

years, no further sales shall be made, and the land 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.

Transportation of mails.

APPROVED, June 3, 1856.

CHAP. XLIV.—*An Act making a Grant of alternate Sections of the Public Lands, to the State of Michigan, to aid in the Construction of certain Railroads in said State, and for other Purposes.*

June 3, 1856.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there be and hereby is granted to the State of Michigan, to aid in the construction of railroads from Little Bay de Noquet to Marquette, and thence to Ontonagon, and from the two last named places to the Wisconsin State line; and also from Amboy, by Hillsdale and Lansing, and from Grand Rapids to some point on or near Traverse Bay; also from Grand Haven and Pere Marquette to Flint, and thence to Port Huron, 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 section or any part 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 right of preëmption has 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 Michigan for the use and purpose aforesaid: *Provided*, That the lands to be 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: *Provided further*, That the lands hereby granted 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 whatsoever, be and the same are hereby reserved to the United States from the operations 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.

Grant of land to Michigan for railroads.

Grant in lieu of sections sold or preëmpted.

Land how applied.

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

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 each 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.

Price of alternate sections doubled.

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,

Object of grant.

Railroads to be a public highway for government.

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.

Lands how disposed of.

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 is not completed within ten years no further sales shall be made, and the lands unsold shall revert to the United States.

Transportation of mails.

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, June 3, 1856.

June 14, 1856.

CHAP. XLV.—*An Act to change the Place of holding the Courts of the United States in the District of Delaware.*

Courts and court offices in Delaware.

1834, ch. 16.
1852, ch. 33.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the courts of the United States in and for the district of Delaware shall hereafter be held at the city of Wilmington, in the said district, and the offices of the clerks of the circuit and district court for said district, and the records of said courts shall be kept in the said city of Wilmington.

Serving of process, and proceedings pending.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That no process issued or proceedings pending in either of the said courts, shall be avoided or impaired by this change of the place of holding the said courts; but all process, bailbonds, or recognizances returnable at the next term of either of the said courts, shall be returnable and returned to the term of said courts respectively, next held according to this act, in the same manner as if so made returnable on the face thereof, and shall have full effect accordingly; and all continuances may be made to conform to the provisions of this act.

APPROVED, June 14, 1856.

June 26, 1856.

CHAP. XLVII.—*An Act to revive and continue in force the Provisions of the Act of 1853, in Relation to "Suspended Entries of Public Lands," and the Act of 1846, in Relation to "Suspended Preemption Land Claims."*

1853, ch. 152.
Vol. x. p. 258.
1846, ch. 78.
Vol. ix. p. 51.

Act of 1853, ch. 152, respecting suspended preemption land claims, and act of 1846, ch. 78, respecting suspended entries revived and continued.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the several provisions of the act approved March third, eighteen hundred and fifty-three, in relation to "suspended entries of public lands," and the several provisions of the act approved August third, eighteen hundred and forty-six, in relation to "suspended preemption land claims," be and the same are hereby revived and continued in force, and those provisions are hereby declared to be applicable to all cases of suspended entries and locations which have arisen since said acts were passed, or which were omitted to be acted upon under either of said acts, as well as to all cases of a similar kind which may hereafter occur, and shall be regarded as applying to locations under bounty land warrants as well as to ordinary entries or