

CHAP. CCXCIII. — *An Act to amend an Act entitled "An Act granting the Right of Way to the Walla-Walla and Columbia River Railroad Company, and for other Purposes," approved March third, eighteen hundred and sixty-nine* March 3, 1873. 1869, ch. 129, § 3. Vol. xv. p. 325.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled,* That all after and including the word "Provided," in the tenth line of section three of an act entitled "An act granting the right of way to the Walla-Walla and Columbia River Railroad Company, and for other purposes," approved March third, eighteen hundred and sixty-nine, be, and the same is hereby modified as follows. Walla-Walla, &c., R. R. Co. may take materials from the public lands for the construction of road.

SEC. 2. That the right is hereby granted to the said Walla-Walla and Columbia River Railroad Company to take from the public lands, earth, stone, timber and other materials, for the construction of the Walla-Walla and Columbia River Railroad for two years from the passage of this act.

APPROVED, March 3, 1873.

CHAP. CCXCIV. — *An Act to enable the Secretary of War to pay the Expenses incurred in suppressing the Indian Hostilities in the Territory of Montana, in the Year eighteen hundred and sixty-seven.* March 3, 1873.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That it shall be the duty of the proper accounting officers of the treasury to examine and determine the amounts justly due upon the claims for expenses necessarily incurred in suppressing Indian hostilities in the Territory of Montana, in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-seven, which have been examined and reported upon by Inspector General James A. Hardie; but in no case shall the sum allowed thereon be in excess of the award reported by said General Hardie; and in such investigation the testimony taken by General Hardie in relation thereto shall be received in evidence, but the same shall not be regarded as conclusive unless said officers are satisfied therewith. And the sums so found to be due shall be paid to the persons severally entitled thereto by a disbursing officer under the direction of the Secretary of War: *Provided,* That the acceptance of such payment shall be in full of all claims on account of said expenses; *And provided further,* That no claim under the provisions of this act shall be audited and paid unless presented within one year from the passage of this act. Expenses incurred in suppressing Indian hostilities in Montana to be paid, if found justly due; to and by whom to be paid. Acceptance of payment to be in full. Claims to be presented within one year.

APPROVED, March 3, 1873.

CHAP. CCXCV. — *An Act to provide for the Erection of a public Building for Post-office and other U. S. Offices at Jersey City, New Jersey.* March 3, 1873.

*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 a site suitable for post-office and other United States offices in Jersey city, New Jersey, such as will be sufficient for the accommodation of the post-offices at Hudson city, Bergen city and Greenville when consolidated in Jersey city and for this purpose one hundred thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary is hereby appropriated out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated. *Provided,* That the Secretary of the Treasury shall cause proper plans and estimates to be made for the erection of such a building on the site aforesaid as he may judge necessary, so that no expenditure shall be made for the full completion of said building, including the cost of site, exceeding three hundred thousand dollars, and no money hereby appropriated shall be used or applied until a valid title to the land for the site as aforesaid shall be vested in the United States and until the State of New Jersey shall cede its jurisdiction over the same and shall also release and relinquish to the United States the right to tax or in any way assess said site or the property of the United Site for post-office, &c., in Jersey city, New Jersey, to be purchased. Appropriation. Plans, &c., for building. Limit to cost. No money to be expended until, &c.

States that may be thereon during the time that the United States shall be or remain the owner thereof

APPROVED, March 3, 1873.

March 3, 1873. CHAP. CCXCVI. — *An Act to provide for the Purchase, by the Secretary of War, of Lands for the United States in the State of Texas, for the Sites of Forts and Military Posts.*

Lands in Texas may be purchased for sites for forts, &c., and at what price.

No contract to be completed or money paid until, &c.

United States not bound to purchase until, &c.

This act limited to three years.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled,* That the Secretary of War be authorized to purchase, at a fair price, to be ascertained by a board of three officers to be appointed by him, whose report shall be subject to the approval or rejection of the President and the confirmation thereof by Congress, such lands in the State of Texas as may be necessary for the use of the United States for forts and military posts. The report of the board shall be made through the commanders of the department and military division, and subject to their approval or disapproval: *Provided,* That the contract for any one of the said tracts of land shall not be completed, nor any of the purchase-money paid, until the Attorney-General of the United States shall have given his written opinion in favor of the validity of the title of said land: *And provided further,* That the legislature of Texas will, at its next session, pass an act ceding exclusive jurisdiction over the said site or sites to the United States, and forever exempting the property from taxation.

SEC. 2. That nothing in this act shall be construed to authorize the Secretary of War to bind the government of the United States to comply with any contract for any of said lands, or to be held by the arbitration or adjudication of any of the courts of the State of Texas as to the price thereof and the terms of purchase until the aforesaid board shall have recommended the same and the President shall have approved of said purchase and Congress shall have confirmed the same: *Provided,* That all authority exercised under this act shall cease at the expiration of three years from passage hereof.

APPROVED, March 3, 1873.

March 3, 1873. CHAP. CCXCVII. — *An Act authorizing the Award to the Vincennes University of certain vacant and abandoned Lands in Knox County, Indiana.*

Preamble.

Whereas, it is alleged that there are certain parcels of abandoned lands in Knox county, Indiana, which are covered by old Vincennes donation claims, which have become abandoned and to which there is no subsisting confirmation or settlement by individuals as owners under confirmation: Therefore,

Patent to issue to Vincennes University for land awarded to it by decree of court.

Proceedings to obtain the decree, and at whose cost.

Patent, &c., not to affect ad-

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That it shall and may be lawful for the Vincennes University, a corporation existing under the laws of the State of Indiana, to file in the United States district court for the district of Indiana a petition descriptive of such abandoned and unclaimed donations in Knox county of that State, accompanied by such testimony as may be relied upon in support of the said alleged abandonment, with evidence that such list has been published for a period of at least three months in Knox county and calling on all parties to show cause, if such exist, why such tracts or parcels of land should not be declared vacant; and thereafter in such cases as the said court shall find the tracts to be abandoned and not claimed by any individuals under any confirmation, or otherwise, it shall have power to render a decree accordingly, and upon such decree being deposited in the general land-office, with a patent certificate from the register of the land-office at Indianapolis, Indiana, a patent shall issue to the said Vincennes University for the parcels of land so decreed as abandoned and awarded to said university: *Provided,* That all proceedings in the premises shall be at the cost of said university, and that