CHAP. XVII. — An Act in Relation to Islands in the Great Miami River.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in the case of such islands in the Great Miami river, in the State of Ohio, as are undisposed of, or any vacant public lands adjacent thereto, which are in the actual and exclusive occupancy of any persons who have made improvements thereon, or of their heirs or assigns, such occupants thereof shall have the preference right to enter the same at two dollars and fifty cents per acre, on making proof of the facts to the satisfaction of the commissioner of the general land office, and paying for the land within twelve months from the passage of this act, and patents shall issue for the tracts so entered as usual in entries of public lands.

Approved, March 2, 1868.

CHAP. XIX. — An Act authorizing the Sale of an unoccupied military Site at Waterford, Pennsylvania.

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 in his discretion to sell to the highest and best bidder the military site of three acres of land at Waterford, Erie county, Pennsylvania, belonging to the United States, and pay the proceeds into the Treasury of the United States.

Approved, March 4, 1868.

CHAP. XX. — An Act restoring Lands to Market along the Line of the Pacific Railroads and Branches.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That nothing in the act approved July first, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, 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," and the acts amendatory thereof, shall be held to authorize the withdrawal or exclusion from settlement and entry, under the provisions of the pre-emption or homestead laws, the even-numbered sections along the routes of the several roads therein mentioned which have been or may be hereafter located; Provided, That such sections shall be rated at two dollars and fifty cents per acre, and subject only to entry under those laws; and the Secretary of the Interior be, and is hereby, authorized and directed to restore to and homestead settlement, pre-emption, or entry, according to existing laws, rights all the even-numbered sections of land belonging to the government, and now withdrawn from market, on both sides of the Pacific railroad and branches, wherever said road and branches have been definitely located.

Approved, March 6, 1868.

CHAP. XXI. — An Act for the Relief of Settlers on the late Sioux Indian Reservation in the State of Minnesota.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all actual settlers, who have duly filed their declaratory statements under the pre-emption laws with the register of the proper local land office, upon the unsold lands now included within the limits of the late Sioux Indian reservation, in the State of Minnesota, shall be allowed two years from and after the passage of this act within which to make proof and payment for their claims, in accordance with the provisions of the second and third sections of the act approved March third, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, providing for the disposal of said reservation.

Approved, March 6, 1868.