

CHAP. CCLXXXIII. — *An Act authorizing joint Entry by Pre-emption Settlers, and for other Purposes.* March 3, 1873.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That when settlements have been made upon agricultural public lands of the United States prior to the survey thereof, and it has been or shall be ascertained, after the public surveys have been extended over such lands, that two or more settlers have improvements upon the same legal subdivision, it shall be lawful for such settlers to make joint entry of their lands at the local land-office, or for either of said settlers to enter into contract with his co-settlers to convey to them their portion of said land after a patent is issued to him, and after making said contract, to file a declaratory statement in his own name, and prove up and pay for said land, and proof of joint occupation by himself and others, and of such contract with them made shall be equivalent to proof of sole occupation and pre-emption by the applicant: *Provided,* That in no case shall the amount patented under this act exceed one hundred and sixty acres, nor shall this act apply to lands not subject to homestead or pre-emption entry.

When settlements have been made upon public lands prior to a survey, and after survey, two or more settlers are found to have improvements upon same subdivision, they may make joint entry, &c.

Limit to amount.

SEC. 2. That effect shall be given to this act by regulations to be prescribed by the commissioner of the general land-office.

Commissioner to make rules.

APPROVED, March 3, 1873.

CHAP. CCLXXXIV. — *An Act to sell a vacated Soldiers' Burial-ground near Cumberland, Maryland, to the Hebrew Congregation of that City, to enlarge their Graveyard.* March 3, 1873.

*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 and directed, on the payment to him of a sum of money equal in amount to that paid for the property when purchased by the United States, to convey by proper deed to Samuel Sonneborne, H. Stern, and Isaac Miller, in trust for the use and benefit of the Hebrew congregation of the city of Cumberland, Maryland, all the right, title, and interest of the United States in and to that parcel or lot of land, containing one-half acre, more or less, situated about one mile east of said city of Cumberland, near the old national road or turnpike, and lying near and adjacent to the burial-ground of said Hebrew congregation, being the same premises that were purchased for the United States on or about the second day of May, in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-two, by Captain Hurtt, A. Q. M., as a burial-ground for its soldiers stationed in that vicinity during the late war, and which has been made vacant by the removal of the bodies there interred to Antietam or other national cemeteries.

Land in Cumberland, Maryland, to be conveyed to the Hebrew congregation of that city, upon, &c.

APPROVED, March 3, 1873.

CHAP. CCLXXXV. — *An Act to amend an Act entitled "An Act authorizing the Secretary of War to release twenty-five Acres of the Lands of the United States at Plattsburgh, New York, to the New York and Canada Railroad Company, and for other Purposes," passed June eight, eighteen hundred and seventy-two.* March 3, 1873.

1872, ch. 367. Ante, p. 345.

*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 authorized and empowered to release to the New York and Canada Railroad Company, its successors and assigns, a right of way along the banks of Lake Champlain, upon and across the land owned and possessed by the United States in the town of Plattsburgh, Clinton county, New York, subject to such restrictions as the Secretary of War may think necessary to protect the interests of the United States: *Provided,* That before the execution of such release the said railroad company shall first pay into the treasury of the United States the value of such right of way per acre as fixed by the board of appraisers heretofore appointed under the act hereby amended, as stated in their report approved by the Secretary of War.

Right of way over certain lands in Plattsburgh, N. Y., to be released to the New York and Canada R. R. Co.

Value thereof to be first paid.

Twenty-five acres may be located and released to the company upon payment of its value, if, &c.

And the Secretary of War is further authorized and empowered, in his discretion, to locate the twenty-five acres referred to in said act hereby amended, in the northeasterly portion of the said lands of the United States, and to release the same to the said company, its successors and assigns, subject to the conditions and provisos in said act contained, upon the payment of the full value of said twenty-five acres, to be ascertained as in said act provided: *Provided*, That said company shall elect to take said twenty-five acres and pay such value so fixed as aforesaid, within such reasonable time as may be fixed by the Secretary of War, and after due notice from the Secretary to said company.

APPROVED, March 3, 1873.

March 3, 1873.

CHAP. CCLXXXVI. — *An Act to authorize the Construction of a Railroad and Draw-bridge across the Genesee River, in Monroe County, New York.*

Lake Ontario Shore R. R. Co. may construct a draw-bridge across the Genesee river.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled*, That the Lake Ontario Shore Railroad Company of the State of New York be, and they are hereby, authorized to construct a draw-bridge across the Genesee river, in Monroe county, in said State, in accordance with the provisions of an act passed by the legislature of the State of New York, March seventeenth, eighteen hundred and seventy-one, and entitled "An act to facilitate the construction of the Lake Ontario Shore railroad, and to amend the several acts in relation thereto;" and the said bridge when completed shall be deemed and taken to be a legal structure, and shall, with the railroad of which it is to be a part, be a post-road for the transmission of the mails of the United States, with the rights and privileges of other post-roads.

Bridge to be a legal structure, and a post-road;

to be built under certain regulations;

may be changed;

right to erect may be revoked.

SEC. 2. That said structure herein authorized shall be built and located under and subject to such regulations for the security of navigation of said river as the Secretary of War shall prescribe, and shall be at all times so kept and managed as to offer reasonable and proper means for the passage of vessels through or under the same, and the said structure shall be changed at the cost and expense of the owners thereof, from time to time, as Congress may direct, so as to preserve the free and convenient navigation of said river. And the authority to erect and continue said bridge shall be subject to revocation or modification by law whenever the public good shall in the judgment of Congress so require, without any expense or charge to the United States.

APPROVED, March 3, 1873.

March 3, 1873.

CHAP. CCLXXXVII. — *An Act authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to change the Name of Steamer "New England," to "City of Portland."*

Name of steamer "New England" changed to "City of Portland."

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled*, That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized to change the name of the steamer "New England," of Eastport, Maine, to that of "City of Portland," and grant a new register to said steamer.

APPROVED, March 3, 1873.

March 3, 1873.

CHAP. CCLXXXVIII. — *An Act to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to dispose of the old Post-office Property in Chicago.*

Old post-office, &c., property in Chicago, may be exchanged;

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled*, That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and is hereby, authorized to exchange with the city of Chicago the piece of land, with the remains of the old custom-house and post-office building thereon, at the corner of Monroe and Dearborn streets, in the city of Chicago, Illinois, (said land fronting one hundred and ninety feet on Dearborn street and ninety feet on Monroe street, or thereabout,) for the piece of land, the property of the school-fund of the city of Chicago, at the corner of Polk street and Fifth avenue, fronting three hundred and eighty