

Iredale, said vessel being now owned by a citizen of San Francisco, California.

Approved, June 9, 1880.

CHAP. 169.—An act to grant to the corporate authorities of the city of Council Bluffs, in the State of Iowa, for public uses, a certain lake or bayou situated near said city.

June 9, 1880.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there shall be, and is hereby, conveyed to the corporate authorities of the city of Council Bluffs, in the State of Iowa, and their successors in office, the title of the United States to the meandered lake, situated in sections eleven, thirteen, fourteen, fifteen, twenty-two, and twenty-three, in township seventy-five north, range forty-four west of the fifth principal meridian of Iowa, upon the express conditions that the premises shall be held for public use, resort, and recreation; shall be inalienable for all time; but leases not exceeding ten years may be granted for portions of said premises, all incomes derived from leases of privileges to be expended in the preservation and improvement of the property, or the roads leading thereto; the premises to be managed by the said corporate authorities, or such commissioners as they may elect, and who shall receive no compensation for their services.

Title to lake or bayou granted to city of Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Approved, June 9, 1880.

CHAP. 170.—An act to authorize a compromise of the claims of the United States under the will of Joseph L. Lewis.

June 9, 1880.

Whereas, Joseph L. Lewis, deceased, formerly of the city of Hoboken, State of New Jersey, by his will dated first October, eighteen hundred and seventy-three, and a codicil thereto, dated fifth June, eighteen hundred and seventy-five, bequeathed certain legacies, amounting in all to about forty thousand dollars, and devised and bequeathed the residue of his estate, real and personal, now estimated to be of the value of one million of dollars and upwards, unto his executors therein named, in trust, to apply the same according to their discretion in reducing part of the national debt of the United States, they personally superintending such application in order to prevent waste by dishonest officials; and

Preamble.
Joseph L. Lewis, deceased.

Whereas the said will and codicil are now the subject of contestation in the courts of the State of New Jersey by Frances Grace and Catharine G. Ward claiming as the surviving sisters and John S. Cathcart as the nephew of Joseph L. Lewis, in which the government of the United States has been and is represented by legal counsel; and it is further claimed that said bequest is void, and that the testator had no power to dispose of his said property by his said will in derogation of a prior deed of trust: Therefore,

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Attorney-General, and Secretary of the Treasury are hereby authorized, if they see fit, to adjust or compromise the claims of the United States under the said devise or bequest upon such terms and conditions as shall be deemed by them fair and reasonable.

Compromise of claims of United States under devise or bequest.

Approved, June 9, 1880.

CHAP. 171.—An act to confirm certain entries and warrant locations in the former Palatka military reservation in Florida.

June 9, 1880.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in all cases in which lands lying within the limits of the former Palatka military reservation in Florida have been entered by settlers under the homestead laws, and

Confirmation of titles to lands.
Palatka military reservation, Florida.

1850, ch. 84,
Stat., 9, 519.
1857, ch. 117,
Stat., 11, 251.

their entries are found to conflict with selections by the State of Florida under the grant of swamp lands by act of Congress of September twenty-eighth, eighteen hundred and fifty, which are confirmed by the act of March third, eighteen hundred and fifty-seven, and in which said settlers have in good faith complied with the requirements of the homestead laws, their entries be, and the same are hereby, confirmed, on the State filing with the Commissioner of the General Land Office its relinquishment of all claim thereto; and the State shall thereupon be entitled to select in lieu thereof an equal quantity of land from any of the vacant and unappropriated public lands of the United States in Florida, and patents shall be issued to the State for the lands so selected in lieu of the tracts taken by the settlers.

SEC. 2. That in all cases in which lands lying within said reservation have been entered at private entry or located by military land-warrants, and which conflict with said selections, the same are also hereby confirmed on the State relinquishing all claim thereto, and the State shall thereupon be entitled to indemnity in the same manner as indicated in the first section of this act.

Approved, June 9, 1880.

June 10, 1880.

CHAP. 186.—An act authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to introduce cotton cordage into the naval service of the United States.

Cotton cordage,
U. S. Navy.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Navy be authorized and directed to introduce into the naval service rope and cordage manufactured of cotton according to the recent methods to such an extent as will furnish a fair test of the value and efficiency thereof as compared with the kinds now in use: *Provided however,* That no person shall have any claim whatever against the United States or any department thereof or receive any compensation therefor.

Proviso.

Approved, June 10, 1880.

June 10, 1880.

CHAP. 187.—An act abolishing the military reservations of Fort Abercrombie, Fort Seward, and Fort Ransom, all in the Territory of Dakota, and authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to have the lands embraced therein surveyed and made subject to homestead and pre-emption entry and sale, the same as other public lands.

Abolishing military reservations.
Fort Abercrombie, Fort Seward, and Fort Ransom, Dakota.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the military reservations of Fort Abercrombie, Fort Seward, and Fort Ransom, all in the Territory of Dakota, be, and the same are hereby, abolished, and the Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized to have the lands embraced therein surveyed and made subject to homestead and pre-emption entry and sale, the same as other public lands: *Provided,* The rights of all actual settlers, entitled to the benefits of the homestead and pre-emption laws of the United States, who now occupy in good faith any portion of the land embraced within any of said reservations, shall date from the day of their actual settlement thereon; and in perfecting their titles thereto under the homestead or pre-emption laws, the time such settlers have occupied and improved their said lands shall be allowed: *Provided further,* That when the lands embraced in said reservations, shall be surveyed, the claims of all such actual settlers shall be made to conform to the lines of the government survey.

Proviso.

Proviso.

Approved, June 10, 1880.

June 10, 1880.

CHAP. 188.—An act to change the name of the schooner "J. H. Dusenberry.

Name of schooner
"J. H. Dusenberry"
changed.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the name of the schooner "J. H. Dusenberry" be changed to that of the "Cordorus".

Approved, June 10, 1880.