THIRTY-EIGHTH CONGRESS. Sess. I. Ch. 152, 153. 1864.

CHAP. CLII. — An Act to amend the Act of the twenty-first December, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, entitled “An Act to further promote the Efficiency of the Navy.”

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the first section of the act of the twenty-first of December, anno Domini eighteen hundred and sixty-one, entitled “An act to further promote the efficiency of the navy,” shall not be so construed as to retire any officer under the age of sixty-two years, and whose name shall not have been borne upon the navy register for a period of forty-five years after he had arrived at the age of sixteen years.

Approved, June 25, 1864.

CHAP. CLIII. — An Act granting Lands to the State of Wisconsin to build a Military Road to Lake Superior.

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 Wisconsin, to aid in the construction of a military wagon-road from Wausaw, Marathon County, Wisconsin, following the Wisconsin River as far as Skonowang, and from thence, on the most feasible and direct route, to a point on the state line between the States of Wisconsin and Michigan, in a direction leading to Ontonagon, on Lake Superior, every alternate section of public land, not mineral, designated by odd numbers, for three sections in width on each side of said road. But in case it shall appear that the United States have, when the line or route of said road is definitely fixed, sold, reserved, or otherwise disposed of any section, or any part thereof, granted as aforesaid, or that the right of preemption or homestead settlement has attached to the same, then it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Interior to set apart from the public lands of the United States, as hereinbefore described, designated by odd numbers, as near to said even section aforesaid as may be, and the same shall be located within six miles of said road, so much land as shall be equal to such lands as the United States have sold or otherwise appropriated, or to which the right of preemption or homestead settlement has attached; which lands, (thus selected in lieu of those sold, reserved, or otherwise appropriated, and to which the right of preemption or homestead settlement has attached as aforesaid) together with the sections and parts of sections designated by odd numbers as aforesaid, and approved as aforesaid, shall be held by the State of Wisconsin for the use and purpose aforesaid. Provided, 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 whatever: Provided, further, That any and all lands heretofore reserved to the United States, or granted 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 and excluded from the operation of this act, except so far as it may be found necessary to locate the route of said road through such reserved lands, in which case the right of way only shall be granted. Sec. 2. 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 road shall be, and remain, a public highway for the use of the government of the United States, free from tolls or other charge upon the transportation of any property, troops, or mails of the United States. Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That the lands hereby granted to said state shall be disposed of only in the following manner — that is to say, when the said governor shall certify to the Secretary of the Interior that

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any ten consecutive miles of said road has been completed under the provisions of this act, and in accordance with the fourth section of this act, stating definitely where said completed section of road commences and where it terminates, it shall be the duty of the said secretary to cause patents to issue to said state for three sections of land for each mile of road thus completed as aforesaid, and so on until the whole of said road is completed: Provided, further, That no patent shall be given for any of the aforesaid lands before the completion of ten consecutive miles of road, or for any road, or for any part of any road, made before the passage of this act, or for any greater quantity than thirty sections for each ten miles completed according to the provisions of this act; and if said road is not completed within five years, no further sales shall be made, and the lands unsold shall revert to the United States.

SEC. 4. And be it further enacted, That said military road shall be constructed under the direction of such agents or commissioners as the governor of said state may appoint, and where it passes through timbered lands shall be chopped out a uniform width of at least six rods. The road-bed proper to be not less than thirty-two feet wide, and constructed with ample ditches on both sides, so as to afford sufficient drains, with good and substantial bridges and proper culverts and sluices where necessary. All stumps and roots to be thoroughly grubbed out between the ditches the entire length of said road; the central portion of which to be sufficiently raised to afford a dry road-bed by means of drainage from the centre to the side ditches; the hills to be levelled and valleys raised so as to make as easy a grade as practicable.

APPROVED, June 25, 1864.

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1864, ch. 153, 154, 155, 1864.


Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in all cases under the act of congress approved September twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and fifty, entitled "An act to create the office of surveyor-general of the public lands in Oregon, and to provide for the survey, and to make donations to settlers of the said public lands," and the several acts amendatory and supplemental thereto, in which the actual settlement may be shown to be bona fide, and the claim in all respects to be fully within the requirements of existing laws, except as to the failure of the party to file notice within the time fixed by statute, such failure shall not work forfeiture when no adverse rights intervene before the filing of the required notification by the claimant.

APPROVED, June 25, 1864.

June 25, 1864.

CHAP. CLV. — An Act to expedite and regulate the Printing of Public Documents, and for other Purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That hereafter, instead of furnishing manuscript copies of the documents usually accompanying their annual reports to each house of congress, the heads of the several departments of government shall transmit them, on or before the first day of November in each year, to the superintendent of public printing, who shall cause to be printed the usual number, and, in addition thereto, one thousand copies for the use of the Senate and two thousand copies for the use of the House of Representatives; and that it shall be the duty of the joint committee on printing to appoint some competent person, who shall edit and select such portions of the documents so placed in their