

the patents so issued shall operate only as a quit-claim on the part of the United States, and shall not affect the valid adverse rights of any person should such hereafter be found to exist; and such patents and decrees shall have no effect upon or in respect to such adverse rights.

APPROVED, March 3, 1873.

CHAP. CCXCVIII. — *An Act to amend an Act entitled "An Act to authorize the Sale of certain public Property," approved June tenth, eighteen hundred and seventy-two.* March 3, 1873.
1872, ch. 423.
Ante, p. 380.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That nothing contained in the first section of the act entitled "An act to authorize the sale of certain public property," approved June tenth, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, shall be so construed as to prevent the Secretary of War from withdrawing any of the property from sale in cases where, in his judgment, the highest bid offered is insufficient or unsatisfactory.

SEC. 2. That any of the said property withdrawn from sale under this act may be again offered, either at public sale or by inviting proposals, after six days' consecutive notice, fifteen days before the day of sale, in the newspapers mentioned in the act of which this is an amendment.

SEC. 3. That it shall be the duty of the Secretary of War to appoint a board of three army officers, which board shall appraise each piece or parcel of land, with the buildings thereon, before the same is offered for sale, and no sale shall be made at a price less than two-thirds of the appraised value.

APPROVED, March 3, 1873.

CHAP. CCXCIX. — *An Act to aid in the Erection of a Monument to the Memory of Major-General George H. Thomas.* 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 War be, and he hereby is, authorized and directed to deliver to the Society of the Army of the Cumberland, eighty-eight pieces of condemned bronze cannon, if the same can be spared without serious detriment to the government, to aid in the erection of an equestrian statue to the memory of Major-General George H. Thomas.

APPROVED, March 3, 1873.

CHAP. CCC. — *An Act to change the Name of Schooner "Andrew Stewart" and Steamer "Sleepy Hollow."* 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 is hereby, authorized and directed to change the name of the schooner "Andrew Stewart" to "Barnett Jones" and the steamer "Sleepy Hollow" to that of "Long Branch" and grant new registers to the same.

APPROVED, March 3, 1873.

CHAP. CCCI. — *An Act authorizing the Transfer of Safes from the War Department to the Post-office Department for Use in the Transportation of registered Mails.* 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 War be, and he is hereby, authorized to transfer such safes, or paymasters' chests, as may be on hand in his department, to the Post-office Department for use in the transportation of registered mails, with a view to promote the security of such mails.

APPROVED, March 3, 1873.