

upon their offices when, &c.

security, taken the required oath, received his commission, and reported at the office of the Secretary of the Treasury for duty, unless the said Secretary shall in any particular case direct otherwise.

Lands held in severalty and sold for taxes may be redeemed by any owner, if, &c.

SEC. 15. *And be it further enacted*, That where lands or tenements have been, or shall hereafter be, sold under the provisions of the several acts of congress relating to the sale of lands for direct taxes in insurrectionary districts, in tracts which, at the time of sale, were held by two or more freehold owners, in severalty, any one of these owners, being otherwise entitled to redeem, shall be allowed to redeem for the piece or parcel of land held by him as a freehold owner, as aforesaid, on paying his proportionable part of the tax, penalty, costs, expenses, and interest — the said proportionable part to be ascertained by the said commissioners. And it shall be optional with the purchaser either to retain the residue of the tract purchased, after a redemption of a part, or to surrender his certificate of purchase to the commissioners, and receive back from them the amount of the purchase-money paid, with interest: and in case he shall elect to retain the piece or parcel unredeemed, he shall surrender his certificate for the whole tract purchased, and the said board shall issue a new certificate for the piece or certificate for the piece or parcel of land retained.

Option of purchaser in such cases.

APPROVED, March 3, 1865.

March 3, 1865.
1862, ch. 120.
Vol. xii. p. 439.
1864, ch. 216.
Ante, p. 356.

CHAP. LXXXVIII. — *An Act to amend an Act entitled "An Act to aid in the Construction of a Railroad and Telegraph Line from the Missouri River to the Pacific Ocean, and to secure to the Government the Use of the same for postal, military, and other Purposes," approved July first, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and to amend an Act amendatory thereof, approved July second, eighteen hundred and sixty-four.*

Certain railroads may issue bonds on their separate roads.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section ten of said act of July second, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, be so modified and amended as to allow the Central Pacific Railroad Company, and the Western Pacific Railroad Company, of California, the Union Pacific Railroad Company, the Union Pacific Railroad Company, eastern division, and all other companies provided for in the said act of the second of July, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, to issue their six per centum thirty years' bonds, interest payable in any lawful money of the United States, upon their separate roads. And the said companies are hereby authorized to issue, respectively, their bonds to the extent of one hundred miles in advance of a continuous completed line of construction.

Authority to issue.

Assignment by Central Pacific R. R. Co. to Western Pacific R. R. Co. ratified.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the assignment made by the Central Pacific Railroad Company of California to the Western Pacific Railroad Company of said state, of the right to construct all that portion of said railroad and telegraph from the city of San José to the city of Sacramento is hereby ratified and confirmed to the said Western Pacific Railroad Company, with all the privileges and benefits of the several acts of congress relating thereto, and subject to all the conditions thereof: *Provided*, That the time within which the said Western Pacific Railroad Company shall be required to construct the first twenty miles of their said road, shall be one year from the first day of July, eighteen hundred and sixty-five, and that the entire road shall be completed from San José to Sacramento, connecting at the latter point with the said Central Pacific Railroad, within four years thereafter.

APPROVED, March 3, 1865.

First twenty miles of road, when to be completed.

March 3, 1865.

CHAP. LXXXIX. — *An Act relating to the postal Laws.*

Unpaid domestic letters, except, &c., to be sent to dead-letter office.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That all domestic letters, except letters lawfully franked, and duly certified letters of soldiers and mariners in the service of the United States, which are deposited for mailing in any post-office of the United States, on which the postage is