

Only patents for non-mineral lands to be issued to Northern Pacific Railroad.

**SEC. 7.** That no patent or other evidence of title shall be issued or delivered to said Northern Pacific Railroad Company for any land in said land districts until such land shall have been examined and classified as nonmineral, as provided for in this Act, and such patent or other evidence of title shall only issue then to such land, if any, in said land districts as said company may be, by law and compliance therewith and by the said classification, entitled to, and any patent, certificate, or record of selection, or other evidence of title or right to possession of any land in said land districts, issued, entered, or delivered to said Northern Pacific Railroad Company in violation of the provisions of this Act shall be void: *Provided*, That nothing contained in this Act shall be taken or construed as recognizing or confirming any grant of land or the right to any land in the said Northern Pacific Railroad Company, or as waiving or in any wise affecting any right on the part of the United States against the said Northern Pacific Railroad Company to claim a forfeiture of any land grant heretofore made to said company.

*Proviso.*  
Forfeiture rights, etc., not waived.

Appropriation for expenses.

**SEC. 8.** That there is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of twenty thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to be expended to carry into effect the provisions of this Act, the same to be paid out upon the order of the Secretary of the Interior; and the Secretary of the Interior is hereby required to embrace in the annual estimates submitted to Congress for appropriations for the Interior Department a sufficient sum to pay the said commissioners for the fiscal year next ensuing, and annually thereafter until the classification of lands required by this Act has been fully accomplished.

Estimates.

Approved, February 26, 1895.

February 26, 1895.

**CHAP. 132.**—An Act For the promotion of anatomical science, and to prevent the desecration of graves in the District of Columbia.

District of Columbia.  
Delivery of dead bodies from hospitals, etc., to medical colleges.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That any public officer or officers, whether directors, trustees, superintendents, wardens, keepers, or managers, having lawful charge of or control over any hospital, prison, jail, or morgue, within the District of Columbia, may, with the approval of the health officer of said District, deliver to the duly authorized agent of any medical college or colleges in the District of Columbia, the bodies of such deceased persons as are required to be buried at the public expense, said bodies to be distributed among the several colleges in proportion to the number of students in each: *Provided, however*, That if the deceased person, during his last illness, requested to be buried, or if within forty-eight hours, after his death any person claiming to be, and satisfying the health officer that he is, a relative by blood or marriage, or friend of the deceased, asks to have the body buried, or if such deceased person was a stranger or traveler who suddenly died, the body shall not be so delivered, but shall be buried.

*Proviso.*  
Bodies excepted.

Notices to relatives, etc.

**SEC. 2.** That before the bodies of such deceased persons as are mentioned in the first section shall be delivered to the authorized agents of any medical college in the District of Columbia notice shall be given by the person or persons having lawful charge of said bodies to the relative or friend of the deceased, if known; if not known, the death of the deceased shall be published at least once in a daily newspaper published in the city of Washington, in the District of Columbia, in which publication the full name of the deceased person shall, if possible, be given, and if such name be not known, a description of the person and apparel of the deceased, with information of the place where they may be seen, the expenses of such publication to be paid as other expenses

Publication.

of the District of Columbia are paid: *Provided*, That the persons named in the first section shall not deliver the body of the deceased, as provided in this Act, until at least thirty-six hours shall have elapsed since the death of said deceased and giving of said notice or the publication of the same.

*Proviso.*  
Body to be kept thirty-six hours.

SEC. 3. That every person who shall have been duly authorized by the faculty of any medical college in the District of Columbia to receive such dead bodies shall, before so receiving them, give to the health officer of said District a bond in the sum of two hundred dollars, with surety satisfactory to said health officer, and conditioned that each dead body shall be used only for the promotion of anatomical and surgical knowledge within the said District of Columbia, and that after having been so used the remains thereof shall be decently buried; and whosoever shall use such body or bodies for any purpose other than that aforesaid, or shall remove the same beyond the limits of the District of Columbia, and whosoever shall sell or buy such body or bodies, or in any way traffic in the same, or who shall disturb or remove bodies from graves in which they have been buried, or who shall disregard the expressed wishes of the deceased, or of his or her friends, where such wishes may be disclosed, as provided for in section one of this Act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall, on conviction, be imprisoned for a term not less than two nor more than three years, at hard labor, in the jail of said District.

College to give bond for use, etc., of body.

Punishment for removing bodies from graves, etc.

Approved; February 26, 1895.

CHAP. 133.—An Act To amend section twenty-four hundred and fifty-five of the Revised Statutes of the United States.

February 26, 1895.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That section twenty-four hundred and fifty-five of the Revised Statutes of the United States be, and the same is hereby, amended so as to read as follows:

Public lands.  
R. S., sec. 2455, p. 449, amended.

“SEC. 2455. It shall be lawful for the Commissioner of the General Land Office to order into market and sell for not less than one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre any isolated or disconnected tract or parcel of the public domain less than one quarter section which in his judgment it would be proper to expose to sale after at least thirty days' notice by the land officers of the district in which such lands may be situated: *Provided*, That lands shall not become so isolated or disconnected until the same have been subject to homestead entry for a period of three years after the surrounding land has been entered, filed upon, or sold by the Government: *Provided*, That not more than one hundred and sixty acres shall be sold to any one person.”

Sales of isolated tracts.

*Proviso.*  
To be open to homestead entry three years.

Limit.

Approved, February 26, 1895.

CHAP. 134.—An Act To authorize the adoption of children in the District of Columbia.

February 26, 1895.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That jurisdiction is hereby conferred on any judge of the supreme court of the District of Columbia to hear and determine any petition that may be presented by a person or a husband and wife residing in the District of Columbia, praying the privilege of adopting any minor child as his or her or their own child, and make such minor child an heir at law. If the judge shall find, upon the hearing of such petitioner, that the petitioner is a proper person to have custody of such child, and that the parent or parents or guardian of such child have given their permission for such adoption,

District of Columbia.  
Adoption of children authorized.

Proceedings.