

Arrearages,
\$1000.

For arrearages prior to the first of July, one thousand eight hundred and fifteen, under the act of the first of May, one thousand eight hundred and twenty, in addition to an unexpended balance remaining in the treasury of two thousand nine hundred and fourteen dollars and eighty-nine cents, payable through the Third Auditor's office, one thousand dollars.

Deputies or
clerks of agents
for paying pen-
sions may ad-
minister oaths.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That whenever any agent for paying pensions shall have a deputy or clerk, authorized by law, said deputy or clerk shall have like power to administer oaths or affirmations as said agent may have; and all oaths and affirmations taken before said clerk or deputy, shall be of like obligation, and subject to like penalties for false swearing or affirmation, as if taken before the pension agent himself.

APPROVED, February 19, 1849.

Feb. 19, 1849.

CHAP. LV. — *An Act to relinquish the reversionary Interest of the United States in a certain Indian Reservation in the State of Alabama.*

Reversionary
interest of the
U. S. in a cer-
tain tract of land
relinquished to
Stephen Steele
and James Dan-
iel.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all the right, title, and interest, which might accrue or revert, or has accrued or reverted, to the United States, to a certain reservation confirmed to the heirs of William Jones, deceased, by the certificate from the United States, bearing date the twelfth day of April, one thousand eight hundred and twenty, being known and described as fractional section sixteen, and the south-east and south-west quarters of section nine, in township six, and range five, under a treaty made and concluded at Fort Jackson, on the ninth day of August, one thousand eight hundred and fourteen, and lying in the State of Alabama, be, and the same are hereby, relinquished and vested in Stephen Steele and James Daniel, respectively, according to the extent of their several interests therein: *Provided, however*, (and this relinquishment is made upon the condition,) that the said Steele and Daniel, or either of them, have fairly, and in good faith, and for a valuable and adequate consideration, purchased of the said heirs, by authentic and valid deeds, their respective rights in and to the said reservations: *And provided, further*, That no sale or conveyance of said reservation, or any part thereof, by the said reservees, or either of them, shall be deemed regular or valid, nor shall this act have effect, until the President of the United States, or some officer to be by him designated, shall have approved such conveyance, and endorsed his approval thereon.

Proviso.

APPROVED, February 19, 1849.

Feb. 22, 1849.

CHAP. LXI. — *An Act for authenticating certain Records.*

Manner in
which certain
records, &c., may
be authenticated
and read in evi-
dence.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That it may and shall be lawful for the keepers or persons having the custody of laws, judgments, orders, decrees, journals, correspondence, or other public documents, of any foreign government or its agents, relating to the title to lands claimed by or under the United States, on the application of the head of any one of the departments, the Solicitor of the Treasury, or the Commissioner of the General Land Office, to authenticate the same under his hand and seal, and certify the same to be correct and true copies of such laws, judgments, orders, decrees, journals, correspondence, or other public documents; and when the same shall be certified by such minister, consul, or judge, mentioned in the first

[This section
is explained by
act of 1849, ch.
82, post, p. 350.]

section of this act, under his hand and seal of office, to be true copies of the originals, the same shall be sealed up by him and returned to the Solicitor of the Treasury, who shall file the same in his office, and cause it to be recorded in a book to be kept for that purpose. A copy of said laws, judgments, orders, decrees, journals, correspondence, or other public documents, so filed, or of the same so recorded in said book, may be read in evidence in all courts where the title to land claimed by or under the United States may come into question, equally with the originals thereof.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the Solicitor of the Treasury shall cause a seal to be made and provided for his office, with such device as the President of the United States shall approve, and copies of any public documents, records, books, or papers, belonging to or on the files of the said office, under the signature of the said Solicitor, or, when the office shall be vacant, under the signature of such officer as may be officiating for the time being, accompanied by an impress of the said seal, shall be competent evidence in all cases equally with the original records, documents, books, or papers.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That all books, papers, documents, and records in the War, Navy, Treasury, and Post-Office Departments, and the Attorney-General's office, may be copied and certified under seal in the same manner as those in the State Department may now by law be, and with the same force and effect, and the said Attorney-General shall cause a seal to be made and provided for his office, with such device as the President of the United States shall approve.

APPROVED, February 22, 1849.

Solicitor of the Treasury to cause a seal to be made for his office.

Books, papers, &c., in the War, Navy, Treasury, Post-Office, and Attorney-Gen'l's Dep'ts, may be copied and certified in the same manner as in the State Dep't.

Attorney-Gen'l to have a seal.

CHAP. LXII. — *An Act granting five Years' Half Pay to certain Widows and Orphans of Officers, Non-commissioned Officers, Musicians, and Privates, both Regulars and Volunteers.*

Feb. 22, 1849.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the provisions of the second section of the act entitled "An Act amending the act entitled 'An Act granting half pay to widows or orphans, where their husbands and fathers have died of wounds received in the military service of the United States,' in cases of deceased officers and soldiers of the militia and volunteers," approved July twenty-first, eighteen hundred and forty-eight, shall be so construed as to embrace all widows and orphans of officers, non-commissioned officers, musicians, and privates, whether of the regular army or of volunteers, who have received an honorable discharge, or who remained to the date of their death in the military service of the United States, and who have died, since their return to their usual place of residence, of wounds received, or from disease contracted while in line of duty, subject to such rules, regulations, and restrictions, as the Secretary of War, by the third section of said act, is authorized to impose.

APPROVED, February 22, 1849.

How the act of 20th July, 1848, ch. 108, amending the act granting half pay to widows, orphans, &c., shall be construed.

CHAP. LXX. — *An Act to establish an additional Land Office in the State of Missouri.*

Feb. 26, 1849.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That so much of the public lands of the United States included in the present Fayette district, in the State of Missouri, as lies within the following bounda-

Part of Fayette land district formed into new land district.