

## STATUTE I.

April 22, 1826.

CHAP. XXIX.—An Act to confirm the reports of the commissioners for ascertaining claims and titles to lands in West Florida, and for other purposes. (a)

Decisions made by the commissioners appointed to ascertain claims, &c., to lands in West Florida, confirmed.

Reports recognised as valid, &c.

Act of March 3, 1825, ch. 83.

The Spanish claims contained in special reports, act of May 8, 1822, ch. 129, confirmed.

Claims to lots in report, &c., with the exception, confirmed, &c.

Claims contained in the report of the register, &c., confirmed.

Location of the claim of Francisco and Fernando Moreno.

Claims to lands in report L. with the exception of that on the square Ferdinand seventh, confirmed, &c.

Proviso.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled,* That all the decisions made by the commissioners, appointed to ascertain claims and titles to lands in the district of West Florida, made in favour of claimants to lands and lots in said district, contained in the reports, opinions, and abstracts, of the commissioners, which have been transmitted to the Secretary of the Treasury, according to law, be, and the same are hereby, confirmed.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That all the reports, abstracts, and opinions, made and forwarded by the two commissioners in said district, subsequently to the first day of January, eighteen hundred and twenty-five, the period at which that board expired by law, be, and the same are hereby, recognised as valid, and confirmed as aforesaid; and the said commissioners, and their secretary, shall be entitled to receive the same compensation as they were authorized to demand by law, prior to that day, up to the time at which the receiver and register took possession of their records, in obedience to an act of the third day of March, eighteen hundred and twenty-five, entitled "An act to extend the time for the settlement of private land claims, in the territory of Florida," &c.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That the Spanish claims contained in special reports, from one to thirty, reported in obedience to the fourth section of an act of Congress, approved May eighth, eighteen hundred and twenty-two, entitled "An act for ascertaining claims and titles to lands in the territory of Florida," be, and the same are hereby, confirmed to the claimants in possession.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That the claims to lots in report and abstract K, recommended for confirmation as equitable titles, with the exception of the last ten, be, and the same are hereby, declared valid and confirmed, and the claim of the Catholic inhabitants to a lot on which the church stands, be, and the same is hereby, confirmed to them for that use, so long as it is occupied for that purpose.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That the claims contained in the report of the receiver and register, made to the Secretary of the Treasury, in obedience to a law of the last session of Congress, dated the thirteenth day of July, eighteen hundred and twenty-five, be, and the same are hereby, confirmed.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted,* That the claim of Francisco and Fernando Moreno, near fort San Carlos de Barancas, shall be so located as not to interfere with the grounds reserved by the laws and ordinances of the Spanish government, for forts, nor with that which has been lately selected for a navy yard and naval depot, by the navy commissioners, and approved by the President of the United States.

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted,* That the claims to lots in report L, with the exception of that on the square Ferdinand Seventh, be, and the same are hereby, approved and confirmed, so far as the United States have any title to the same, without prejudice to the rights of the corporation: and the lots reserved for market house and other public uses, in the plan of the Constitutional Cabildo, are relinquished and confirmed to the corporation of Pensacola; and the lots reserved and granted for church, parish, vicar, school, and custom-house, are respectively set apart and confirmed, for the objects set forth in the decrees of said Cabildo, so far as the United States have any title to the same, without prejudice, as aforesaid: *Provided,* That no claim on the public squares of Seville, Ferdinand Seventh, and the square and garden on which the court-house stands, as laid off in said plan of the Cabildo, shall be allowed or

(a) See notes to the act of May 8, 1822, ch. 129.

recognised as valid, by this act; and *Provided also*, That the confirmation of all the said claims provided for by this act, shall amount only to a relinquishment forever, on the part of the United States, of any claim whatever to the tract of land, so confirmed or granted.

SEC. 8. *And be it further enacted*, That the lands fronting Pensacola Bay, from the mouth of the Big Bayou, to a line below Tartar Point, and thence back to the Bayou, selected by the navy commissioners, and all the lands fronting said bay, and for one mile back, as far as the Grand Lagoon, shall be reserved from sale or location, for the use of the navy yard or depot, and for other public works of the United States.

SEC. 9. *And be it further enacted*, That the proper accounting officers of the Treasury Department be, and they are hereby, authorized to receive and adjust the accounts of the commissioners appointed to ascertain claims and titles to lands in East and West Florida, for the contingent expenses of said commissioners, and to pay the same out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

APPROVED, April 22, 1826.

CHAP. XXX.—*An Act to exempt the professors, tutors, stewards, and students of the different seminaries of learning in the District of Columbia, from militia duty.*

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled*, That the president, professors, tutors, stewards, and students of the different seminaries of learning in the District of Columbia be, and they hereby are, declared to be exempt from the performance of militia duty, except in case of war.

APPROVED, May 4, 1826.

CHAP. XXXI.—*An Act to authorize the President of the United States to run and mark a line dividing the territory of Florida from the state of Georgia.*

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled*, That the President of the United States of America be, and he is hereby, authorized, in conjunction with the constituted authorities of the state of Georgia, to cause to be run and distinctly marked the line dividing the territory of Florida, from the state of Georgia, from the junction of the rivers Chatahoochie and Flint, to the head of St. Mary's river: and for that purpose he is hereby authorized to appoint a commissioner, or surveyor, or both, as in his opinion may be necessary: *Provided*, That the line so to be run and marked, shall be run straight from the junction of said rivers Chatahoochie and Flint, to the point designated as the head of St. Mary's river, by the commissioners appointed under the third article of the treaty of friendship, limits, and navigation, between the United States of America and the King of Spain, made at San. Lorenzo el Real, on the seven and twentieth day of October, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-five: *And provided, also*, That the compensation to be allowed to the person or persons, so to be appointed by the President of the United States, shall not exceed in amount the compensation allowed by the government of Georgia to the person or persons appointed on its part, for the same object.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the person or persons, so to be appointed by the President of the United States, with such as have been or shall be appointed for the same purpose, on the part of the state of Georgia, after they, in conjunction, shall have run and distinctly marked said line, shall make two fair drafts, or maps thereof, both of

Proviso—As to certain claims.

Confirmation of all claims to amount, &c.

Lands fronting Pensacola bay, &c., be reserved from sale for the use of the United States.

Accounts of the commissioners of East and West Florida.

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Presidents, professors, &c., exempt from militia duty, except in case of war.

STATUTE I.

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The President of the United States to cause to be run and marked, the line dividing the territory of Florida from the state of Georgia.

A commissioner to be appointed.

Proviso.

Compensation.

Two fair drafts or maps to be made and certified, &c.