

CHAP. 132.—An act authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to issue certificate of registry and enrolment to the schooner "Almina," and changing the name to "Minnie Davis." April 25, 1874.

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 issue certificates of registry, or enrolment and license, to the schooner "Almina," owned by Bruce M. Davis, of Alexandria Bay, New York, and to change the name Almina to that of "Minnie Davis," by which latter name said schooner shall be thereafter known and distinguished.

American register to schooner "Almina."

Name changed to "Minnie Davis."

Approved, April 25, 1874.

CHAP. 135.—An act relative to private contracts or agreements made with Indians prior to May twenty-first, eighteen hundred and seventy-two. April 29, 1874.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That hereafter it shall not be lawful for any United States officer, or other person under its employ or control, to recognize the binding force or legality, or in any manner sustain or enforce or counsel, or give any aid or assistance to sustain or enforce, any contract or agreement made by any person or persons, or corporation, with any band, tribe, or nation of Indians, or individual Indian or Indians, not a citizen of the United States, entered into prior to the date of the act of Congress entitled "An act regulating the mode of making private contracts with Indians," approved May twenty-first, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, for the payment or delivery of any money or other thing of value, in present or prospective, or for the granting or procuring any privilege to him or her, or any other person or persons, or corporation, in consideration of services for, or advancements made to, said Indians relative to their lands, or to any claim growing out of or in reference to annuities, instalments, or other moneys, claims, demand, or thing under laws or treaties with the United States, or official acts of any officer thereof, or in any way connected with or done from the United States, unless such contract or agreement was reduced to writing and duly signed by the parties in interest thereto at the time it was entered into and fully made known to the parties at the time the contract was signed, and then not until such original written contract shall first have been presented to and examined by the Secretary of the Interior and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and these facts by them severally endorsed thereon, and a copy of said contract and of any assignments that may have been made thereon duly entered of record in the office of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Certain private agreements made with Indians not to be recognized unless, &c.

1872, ch. 177, vol. xvii, p. 136.

SEC. 2. That in addition thereto there shall also be filed in said Commissioner's office, and retained therein as official papers, and be examined by said Commissioner and Secretary, and that fact indorsed on them, the following statement of facts touching each and all such contracts and agreements so presented; which statements shall be sworn to specially by all and severally the person or persons claiming interest in and seeking the support and enforcement of such contract or agreement, and not by agent or attorney: First, that the writing presented for examination and record, as provided for in the first section of this act, and purporting to be the original contract or agreement, is in fact such, and that it was entered into and reduced to writing at the date and for the purposes it purports to have been made and executed; secondly, such sworn statement shall give particularly the names of the real parties in interest in the original contract or agreement, naming them if not named in the written contract or agreement, and if either of the contracting parties is a band, tribe, or nation of Indians, or a corporation or firm, the name of the person, officer, or agent contracting in their behalf, together with his authority for so doing, shall be specially stated; thirdly, a particular statement of all and singular the services

Statement to be filed and examined.

To be sworn to in person.

What sworn statement shall contain.