

—lease of, pending completion of building authorized.

the sale of Government property; and in case of such sale the Secretary of the Treasury shall lease said premises from the purchaser or purchasers thereof, at a rental which shall not exceed four per centum per annum on the purchase price, for use as a custom-house until the new custom-house shall be ready for occupancy, upon such terms as he may deem advantageous, and such sale shall be subject to such right of lease; and the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized to accept the said purchase price in several payments, from time to time, as he may deem most advantageous: *Provided, however,* That the use, occupation, and possession of said property shall not be surrendered until the new custom-house is ready for occupation and final payment is fully made.

Proviso.
Final surrender.

Appropriation reimbursable.

SEC. 5. That the appropriation of seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars, made in section one of this Act, in addition to the balance in the Treasury remaining unexpended under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved September fourteenth, eighteen hundred and eighty-eight, for the acquisition of the Bowling Green site, and the further sum of one million dollars for the preparation of plans and the commencement of the work of construction, appropriated in section two of this Act, shall be reimbursed out of the proceeds of the sale of the present custom-house property, provided for in section four of this Act, when such proceeds have been covered into the Treasury.

Repeal.

SEC. 6. That all Acts and parts of Acts inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed.

Approved, March 2, 1899.

March 2, 1899.

CHAP. 338.—An Act For the erection of a public building in the city of Blair, Nebraska.

Blair, Nebr.
Public building authorized.

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 and directed to purchase or otherwise provide a suitable site and to contract for the erection and completion thereon of a substantial and commodious building, with fireproof vaults therein, for the use and accommodation of the post-office and other offices of the Government at Blair, Nebraska. The site and building thereon, when completed upon plans and specifications to be previously made and approved by the Secretary of the Treasury, shall not exceed in cost the sum of forty-three 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 no purchase of site nor place for said building shall be approved by the Secretary of the Treasury involving an expenditure exceeding the said sum of forty-three thousand dollars for site and building; and the site purchased shall leave the building independent and unexposed to danger from fire in adjacent buildings by an open space of not less than forty feet, including streets and alleys: *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, nor until the State of Nebraska shall cede to the United States exclusive jurisdiction over the same during the time the United States shall remain the owner thereof.

Limit of cost.

Free space.

Proviso.
Title, etc.

Approved, March 2, 1899.

March 2, 1899.

CHAP. 339.—An Act To provide for the purchase of sites for public buildings in the cities of Hastings and Norfolk, in the State of Nebraska, and for other purposes.

Hastings and Norfolk, Nebr.
Public buildings authorized.

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 and directed to acquire title,

by purchase, condemnation, or otherwise, to sites in the cities of Hastings and Norfolk, respectively, in the State of Nebraska, on which to erect suitable buildings, including fireproof vaults, heating and ventilating apparatus, and approaches, for the use and accommodation of the United States post-office and other Government offices in said respective cities, the cost of said sites, respectively, not to exceed the sum of ten thousand dollars.

Proposals for the sale of lands suitable for said sites shall be invited by the Secretary of the Treasury, by public advertisement in one or more of the newspapers of said respective cities of largest circulation, for at least twenty days prior to the date specified in said advertisement for the opening of said proposals.

Proposals made in response to said advertisement shall be addressed and mailed to the Secretary of the Treasury, at Washington, in the District of Columbia, and he shall then cause the said proposed sites, and such others as he may think proper to designate, to be examined in person by an agent of the Treasury Department, who shall make written report to said Secretary of the Treasury of the result of said examination, and of his recommendation thereon, and the reasons therefor, which shall be accompanied by the original proposals, and all maps, plats, and statements which shall have come into his possession relating to said proposed sites.

If, upon consideration of said report and accompanying papers, the Secretary of the Treasury shall deem further investigation necessary, he may appoint a commission of not more than three persons, one of whom shall be an officer of the Treasury Department, which commission shall also examine the said proposed sites, and such others as the Secretary of the Treasury may designate, and grant such hearings in relation thereto as they shall deem necessary; the said commission shall, within thirty days after such examination, make to the Secretary of the Treasury written report of their conclusions in the premises, accompanied by all statements, maps, plats, or documents taken by or submitted to them, in like manner as hereinbefore provided in regard to proceedings of said agent of the Treasury Department; and the Secretary of the Treasury shall thereupon finally determine the location of the said respective sites.

The compensation of said commissioners shall be fixed by the Secretary of the Treasury, but the same shall not exceed five dollars per day and actual traveling expenses: *Provided, however,* That the member of said commission appointed from the Treasury Department shall be paid only his actual traveling expenses.

Approved, March 2, 1899.

Proposals for site.

Examination of site.

Commission to investigate sites.

determination.

Compensation.

Proviso.
—of Treasury member.

CHAP. 340.—An Act For the erection of a public building at Aberdeen, South Dakota.

March 2, 1899.

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 and directed to purchase or acquire by condemnation proceedings, or otherwise, a site for, and cause to be erected thereon, a suitable building, with fireproof vaults therein, for the accommodation of the post-office and other Government offices at the city of Aberdeen, South Dakota. The plans, specifications, and full estimates for said building shall be previously made and approved according to law, and shall not exceed for the site and building complete the sum of eighty-seven thousand dollars: *Provided,* That the site shall leave the building unexposed to danger from fire in adjacent buildings by an open space of not less than forty feet, including streets and alleys.

Aberdeen, S. Dak.
Public building authorized.

Limit of cost.

Fire space.

Approved, March 2, 1899.