

persons, estates, firms or corporations who would be the true and lawful owners of said lands under the laws of Alabama, including the laws of prescription, in the absence of said interest, title, and estate of the said United States.

Approved, June 4, 1912.

CHAP. 152.—An Act To amend an Act to authorize a bridge at or near Council Bluffs, Iowa, approved February first, nineteen hundred and eight, as amended.

June 5, 1912.
[H. R. 21290.]

[Public, No. 178.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Act to authorize the Central Railroad and Bridge Company to construct a bridge across the Missouri River at or near Council Bluffs, Iowa, approved February first, nineteen hundred and eight, and amended February twenty-seventh, nineteen hundred and nine, and June twenty-fifth, nineteen hundred and ten, is hereby amended so as to give to the Central Bridge Company, of Council Bluffs, Iowa, all the authority and rights granted under said Act, if the actual construction of the bridge authorized by said Act is commenced within one year and completed within three years from the date of the passage of this Act.

Missouri River.
Time extended for bridging, by Central Railroad and Bridge Company, Council Bluffs, Iowa.
Vol. 35, pp. 3, 660;
Vol. 36, p. 883.

Amendment.

SEC. 2. That the right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is expressly reserved.

Approved, June 5, 1912.

CHAP. 153.—An Act To amend section twenty-two hundred and ninety-one and section twenty-two hundred and ninety-seven of the Revised Statutes of the United States relating to homesteads.

June 6, 1912.
[S. 3367.]

[Public, No. 179.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section twenty-two hundred and ninety-one and section twenty-two hundred and ninety-seven of the Revised Statutes of the United States be amended to read as follows:

Public lands.
Homestead entries.
Post, p. 925.

“SEC. 2291. No certificate, however, shall be given or patent issued therefor until the expiration of three years from the date of such entry; and if at the expiration of such time, or at any time within two years thereafter, the person making such entry, or if he be dead his widow, or in case of her death his heirs or devisee, or in case of a widow making such entry her heirs or devisee, in case of her death, proves by himself and by two credible witnesses that he, she, or they have a habitable house upon the land and have actually resided upon and cultivated the same for the term of three years succeeding the time of filing the affidavit, and makes affidavit that no part of such land has been alienated, except as provided in section twenty-two hundred and eighty-eight, and that he, she, or they will bear true allegiance to the Government of the United States, then in such case he, she, or they, if at that time citizens of the United States, shall be entitled to a patent, as in other cases provided by law: *Provided,* That upon filing in the local land office notice of the beginning of such absence, the entryman shall be entitled to a continuous leave of absence from the land for a period not exceeding five months in each year after establishing residence, and upon the termination of such absence the entryman shall file a notice of such termination in the local land office, but in case of commutation the fourteen months' actual residence as now required by law must be shown, and the person commuting must be at the time a citizen of the United States: *Provided,* That when the person making entry dies before the offer of final proof those succeeding to the entry must show that the entryman had complied with the law in all respects to the date of his death and that

Patent to issue on proof of three years' residence, etc.
R. S., sec. 2291, p. 420, amended.

Transfers for public purposes.
R. S., sec. 2288, p. 419.

Provisos.
Leaves of absence allowed.

Commutation.

Proof required if entryman dies.

Area of cultivation required yearly.

For enlarged homesteads.
Vol. 35, p. 640.

Nebraska arid land and irrigation entries.
Vol. 33, p. 547.
Vol. 32, p. 368.

Notice of law to entrymen.

Land to revert on failure to establish residence, etc.
R. S., sec. 2297, p. 421, amended.

Proviso.
Beginning of residence.

Extension permitted.

they have since complied with the law in all respects, as would have been required of the entryman had he lived, excepting that they are relieved from any requirement of residence upon the land: *Provided further*, That the entryman shall, in order to comply with the requirements of cultivation herein provided for, cultivate not less than one-sixteenth of the area of his entry, beginning with the second year of the entry, and not less than one-eighth, beginning with the third year of the entry, and until final proof, except that in the case of entries under section six of the enlarged-homestead law double the area of cultivation herein provided shall be required, but the Secretary of the Interior may, upon a satisfactory showing, under rules and regulations prescribed by him, reduce the required area of cultivation: *Provided*, That the above provision as to cultivation shall not apply to entries under the Act of April twenty-eighth, nineteen hundred and four, commonly known as the Kinkaid Act, or entries under the Act of June seventeenth, nineteen hundred and two, commonly known as the reclamation Act, and that the provisions of this section relative to the homestead period shall apply to all unperfected entries as well as entries hereafter made upon which residence is required: *Provided*, That the Secretary of the Interior shall, within sixty days after the passage of this Act, send a copy of the same to each homestead entryman of record who may be affected thereby, by ordinary mail to his last known address, and any such entryman may, by giving notice within one hundred and twenty days after the passage of this Act, by registered letter to the register and receiver of the local land office, elect to make proof upon his entry under the law under which the same was made without regard to the provisions of this Act."

"SEC. 2297. If, at any time after the filing of the affidavit as required in section twenty-two hundred and ninety and before the expiration of the three years mentioned in section twenty-two hundred and ninety-one, it is proved, after due notice to the settler, to the satisfaction of the register of the land office that the person having filed such affidavit has failed to establish residence within six months after the date of entry, or abandoned the land for more than six months at any time, then and in that event the land so entered shall revert to the Government: *Provided*, That the three years' period of residence herein fixed shall date from the time of establishing actual permanent residence upon the land: *And provided further*, That where there may be climatic reasons, sickness, or other unavoidable cause, the Commissioner of the General Land Office may, in his discretion, allow the settler twelve months from the date of filing in which to commence his residence on said land under such rules and regulations as he may prescribe."

Approved, June 6, 1912.

CHAP. 154.—An Act To permit the American Academy in Rome to enlarge its purposes, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the American Academy in Rome incorporated by the Act of Congress approved March third, nineteen hundred and five, may by a resolution of its board of trustees enlarge its purposes so as to include the study and investigation of the archaeology, literature, and history of the classical and later periods; and that the said corporation may take and hold real and personal property to an amount not exceeding three million dollars.

Approved, June 6, 1912.

June 6, 1912.
[S. 125.]

[Public, No. 180.]

American Academy in Rome.
Vol. 33, p. 1044.

Purposes enlarged.

Limit of property increased.