

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That the provision in the act of July twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and fifty-four, entitled "An act to increase the salaries of executive and judiciary officers in Oregon, New Mexico, Washington, Utah, and Minnesota," which declares that the salary of the governor of New Mexico be, and the same is hereby, increased to the sum of three thousand dollars, shall be construed by the accounting officers of the treasury to be the full salary of that officer as governor and as superintendent of Indian affairs.

Salary of
governor of New
Mexico.
1854, ch. 107.
Vol. x. p. 311.

APPROVED, May 15, 1856.

CHAP. XXX.— *An Act to provide for at least two Election Precincts in each Ward in the City of Washington, and for other Purposes.*

May 16, 1856.

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 city corporation to provide at least two election precincts in each ward, to appoint commissioners to superintend elections in the same, and to adopt such other regulations as may be necessary to give full force and effect to this section.

Election præ-
cincts in Wash-
ington.

SEC. 2. And whereas, native-born citizens, resident of the city of Washington, who arrive at the age of twenty-one years between the thirtieth day of December next preceding the election and the day of election are not allowed to vote at such election —

Votes of
naturalized
citizens.

Be it further enacted, That no person, being naturalized between said day of December and the day of the succeeding election, shall be entitled to vote at such next succeeding election.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That at all elections to be held in the city of Washington for municipal officers, the polls shall be opened at seven o'clock A. M. and closed at seven o'clock P. M.; and that all acts, and parts of acts, inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed.

Polls, when to
be opened and
closed.

APPROVED, May 16, 1856.

CHAP. XXXI.— *An Act granting Public Lands, in alternate Sections, to the States of Florida and Alabama, to aid in the Construction of certain Railroads in said States.*

May 17, 1856.

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 Florida, for the purpose of aiding in the construction of railroads from St. John's River, at Jacksonville, to the waters of Escambia Bay, at or near Pensacola; and from Amelia Island, on the Atlantic, to the waters of Tampa Bay, with a branch to Cedar Key, on the Gulf of Mexico; and also a railroad from Pensacola to the State line of Alabama, in the direction of Montgomery, every alternate section of land designated by odd numbers, for six sections in width on each side of each of said roads and branch. But in case it shall appear that the United States have, when the lines or routes of said roads and branch are definitely fixed, sold any sections, or any parts thereof, granted as aforesaid, or that the right of preëmption 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 of 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 otherwise appropriated, or to which the rights of preëmption have attached as aforesaid; which lands (thus selected in lieu of those sold and to which preëmption 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 Florida for the use and purpose aforesaid: *Provided,* That the land to be so

Grant of lands
to Florida for
railroads.

Grant in lieu
of sold or pre-
empted sections.

located shall in no case be further than fifteen miles from the lines of said roads and branch, and selected for and on account of each of said roads and branch: *Provided further*, That the lands hereby granted for and on account of said roads and branch, severally, shall be exclusively applied in the construction of that road or branch 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 whatsoever, 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 or branch 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.

Grant, how applied.

Act not to apply to reservations except as to right of way.

Price of alternate sections to be doubled.

Object of grant.

Railway to be a public highway for government.

Lands, how disposed of.

Transportation of mail.

Similar grant to Alabama.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the sections and parts of sections of land which, by such grant, shall remain to the United States within six miles on each side of said roads and branch, 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 and branch 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 branch, and included within a continuous length of twenty miles of each of said roads and branch, 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 or either of said roads or branch, is completed, then another quantity of land hereby granted, not to exceed one hundred and twenty sections for each of said roads or branch having twenty continuous miles completed as aforesaid, and included within a continuous length of twenty miles of each of such roads or branch, may be sold; and so, from time to time, until said roads and branch are completed; and if any or either of said roads or branch is not completed within ten years, no further sales 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 and branch, 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.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That a similar grant of alternate sections of public land is hereby made to the State of Alabama, to aid in the construction of a railroad from Montgomery, in said State, to the boundary line between Florida and Alabama, in the direction of Pensacola, and to connect with the road from Pensacola to said line, upon the same terms and conditions in all respects as are hereinbefore prescribed for the grant to Florida.

APPROVED, May 17, 1856.