fourteen days, in any of the wars specified in the first section of the said act, whether such persons were or were not mustered into the service of the United States.

SEC. 6. And be it further enacted, That the widows and minor children of all such persons as are specified in the last preceding section of this act, and are now dead, shall be entitled to the same privileges as the widows and minor children of the beneficiaries named in the act to which this is an amendment.

SEC. 7. And be it further enacted, That when any company, battalion, or regiment, in an organized form, marched more than twenty miles to the place where they were mustered into the service of the United States, or were discharged more than twenty miles from the place where such company, battalion, or regiment was organized, in all such cases, in computing the length of service of the officers and soldiers of any such company, battalion, or regiment, there shall be allowed one day for every twenty miles from the place where the company, battalion, or regiment was organized to the place where the same was mustered into the service of the United States, and also one day for every twenty miles from the place where such company, battalion, or regiment was discharged, to the place where it was organized, and from whence it marched to enter the service; Provided, That such march was in obedience to the command or direction of the President of the United States, or some general officer of the United States, commanding an army or department, or the chief executive officer of the State or Territory by which such company, battalion, or regiment was called into service.

APPROVED, May 14, 1856.

CHAP. XXVIII. — An Act making a Grant of Lands to the State of Iowa, in alternate Sections to aid in the Construction of certain Railroads in said State.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there be and is hereby granted to the State of Iowa, for the purpose of aiding in the construction of railroads from Burlington, on the Mississippi River, to a point on the Missouri River near the mouth of the Platte River; from the city of Davenport, via Iowa City and Fort Des Moines, to Council Bluffs; from Lyons City northwesterly to a point of intersection with the main line of the Iowa Central Air Line Railroad, near Maquoketa, thence on said main line, running as near as practicable to the forty-second parallel across the said State to the Missouri River, from the city of Dubuque to a point on the Missouri River near Sioux City, with a branch from the mouth of the Tete Des Morts to the nearest point on said road, to be completed as soon as the main road is completed to that point, every alternate section of land, designated by odd numbers, for six sections in width on each side of each of said roads. But in case it shall appear that the United States have, when the lines or routes of said roads are definitely fixed, sold any sections, or any parts thereof, granted as aforesaid, or that the right of preemption has attached to the same, then it shall be lawful for any agent or agents, to be appointed by the governor of said State, to select, subject to the approval of the Secretary to the Interior, from the lands of the United States nearest to the tiers of sections above specified, so much land, in alternate sections, or parts of sections, as shall be equal to such lands as the United States have sold or other wise appropriated, or to which the rights of preemption have attached as aforesaid; which lands (thus selected in lieu of those sold and [to] which preemption rights have attached, as aforesaid, together with the sections, and parts of sections, designated by odd numbers as aforesaid, and appropriated as aforesaid) shall be held by the State of Iowa for the use and purpose aforesaid: Provided, That the land to be

May 15, 1856.

Grant of land to Iowa for railroads.

Other lands to be selected in lieu of those sold or preempted.
so located shall, in no case, be further than fifteen miles from the lines of
said roads, and selected for and on account of each of said roads: Pro-
vided, further, That the lands hereby granted for and on account of said
roads severally shall be exclusively applied in the construction of that
road for and on account of which such lands are hereby granted, and
shall be disposed of only as the work progresses, and the same shall be
applied to no other purpose whatsoever: And provided further, That any
and all lands heretofore reserved to the United States, by any act of
Congress, or in any other manner by competent authority, for the purpose
of aiding in any object of internal improvement, or for any other purpose
whatever, be and the same are hereby reserved to the United States
from the operation of this act, except so far as it may be found necessary
to locate the routes of said railroads through such reserved lands, in
which case the right of way only shall be granted, subject to the approval
of the President of the United States.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That the sections and parts of sec-
tions of land which, by such grant, shall remain to the United States
within six miles on each side of said roads, shall not be sold for less than
double the minimum price of the public lands when sold; nor shall any
of said lands become subject to private entry until the same have been
first offered at public sale at the increased price.

SEC. 3. And be it further enacted, That the said lands hereby granted
to the said State shall be subject to the disposal of the legislature thereof,
for the purposes aforesaid, and no other; and the said railroads shall be
and remain public highways for the use of the Government of the United
States, free from toll or other charge upon the transportation of any
property or troops of the United States.

SEC. 4. And be it further enacted, That the lands hereby granted to
said State shall be disposed of by said State only in manner following:
that is to say, that a quantity of land not exceeding one hundred and
twenty sections for each of said roads, and included within a continuous
length of twenty miles of each of said roads, may be sold; and when the
governor of said State shall certify to the Secretary of the Interior that
any twenty continuous miles of any of said roads is completed, then
another quantity of land hereby granted, not to exceed one hundred and
twenty sections for each of said roads having twenty continuous miles
completed as aforesaid, and included within a continuous length of twenty
miles of each of such roads, may be sold, and so from time to time until
said roads are completed; and if any of said roads are not completed
within ten years, no further sale shall be made, and the lands unsold shall
revert to the United States.

SEC. 5. And be it further enacted, That the United States mail shall
be transported over said roads, under the direction of the Post-Office
Department, at such price as Congress may by law direct: Provided,
That until such price is fixed by law, the Postmaster-General shall have
the power to determine the same.

Approved, May 15, 1856.