

the government, and who shall have power either to affirm, modify, or reverse the decisions of the register and receiver, and to authorize them to grant a certificate upon the cash payment to the receiver, of what may be determined to be a fair assessment on the lot confirmed; and upon such payment being made, and the return of the certificate to the general land office, a patent shall issue. And the said register and receiver shall each receive, from the proceeds of such sales, the sum of five dollars for every claim examined and adjudicated by them under this act.

Commissioner authorized to order vacant lots to be sold after public notice of two months.

SEC. 9. *And be it further enacted*, That it shall and may be lawful for the commissioner to order into market, after public notice of at least two months, all vacant lots, or lots to which a claim may be rejected, and to sell the same for cash to the highest bidder, subject to a minimum of two thirds of their estimated value; and upon such sales being made, and proper returns reported to the general land office, the commissioner, if the proceedings are found regular, shall be authorized to issue patents.

After adjudicating claims, and selling vacant lots, all moneys received, after deducting expenses, to be paid to the authorities of Sault Ste. Marie, to be expended in public improvements.

SEC. 10. *And be it further enacted*, That after all the claims shall have been adjudicated, surveyed, and the vacant lots sold, it shall be the duty of the proper accounting officers of the treasury to ascertain the net amount of sales, after deducting all expenses incident to the execution of this act, and such amount shall be paid over by the Secretary of the Treasury to the trustees, or other constituted authorities, of Salt Ste. Marie, to be expended by them in the improvements of the streets and erection of public buildings.

APPROVED, September 26, 1850.

Sept. 26, 1850. CHAP. LXXII. — *An Act to reduce the minimum price of the Mineral Lands in the Lake Superior District in Michigan, and in the Chippewa District in Wisconsin.*

Mineral lands in Michigan and Wisconsin to be offered for sale as other public lands.

Parts of acts inconsistent repealed.

1847, ch. 32, and ch. 54.

Proviso.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the mineral lands in the Lake Superior district in Michigan, and in the Chippewa district in Wisconsin, shall be offered for public sale in the same manner, and be subject to the same minimum price, and the same rights of pre-emption as the other public lands of the United States; and such portions of the act of first March, eighteen hundred and forty-seven, "to establish a land office in the northern part of Michigan, and to provide for the sale of the mineral lands in the State of Michigan," and of the act of the third March, eighteen hundred and forty-seven, "to create an additional land district in the Territory of Wisconsin, and for other purposes," as are inconsistent with the provisions of this act, shall be, and the same are hereby, repealed: *Provided, however*, That the right given by those acts of first and third March, eighteen hundred and forty-seven, to lessees, occupants, and permittees, to enter to the extent of their leases and permits, and no less, shall not be considered as impaired by this act; but said lessees, occupants, and permittees shall be authorized to enter the land covered by their leases, occupancy, and permits, respectively, as therein provided, at the minimum price fixed by this act.

Holder of a lease for more than one section entitled on surrender of said lease to purchase one full section at the minimum price.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the holder of a lease or permit covering more than one full section of the mineral lands, as aforesaid, shall be entitled, on the surrender and annulment of said lease or permit at the proper land-office, to purchase, if he shall elect to do so, one full section, and no more, of the land covered by said lease or permit, at a minimum price of two dollars and fifty cents per acre.

APPROVED, September 26, 1850.