

and the privilege of constructing depots and workshops on the public lands of the United States lying in the county of St. Clair, State of Michigan, commonly called the Fort Gratiot military reservation, be, and the same is hereby, granted to any railroad company or companies which may construct a railroad or railroads from the city of Detroit, or any other place in said State, to or near the village of Port Huron, in said State: *Provided,* That in the opinion of the President of the United States such grant or grants be not injurious to the purposes of public defence, and that the location of said buildings on, and such road or roads as to position and width through said reservation, and the price of the land to be so occupied, being first determined by the Secretary of War, be approved by the President: *And provided, further,* That if the price of such grant or grants be not paid within thirty days after the approval of the President, or if either of said roads shall not be completed within three years, or if, at any time after its completion, it shall be discontinued, the grant shall cease and determine as to such road: *And provided, further,* That all the buildings to be erected upon said reservation shall be of wood, and if, at any time, it should be deemed expedient by the commanding officer of Fort Gratiot, or by any other higher military authority, to destroy such buildings by fire or otherwise, no claim shall be made against the United States for damages.

Proviso.

Proviso, in what cases the grant shall be determined.

Proviso, as to buildings.

APPROVED, February 8, 1859.

Feb. 9, 1859.

CHAP. XXVII.—*An Act to provide for the Payment of the Claims of the State of Maine, for Expenses incurred by that State in organizing a Regiment of Volunteers for the Mexican War.*

Accounts of the State of Maine to be audited and settled.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the accounts of the State of Maine for expenses incurred by that State in organizing a regiment of volunteers for the Mexican war, in the year eighteen hundred and forty-six, upon the requisition of the President of the United States, shall be audited and settled by the proper accounting officers of the Treasury Department, pursuant to the provisions of an act approved June second, eighteen hundred and forty-eight, to "refund money for expenses incurred, subsistence, or transportation furnished for the use of volunteers during the present war, upon being mustered into the service of the United States," in the same manner in all respects as if the said regiment had been mustered and received in the service of the United States; and the amount found to be due to the State of Maine shall be paid out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

1848, ch. 60. vol. ix. p. 236.

APPROVED, February 9, 1859.

Feb. 9, 1859.

CHAP. XXVIII.—*An Act to authorize the Attorney-General to represent the United States in the Proceeding in Equity, now pending in the Supreme Court between the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations.*

The Attorney-General authorized to intervene, and to consent, &c.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Attorney-General is hereby authorized and directed to intervene and represent the United States in the proceeding in equity now pending in the Supreme Court between the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, and to consent on behalf of the United States, to the adjustment of said suit by a conventional line to be agreed upon by the parties, and confirmed by a decree of said court, if, in his judgment, the rights and interests of the United States will not be prejudiced thereby.

Conventional line to be true boundary line.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That in case such suit shall be adjusted as aforesaid and a conventional line shall be agreed upon, and confirmed by a decree of the court as aforesaid, such line shall be taken

and deemed to be, for all purposes affecting the jurisdiction of the United States, or of any department of the government thereof, the true line of boundary between said Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations.

APPROVED, February 9, 1859.

CHAP. XXXIII.—*An Act for the Admission of Oregon into the Union.*

Feb. 14, 1859.

Whereas the people of Oregon have framed, ratified, and adopted a constitution of State government which is republican in form, and in conformity with the Constitution of the United States, and have applied for admission into the Union on an equal footing with the other States : Therefore—

Preamble.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That Oregon be, and she is hereby, received into the Union on an equal footing with the other States in all respects whatever, with the following boundaries : In order that the boundaries of the State may be known and established, it is hereby ordained and declared that the State of Oregon shall be bounded as follows, to wit : Beginning one marine league at sea due west from the point where the forty-second parallel of north latitude intersects the same ; thence northerly, at the same distance from the line of the coast, lying west and opposite the State, including all islands within the jurisdiction of the United States, to a point due west and opposite the middle of the north ship channel of the Columbia River ; thence easterly, to and up the middle channel of said river, and, where it is divided by islands, up the middle of the widest channel thereof, to a point near Fort Walla-Walla, where the forty-sixth parallel of north latitude crosses said river ; thence east, on said parallel, to the middle of the main channel of the Shoshones or Snake River ; thence up the middle of the main channel of said river, to the mouth of the Owyhee River ; thence due south, to the parallel of latitude forty-two degrees north ; thence west, along said parallel, to the place of beginning, including jurisdiction in civil and criminal cases upon the Columbia River and Snake River, concurrently with States and Territories of which those rivers form a boundary in common with this State.

Oregon admitted.

Boundaries.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the said State of Oregon shall have concurrent jurisdiction on the Columbia and all other rivers and waters bordering on the said State of Oregon so far as the same shall form a common boundary to said State, and any other State or States now or hereafter to be formed or bounded by the same ; and said rivers and waters, and all the navigable waters of said State, shall be common highways and forever free, as well as to the inhabitants of said State as to all other citizens of the United States, without any tax, duty, impost, or toll therefor.

Concurrent jurisdiction on the Columbia and other rivers and waters forming a common boundary, &c.

Navigable rivers, &c., to be common highways.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That, until the next census and apportionment of representatives, the State of Oregon shall be entitled to one representative in the Congress of the United States.

Entitled to one representative in Congress.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That the following propositions be, and the same are hereby, offered to the said people of Oregon for their free acceptance or rejection, which, if accepted, shall be obligatory on the United States and upon the said State of Oregon, to wit : First, That sections numbered sixteen and thirty-six in every township of public lands in said State, and where either of said sections, or any part thereof, has been sold or otherwise been disposed of, other lands equivalent thereto, and as contiguous as may be, shall be granted to said State for the use of schools. Second, That seventy-two sections of land shall be set apart and reserved for the use and support of a State university, to be selected by the governor of said State, subject to the approval of the Commissioner of the General Land-Office, and to be appropriated and applied in such

Proposition to be submitted to popular vote.

School lands.

State university lands.