Right not to apply in certain cases.

Provided, That this act shall not apply where there is a valid written agreement subsisting, by virtue of which such captain would be entitled to possession, nor in any case where a captain has possession as part owner, obtained before the passage of this act.

Approved, April 9, 1872.

May 9, 1872.

CHAP. XCVI. — An Act granting the Right of Way through the public Lands for the Construction of a Railroad from Great Salt Lake to Portland, Oregon.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That for the purpose of aiding in the construction of a railroad and telegraph line from Portland, in the State of Oregon, by the way of Dalles city, to some suitable point on the Union Pacific or Central Pacific railroad in the vicinity of Salt Lake, not further west than Green river, with a branch from a suitable point west of the Blue mountains to a suitable point in Walla-Walla valley, there are hereby granted to the Portland, Dalles, and Salt Lake Railroad Company, organized under articles of incorporation filed in the office of the secretary of state of Oregon on the twenty-fifth day of March, anno Domini eighteen hundred and seventy-one, and to their successors and assigns, a strip of land one hundred feet wide on each side of the centre line of said road, and the necessary lands for depots, stations, side-tracks, and other needful uses in operating said road and telegraph, not exceeding forty acres at any one place: Provided, That the locations for depots, stations, and side-tracks shall not exceed for the whole line of said road more than one location of forty acres for every ten miles of the same, and when made upon surveyed lands shall conform to the government surveys thereof.

Sec. 2. That said company shall, within six months after the location of any section of twenty miles or more of their said road, if the same be upon surveyed land, and if upon unsurveyed land, then within six months after the survey thereof by the United States, file a plat of such located section, together with proof thereof, with the register of the land office for the district wherein said located section may be situated, and upon approval thereof the same shall be noted upon the township plats in said office, and thereafter all lands over which the said line of road shall pass shall be sold, located, or disposed of by the United States, subject to such right of way so located as aforesaid: Provided, That the line of said road shall be located within three years after the passage of this act: And provided further, That said road shall be completed within ten years thereafter.

Approved, April 12, 1872.

April 13, 1872.

CHAP. XCIX. — An Act to change the Time for holding the Spring Term of the United States Circuit and District courts at Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That instead of the time now provided for in the act approved February first, eighteen hundred and