Messilla land-district, the office of which shall be located at such place in said district as the President of the United States may direct, which may be changed from time to time as the public interest may require.

SEC. 2. That the President shall appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, a register and receiver of public moneys for said district, and said officers shall reside in the place where said land-office is located, and they shall have the same powers, perform the same duties, and receive the same emoluments as are or may be prescribed by law in relation to land offices of the United States in other Territories

Approved, March 3, 1874.

CHAP. 44.—An act authorizing the chief clerk of the War Department to sign requisitions on the Treasury during the temporary absence of the Secretary of War.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, Than when, from illness or other cause, the Secretary of War is temporarily absent from the War Department, he may authorize the chief clerk of the Department to sign requisitions upon the Treasury Department, and other papers requiring the signature of said Secretary; the same, when signed by the chief clerk during such temporary absence, to be of the same force and effect as if signed by the Secretary of War himself.

Approved, March 4, 1874.

CHAP. 45.—An act to render available a certain unexpended balance of appropriation.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the unexpended balance of the appropriation for the construction of the United States branch-mint building at San Francisco, California, now remaining on the books of the Treasury Department to the credit of the appropriation for that work, and unavailable under the provisions of the fifth, sixth, and seventh sections of the act of July twelfth, eighteen hundred and seventy, is hereby re-appropriated and made available from and after the passage of this act.

Approved, March 4, 1874.

CHAP. 46.—An act to amend the fifteenth section of an act approved June eighth, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, entitled "An act to revise, consolidate, and amend the statutes relating to the Post-Office Department."

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That section fifteen of the act approved June eighth, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, be amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 15. That before entering upon the duties, and before they shall receive any salary, the Postmaster General, and all persons employed in the postal service, shall respectively take and subscribe before some magistrate or other competent officer authorized to administer oaths by the laws of the United States, or of any State or Territory, the following oath or affirmation:

"I, A. B. do solemnly swear (or affirm, as the case may be,) that I will faithfully perform all the duties required of me and abstain from everything forbidden by the laws in relation to the establishment of post-offices and post-roads within the United States; and that I will honestly and truly account for and pay over any money belonging to