

Provided, That to any postmaster of a distributing office at which the commissions, allowances, and emoluments, since the thirty-first day of March, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three, have been insufficient to defray actual and necessary expenses, and afford the postmaster the annual compensation derived from commissions at the office before said thirty-first of March, the Postmaster-General may, in his discretion, allow quarterly, from the date aforesaid, out of the postages collected at any such office, an amount sufficient to supply such deficiency: *Provided further*, That to any postmaster of a separating office whose commissions, allowances and emoluments may be found insufficient to provide the extra labor necessary to a prompt and efficient performance of the duties of separating and despatching the mails passing through his office, the Postmaster-General may make such quarterly allowance, out of the postages collected at such office, as he may deem sufficient to compensate such extra labor: *Provided further*, That the commissions and allowances authorized by this act shall be subject to the provisions of the forty-first section of the act entitled "An act to reduce into one the several acts establishing and regulating the Post-Office Department;" *And provided further*, That the Postmaster-General may, in his discretion, dispose of any quarterly returns of mails sent or received, which were made up previous to the first day of July, eighteen hundred and fifty, preserving the accounts current, and all vouchers accompanying such accounts, and use such portion of the proceeds thereof as may be necessary to defray the cost of separating and disposing of the same. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after the commencement of the next fiscal quarter after its passage.

Proviso.

Further proviso.

Provided further.

1825, ch. 64.

Provided further.

APPROVED, June 22, 1854.

CHAP. LXII. — *An Act to authorize the Selection of School Districts in lieu of the Sixteenth Sections within the Twelve Miles Square Reservation, State of Alabama.*

June 22, 1854.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the school commissioners of township six south, range one east, townships five and six south, range two east, and townships five and six south, range three east, Huntsville District, Alabama, be, and the same are hereby, authorized to select, respectively, by legal subdivisions, from any of the surveyed public lands, the quantity as near as may be, contained in the sixteenth sections of said townships, within the Twelve Miles Square Reservation; which selections, upon being approved by the Secretary of the Interior, shall be holden by the same tenure, and upon the same terms, for the support of schools in such townships, as the sections numbered sixteen, within the said reservation would have been, had not treaty stipulation made other disposition thereof.

School Commissioners of certain townships in Huntsville district authorized to select school districts in Twelve Miles Square Reservation.

1845, ch. 25.
How held.

APPROVED, June 22, 1854.

CHAP. LXVIII. — *An Act confirming certain Land Claims in Louisiana, in the Bastrop Grant.*

June 29, 1854.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That such of the claims entered in the report dated thirtieth of July, eighteen hundred and fifty-two, of the register and receiver at Monroe, Louisiana, as in their opinion ought to be confirmed, according to the principles recognized in the act of Congress of the third March, eighteen hundred and forty-one, pursuant to which the said report was made, be, and the same are hereby, confirmed for the extent and under the limitations referred to in the opinions of the said officers.

The confirmation of such land claims as in the opinion of the register and receiver at Monroe ought to be confirmed.

Act of March 3, 1841, ch. 26.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the confirmation by this act

How far the confirmation extends.

When patent to be issued. Proviso.

shall only operate as a relinquishment on the part of the United States, and shall not affect the right of adverse claimants to the same lands, nor prevent a judicial decision in regard to the same; and upon the rendition to the General Land-Office of a proper plat of survey, duly approved by the Surveyor-General, for any confirmation by this act, the Commissioner shall cause a patent to be issued, if satisfied that the same is confirmed and surveyed according to the true intent of this act: *Provided*, That if in any case a claim confirmed by this act was not actually located prior to the third of March, eighteen hundred and fifty-one, no location of the same shall be made to the prejudice of any actual settler, but such floating claim may be located on any public lands in the Ouachita District, to which there may be no existing preëmption or other valid claim, under such regulations as may be prescribed by the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

APPROVED, June 29, 1854.

June 29, 1854. CHAP. LXIX. — *An Act to Reimburse to the Common Council of New York City, Expenditures made for the First Regiment of New York Volunteers.*

Expenditures made by city of New York for first regiment of New York volunteers to be paid. Act of June 2, 1848, ch. 60.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War, in the settlement and adjustment (under the act of Congress of June second, eighteen hundred and forty-eight,) of the claims of the Common Council of New York, for expenditures made in organizing, transporting, clothing, and subsisting the first regiment of New York Volunteers, commanded by Colonel Ward B. Burnett, prior to the mustering of said regiment into the service of the United States, shall be authorized and required to allow such of those claims as may be supported by satisfactory vouchers, showing that such expenditure had been fairly made, and was necessary and proper for the service, notwithstanding that such vouchers may be informal and defective for want of particularity: *Provided*, That the amount allowed shall not exceed three thousand six hundred and seventy-two dollars and ninety cents.

Proviso.

APPROVED, June 29, 1854.

June 29, 1854. CHAP. LXX. — *An Act to authorize the Issue of Registers to Vessels owned by the "Accessory Transit Company."*

Registers to be issued by Secretary of the Treasury for steamboats and vessels passing over a certain route.

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 to cause registers to be issued in the name of the President of the "Accessory Transit Company," incorporated under a charter from the State of Nicaragua, for the steamboats or vessels owned by said company, and employed in the transportation of merchandise and passengers between the Atlantic and Pacific ports of the United States, through or over the territory of the State aforesaid: *Provided*, That before the granting of a register for any steamboat or vessel owned by said company, to be employed as aforesaid, the president of said company shall swear or affirm that the said steamboat or vessel is owned by said company; that all the officers, and at least two-thirds of the crew, are citizens of the United States, or persons not the subjects of any foreign prince or State; that all the officers, and directors of said company are citizens of the United States, and that two thirds of the stock of said company is owned by citizens of the United States; which oath or affirmation shall be deemed sufficient, without requiring the oath or affirmation of any other person interested or concerned in said steamboat or vessel: *And provided further*, That a register issued under this act shall continue in force one year and no longer, unless the president of the company aforesaid shall, within one

Proviso.

Oath to be made by president before register is granted.

Further proviso. How long register continues in force.