States lying in the district of East Florida, a land office shall be established and kept at such place, within said district, as the President of the United States shall direct; and that, for the disposal of the lands of the United States lying in the district of West Florida, a land office shall be established at such place, in said district, as the President of the United States shall direct.

When land offices are to be opened.

SEC. 9. *And be it further enacted*, That, so soon as, in the opinion of the President of the United States, there shall be a sufficient quantity of the public lands surveyed, within either of the districts of East or West Florida, to authorize the opening of one or both of the land offices aforesaid, he shall cause the same to be opened, and shall proceed, from time to time, to appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, for each of the said offices, a register and receiver of the public moneys, who shall give security, in the same sums, and in the same manner, and whose compensation, emoluments, duties, and authority, shall, in every respect, be the same, in relation to the lands to be disposed of at their offices as are or may be provided by law in relation to the registers and receivers of public moneys, in the several land offices established for the disposal of the public lands of the United States.

The President to offer the lands for sale, and when.

SEC. 10. *And be it further enacted*, That, whenever a land office shall have been established in either of the districts aforesaid, and a register and receiver of public moneys appointed for the same, the President of the United States shall be, and he is hereby, authorized to direct so much of the public lands, lying in such district, as shall have been surveyed according to law, to be offered for sale, in the same manner, and with the same reservations and exceptions, and on the same terms and conditions, in every respect, as have been or may hereafter be, provided for the sale of the public lands of the United States.

An entire township in each of the districts to be reserved for a seminary of learning.

SEC. 11. *And be it further enacted*, That an entire township, in each of the districts of East and West Florida, shall be reserved from sale, for the use of a seminary of learning, to be located by the Secretary of the Treasury.

Rivers and waters of the territory to be public highways.

SEC. 12. *And be it further enacted*, That all the navigable rivers and waters in the districts of East and West Florida shall be, and forever remain, public highways.

Part of the former act of May 8, 1822, ch. 129, repealed.

SEC. 13. *And be it further enacted*, That so much of the act, approved the eighth day of May, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-two, entitled "An act for ascertaining claims and titles to land in the territory of Florida," as is inconsistent with the provisions of this act, be, and the same is hereby, repealed; and so much thereof as provides for the appointment of a surveyor general, and allows him to charge fees, is hereby repealed.

APPROVED, March 3, 1823.

STATUTE II.

March 3, 1823.

CHAP. XXX.—*An Act providing for the examination of the titles to land in that part of the state of Louisiana, situated between the Rio Hondo and the Sabine river.*

See act of May 26, 1824, ch. 182.

Land between the Rio Hondo and Sabine river, in the state of Louisiana, at

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That all that tract of country situated between the Rio Hondo and Sabine river, within the state of Louisiana, and, previously to the treaty of the twenty-second of February, one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, between the United States and Spain, called the neutral territory, be, and the same is hereby,

attached to the district south of Red river; and the register and receiver of the land office, in said district, are required to receive and record all written evidences of claim to land in said tract of country, derived from, and issued by, the Spanish government of Texas, prior to the twentieth day of December, one thousand eight hundred and three, according to the regulations, as to the granting of lands, the laws and ordinances of said government, and to receive and record all evidences of claim, founded on occupation, habitation and cultivation, designating particularly the time and manner in which each tract was occupied, inhabited, or cultivated, prior to, and on, the twenty-second February, eighteen hundred and nineteen, and the continuance thereof subsequent to that time, with the extent of the improvement on each tract, and to receive and record such evidence as may be produced, touching the performance of the conditions required to be performed by any holder of any grant, concession, warrant, or order of survey, or other written evidence of claim, and on which the validity of such claim may have depended under the government from which it emanated, and to receive and record all evidence of fraud in obtaining or issuing the written evidence of such claims, and of their abandonment or forfeiture.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the register and receiver, as aforesaid, shall transmit to the Secretary of the Treasury, a complete record of all the claims presented to them under this act, and the evidence appertaining to each claim, and shall also make out and transmit, to the Secretary of the Treasury, an abstract containing the whole number of claims, in four distinct classes, the first of which shall contain a specification of the nature and extent of complete titles, the time when, and by whom, issued, and to whom, with the date of any transfer, the name of the person transferring, and to whom transferred, and where the conditions of such grant or patent have been complied with; the second shall contain all claims founded on written evidence and not embraced in the first class, and where the conditions on which the perfection thereof into complete titles may have depended, according to the laws and ordinances of the Spanish government, are shown to have been complied with: the third class shall consist of claims founded on habitation, occupation, or cultivation, previously to twenty-second of February, one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, and in the manner which would have entitled the claimants to a title under the government exercising the sovereign power over that tract of country, and which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed; the fourth class shall consist of those claims, which, in the opinion of the register and receiver, ought not to be confirmed: *Provided*, That nothing contained in this act shall be considered as a pledge on the part of Congress to confirm any claim thus reported.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That it shall be the duty of the register and receiver aforesaid, after suitable notice to claimants, of the time and place of their meeting, and the object thereof, be given by them, to hold their session at Natchitoches, so long as may be necessary for the performance of the duties herein prescribed, and shall be allowed the sum of five hundred dollars each, as a full compensation for the services required to be performed by this act.

APPROVED, March 3, 1823.

tached to the district south of Red river.

Register and receiver to receive and record evidences of claims.

Register and receiver to transmit to the Secretary of the Treasury a record of all claims, and the evidence.

Classes of claims.

Proviso.

Register and receiver to hold their session at Natchitoches.

STATUTE II.

CHAP. XXXI.—*An Act making appropriations for the support of government for the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty-three.*

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the following sums be, and the same are hereby, respectively, appropriated for the service of the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty-three; that is to say:

March 3, 1823.

[Obsolete.]

Sums appropriated for the year 1823.