

and documents as are embraced in any existing order for the distribution thereof among the members of either house of Congress.

APPROVED, March 3, 1863.

[No. 29.] *A Resolution giving the Thanks of Congress to Major-General William S. Rosecrans, and the Officers and Men under his Command, for their Gallantry and good Conduct in the Battle of Murfreesborough, Tennessee.*

March 3, 1863.

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the thanks of Congress be, and they are hereby, presented to Major-General William S. Rosecrans, and, through him, to the officers and men under his command, for their distinguished gallantry and good conduct at the battle of Murfreesborough, Tennessee, where they achieved a signal victory for our arms.

The thanks of Congress given to Major-General William S. Rosecrans, his officers, and men.

SEC. 2. *And be it further resolved,* That the President of the United States be requested to cause the foregoing resolution to be communicated to Major-General Rosecrans, in such terms as he may deem best calculated to give effect thereto.

This resolution to be communicated to Major General Rosecrans, &c.

APPROVED, March 3, 1863.

[No. 30.] *Joint Resolution in Relation to Telegraph Companies in the District of Columbia.*

March 3, 1863.

[*Be it resolved*] by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Independent Line of Telegraph, a corporation organized under the laws of the State of New York, for the purpose, and with the intention, of constructing a line of telegraph from Portland, Maine, to Washington city, or any other corporation or company organized according to law, to construct a line of telegraph, be permitted to use any of the highways, roads, streets, or grounds in the District of Columbia in the extension and operation of their line to, in, and through the city of Washington, and other parts of the District: *Provided, however,* That the location and construction of any such line of telegraph within the said District shall not be carried into effect without the written approval of the Secretary of the Interior and commissioner of public buildings and grounds first obtained as to the proper route and course of said line to be followed within the said District of Columbia: *And provided, further,* That the use of said highways, streets, roads, and grounds hereby granted for telegraphic purposes shall not obstruct the use and convenient occupancy of said highways, streets, roads, and grounds for public or other purposes, as the same are at present used. And all acts heretofore passed and now in force in the District of Columbia for the protection of telegraph-poles, wires, and corporations, shall be extended to any such line of telegraph.

Telegraph companies may use streets, &c., in District of Columbia.

Written approval of Secretary of the Interior, &c., to be first obtained.

Proper use of streets, &c., not to be obstructed thereby.

Such telegraph lines to be protected.

APPROVED, March 3, 1863.

[No. 31.] *A Resolution to enable the Secretary of the Treasury to obtain the Title to certain Property in the City of Denver, Colorado Territory, for the Purposes of the Branch Mint located in said Place.*

March 3, 1863.

Whereas, The Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, in order to carry into effect an act entitled "An act to establish a branch mint at Denver, in the Territory of Colorado," approved April twenty-first, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, has purchased of Messrs. Clarke, Gruber, and Company, the preëm[p]tors and occupants thereof, certain city lots in said town of Denver, together with all the valuable improvements thereon:

Preamble.  
1862, ch. 59.  
*Ante*, p. 382.

And whereas the said Clarke, Gruber, and Company have not, and cannot at an early day, perfect their title to said lots by entry of the same at the district land-office, for the sole reason that no such office is yet established in said district:

And whereas it is highly important for the interest of the Government to obtain at an early day the use and possession of said property to establish and open said mint, therefore,

Secretary of the Treasury to receive conveyance of rights of grantors to certain lots in Denver.

Lots to be reserved from sale, &c.

*Resolved 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 to receive and accept from said Clarke, Gruber, and Company such relinquishments and conveyances of their right or claim to said lots and property, as he, the said Secretary, shall deem sufficient for the extinguishment of any claim, right, or title which the said Clarke, Gruber, and Company may or can have thereto. And said lots and property shall thereafter be reserved from public sale, pre-emption, or homestead settlement, and shall remain the property of the United States.

APPROVED, March 3, 1863.

March 3, 1863.

[No. 32.] *Joint Resolution authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to adjust the Equitable Claims of Contractors for Naval Supplies, and regulating Contracts with the Navy Department.*

Secretary of Navy to adjust claims of contractors for naval supplies.

Proviso.

Claims to be presented within six months.

Offers of previous defaulters may be rejected.

Only one bid from any person.

Who to be received as contractors.

Bidders may be present at opening of bids.

Penalties for certain unfulfilled contracts to be released to certain contractors.

*Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the Secretary of the Navy be, and he is hereby, authorized to adjust and settle the claims of contractors for naval supplies, who, during the last fiscal year ending thirtieth June, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, have furnished to the department more than one hundred per centum above the quantities specified in their contracts and without default therein; and for the purpose of hearing said claims may associate with the chief of the bureau with which the contract was made the chief of any other bureau, subject to an appeal to said Secretary from their decision: *Provided*, That no contractor shall be allowed, except upon the excess over the stipulated quantity and one hundred per centum in addition thereto, and upon such excess not more than sufficient to make the price thereon equal to the fair market value of the supplies at the time and place of delivery; nor shall any contractor be allowed any amount under this section unless there has been an actual loss to the contractor upon the whole contract: *And provided, further*, That all claimants under any such contracts shall present their claims to the department within six months after the passage of this joint resolution, or be forever barred from any equitable claim on account of said contracts.

SEC. 2. *And be it further resolved*, That the chief of any bureau of the Navy Department, in contracting for naval supplies, shall be at liberty to reject the offer of any person who, as principal or surety, has been a defaulter in any previous contract with the Navy Department; nor shall parties who have failed as principals or sureties in any former contract be received as sureties on other contracts; nor shall the copartners of any firm be received as sureties for such firm or for each other; nor, in contracts with the same bureau, shall one contractor be received as surety for another; and every contract shall require the delivery of a specified quantity, and no bids having nominal or fictitious prices shall be considered. That if more than one bid be offered by any one party, by or in the name of his or their clerk, partner, or other person, all such bids may be rejected; and no person shall be received as a contractor who is not a manufacturer of, or regular dealer in, the articles which he offers to supply, who has not a license as such manufacturer or dealer. And all persons offering bids shall have the right to be present when the bids are opened and inspect the same.

SEC. 3. *And be it further resolved*, That the Secretary of the Navy be, and he is hereby, authorized to release and discharge the penalties, or the provisions in the nature of penalties, in certain cases of unfulfilled