

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Interior to cause said tract of land to be surveyed, sectionized, and subdivided as other public lands, and after said survey, to offer said land to actual settlers only at minimum price, under and in accordance with the provisions of the homestead laws: *Provided,* That if any person has made permanent improvements upon said land prior to the first day of June, eighteen hundred and seventy-six, (being an actual settler thereon,) has exhausted his right to make a homestead entry, such person, or his heirs, may enter one quarter-section of said land under the provisions of the pre-emption-laws: *And provided further,* That the heirs of any deceased person who had made settlement and improvement as above described prior to June first, eighteen hundred and seventy-six, may complete the pre-emption or homestead entry of the person so deceased.

Sale of Fort Kearney military reservation.

Homesteads.

Heirs of homesteader.

Appropriation.

SEC. 2. That the sum of three thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated, out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this act.

Approved, July 21, 1876.

CHAP. 221.—An act to continue the provisions of an act entitled "An act to provide temporarily for the expenditures of the Government."

July 21, 1876.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the provisions of an act entitled "An act to continue the provisions of an act entitled an act to provide temporarily for the expenditures of the Government" approved June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-six approved July tenth, eighteen hundred and seventy-six, be, and the same are hereby, extended and continued in full force and effect, until and including the thirty-first day of July, eighteen hundred and seventy-six

Appropriations for expenditures of Government continued.

Ante, pp. 65, 78.
Post, 122, 131, 168.

Approved, July 21, 1876.

CHAP. 222.—An act establishing the rank of the Paymaster-General

July 22, 1876.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That from and after the passage of this act, the rank of the Paymaster-General of the United States Army shall be brigadier-general; but no pay or allowances shall be made to said officer other than from the date of appointment under this act.

Post, p. 270.

Rank of Paymaster-General.

Approved, July 22, 1876.

CHAP. 223.—An act to provide for the construction of military posts on the Yellowstone and Muscleshell Rivers.

July 22, 1876.

Whereas, Lieutenant General Philip H. Sheridan and Brigadier General Alfred H. Terry have, in their reports to the Secretary of War for the year eighteen hundred and seventy-five, set forth the great importance and immediate necessity of the construction of Military posts at certain points on the Yellow-stone and Muscleshell Rivers, in the Territory of Montana, and in the Military Department of Dakota, and such recommendations have been transmitted to Congress with the approval of the Secretary of War: Therefore,

Preamble.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United

Appropriation
for military posts
on Yellow-stone
and Muscleshell
Rivers.

States of America in Congress assembled, That the sum of two hundred thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated for the construction of such military posts or depots, at such points as may be selected by the Secretary of War.

Approved, July 22, 1876.

July 22, 1876.

CHAP. 224.—An act to authorize the Secretary of War to purchase a parcel of land on the Island of Key West, Florida.

Purchase of land
on island of Key
West.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, authorized to purchase, for the use of the United States, at a price which shall be agreed upon between him and the owners, and not to exceed two thousand dollars, a certain parcel or tract not exceeding five acres of land claimed by W. C. Maloney and wife, lying and situate on the island of Key West, Florida, and adjoining the military reservation on said island: Provided, That the title of said parties to said property shall be found to be in all respects good and valid in law and equity; but this authority shall expire at the end of one year from the passage of this act, and the necessary amount of money to pay for the said land in the event of purchase is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Appropriation.

Possession re-
stored in case of
disagreement.

SEC. 2. That if the Secretary of War and the owners of said property shall be unable to agree upon a price to be paid by the United States for said land, or if for any reason the United States shall fail to acquire the title to the same within a reasonable time after the passage of this act, then it shall be the duty of the Secretary of War to cause the possession of said property if the same belongs to the said Maloney and wife or such part of it as is now or may be occupied by the United States, to be restored to them.

Approved, July 22, 1876.

July 22, 1876.

CHAP. 225.—An act to extend the duration of the Court of Commissioners of Alabama Claims

Ante, pp. 1, 3, 6,
32.

Alabama claims
court continued.

1874, ch. 459,
18 Stat., 245.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the existence of the Court of Commissioners of Alabama Claims, created by the act entitled "An act for the creation of a court for the adjudication and disposition of certain moneys received into the Treasury under an award made by the tribunal of arbitration constituted by virtue of the first article of the treaty concluded at Washington the eighth of May, anno Domini, eighteen hundred and seventy-one, between the United States of America and the Queen of Great Britain," be, and the same is hereby, continued and extended to the first day of January next, with the same effect and no other as if said last named day had been named in said act for the termination of the powers of said court, and said act is hereby continued in force during said period.

Powers of clerk
continued.

SEC. 2. That the powers of the clerk of said court are hereby extended for an additional period, not to exceed two months from and after the termination of the existence of the court, for the purpose of closing his accounts, depositing the records, documents, and all other papers in the possession of the court or its officers in the Office of the Secretary of State, as provided in said act; and all disbursements made by him during this period shall be under the direction of the Secretary of State.

Approved, July 22, 1876.