

SEC. 4. That the Solicitor of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized to abate part of the purchase-money due from purchasers who have made improvements upon lots of land purchased as aforesaid at Harper's Ferry: *Provided*, That in his judgment such purchasers are legally or equitably entitled to such abatement: *And provided further*, That such purchasers shall application to the Solicitor for abatement within two months from the passage of this act, and, in case an abatement is made, shall pay the balance of the purchase money due after deducting the amount abated within sixty days thereafter; otherwise, the debt to remain as if no abatement had been made.

Abatement of purchase-money.

*Praviso.*

Conditions of abatement.

SEC. 5. This act shall be in force from its passage.

Date of effect.

Approved, June 14, 1878.

CHAP. 193.—An act to amend section forty-one hundred and twenty-seven of the Revised Statutes, of the United States, in relation to the judicial powers and functions of consuls.

June 14, 1878.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That section forty-one hundred and twenty-seven of the Revised Statutes of the United States be, and the same is hereby, amended so that it shall hereafter read as follows:

R. S. 4127, p. 799, Amended.

SEC 4127. The provisions of this title, so far as the same are in conformity with the stipulations in the existing treaties between the United States and Tripoli, Tunis, Morocco, Muscat, and the Samoan or Navigator Islands, respectively, shall extend to those countries, and shall be executed in conformity with the provisions of the treaties and of the provisions of this title by the consuls appointed by the United States to reside therein, who are hereby ex officio invested with the powers herein delegated to the ministers and consuls of the United States appointed to reside in the countries named in section four thousand and eighty-three, so far as the same can be exercised under the provisions of treaties between the United States and the several countries mentioned in this section, and in accordance with the usages of the countries in their intercourse with the Franks or other foreign Christian nations. And whenever the United States shall negotiate a treaty with any foreign government, in which the American consul-general or consul shall be clothed with judicial authority, and securing the right of trial to American citizens residing therein before such consul-general or consul, and containing provisions similar to or like those contained in the treaties with the governments named in this act, then said title, so far as the same may be applicable, shall have full force in reference to said treaty, and shall extend to the country of the government negotiating the same.

Judicial powers of consuls in certain foreign countries.

R. S. Title 47, "Foreign Relations," extended to.

Approved, June 14, 1878.

CHAP. 194.—An act to authorize the Commissioners of the District of Columbia to make and enforce regulations relative to the sale of coal, and also building regulations.

June 14, 1878.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the Commissioners of the District of Columbia be, and they hereby are, authorized and directed to make and enforce such rules and regulations relative to the sale of coal in the District of Columbia as shall insure full weight to purchasers of coal; also, such building regulations for the said District as they may deem advisable.

Sale of coal in District of Columbia.

SEC. 2. That such rules and regulations made as above provided shall have the same force and effect within the District of Columbia as if enacted by Congress.

Effect of regulations.

Approved, June 14, 1878.