

**CHAP. 231.**—To amend an act entitled ‘An act authorizing the Postmaster-General to adjust certain claims of postmasters for loss by burglary, fire, or other unavoidable casualty,’ approved March seventeenth, eighteen hundred and eighty-two.

May 9, 1888.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the act entitled “An act authorizing the Postmaster-General to adjust certain claims of postmasters for loss by burglary, fire, or other unavoidable casualty,” approved March seventeenth, eighteen hundred and eighty-two, be and the same is hereby, amended so as to read, as follows:

Postmasters.  
Claims for losses  
Vol. 22, p. 29, amend-  
ed.

That the Postmaster-General be, and he is hereby, authorized to investigate all claims of postmasters for the loss of money-order funds, postal-funds, postage-stamps, stamped envelopes, newspaper wrappers, and postal cards, belonging to the United States in the hands of such postmasters, resulting from burglary, fire, or other unavoidable casualty, and if he shall determine that such loss resulted from no fault or negligence on the part of such postmasters, to pay to such postmasters, or credit them with the amount so ascertained to have been lost or destroyed, and also to credit postmasters with the amount of any remittance of money-order funds or postal funds made by them in compliance with the instructions of the Postmaster-General, which shall have been lost or stolen while in transit by mail from the office of the remitting postmaster to the office designated as his depository, or after arrival at such depository office and before the postmaster at such depository office has become responsible therefor: *Provided,* That no claim exceeding the sum of two thousand dollars shall be paid or credited until after the facts shall have been ascertained by the Postmaster-General and reported to Congress, together with his recommendation thereon, and an appropriation made therefor: *And provided further,* That this act shall not embrace any claim for losses as aforesaid which accrued more than fifteen years prior to March seventeenth, eighteen hundred and eighty-two; and all such claims must be presented to the Postmaster-General within six months from such latter date, except claims for postal funds which may be received, considered and allowed, if presented within six months after the passage of this act, in cases where the postmaster had, at or about the time of the loss, made report thereof to the Post-Office Department or to an inspector or special agent of the Department; and no claim for losses which may hereafter accrue shall be allowed unless presented within six months from the time the loss occurred.

Postmaster-General  
to investigate claims  
for losses by casualty.

*Provisos.*  
Claims exceeding  
\$2,000 to be reported  
to Congress.

Limitation as to time  
of presenting claim.

**SEC. 2.** That it is hereby made the duty of the Postmaster-General to report his action herein to Congress annually, with his reasons therefor in each particular case.

Report.

Approved, May 9, 1888.

**CHAP. 232.**—An act to authorize the Kansas Valley Rail Road Company to construct and operate a railway through the Fort Riley military reservation, in Kansas, and for other purposes.

May 9, 1888.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Kansas Valley Railroad Company, a corporation created under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Kansas, be, and the same is hereby, empowered to survey, locate, construct, and maintain a railway, telegraph, and telephone line through that portion of the Fort Riley military reservation situated south and west of the Kansas River, upon such a line as shall be determined and approved by the Secretary of War.

Kansas Valley Rail-  
road Company may  
build railway, tele-  
graph, and telephone  
line through Fort Ri-  
ley Reservation, Kan-  
sas.

**SEC. 2.** That said corporation is authorized to take and use for all purposes of a railway, and for no other purpose, a right of way one hundred feet in width through said Fort Riley military reservation

Width of right of  
way.

for said line of the Kansas Valley Railroad Company, with the right to use such additional ground, where heavy cuts or fills may be necessary for the construction and maintenance of the road-bed, not exceeding one hundred feet in width on each side of said right of way, or as much thereof as may be included in said cut or fill: *Provided*, That no part of the lands herein authorized to be taken shall be leased or sold by the company, and they shall not be used except in such manner and for such purposes only as shall be necessary for the construction and convenient operation of said railroad, telegraph, and telephone lines; and when any portion thereof shall cease to be so used, such portion shall revert to the United States, from which the same shall have been taken: *Provided further*, That unless the construction of said railroad across said reservation be entered upon in good faith within three years after the passage of this act, this grant shall cease and determine upon the declaration by the Secretary of War to that effect.

Approved, May 9, 1888.

*Provisos.*  
To be used only for railroad, etc., purposes.

Commencement.

May 9, 1888.

**CHAP. 233.**—An act for the erection of a public building in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

Lancaster, Pa.  
Public building.

Site, plans, etc.

Estimates.

Appropriation.

*Proviso.*  
Title.

*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 hereby is, authorized and directed to purchase, or otherwise provide a suitable site, and cause to be erected thereon, at the city of Lancaster, in the State of Pennsylvania, a suitable and commodious public building, with fire-proof vaults, for the use and accommodation of the post-office, internal-revenue office, pension office, and for other Government uses. The site, and the building thereon, when completed according to plans and specifications to be previously made and approved by the Secretary of the Treasury, shall not exceed the cost of one hundred thousand dollars; nor shall any site be purchased until estimates for the erection of a building which will furnish sufficient accommodations for the transaction of the public business, and which shall not exceed in cost the balance of the sum herein limited after the site shall have been purchased and paid for, shall have been approved by the Secretary of the Treasury; and the site purchased shall leave the building unexposed to danger from fire in adjacent buildings by an open space of at least forty feet, including streets and alleys; and for the purposes herein mentioned the sum of one hundred thousand dollars is hereby appropriated, out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury: *Provided*, That no part of said sum shall be expended until a valid title to the said site shall be vested in the United States, and the State of Pennsylvania shall cede to the United States exclusive jurisdiction over the same, during the time the United States shall be or remain the owner thereof, for all purposes except the administration of the criminal laws of said State and the service of any civil process therein.

Approved, May 9, 1888.

May 9, 1888.

**CHAP. 234.**—An act to authorize the city of Chicago to erect a crib in Lake Michigan for water-works purposes.

Lake Michigan.  
Chicago authorized to extend water-works.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the consent of Congress is hereby given to the city of Chicago, county of Cook, State of Illinois, to extend a tunnel, or inlet pipes, into Lake Michigan, so far as may be deemed necessary, to insure a supply of pure