CHAP. 9.—An act to amend sections twenty-three hundred and twenty-four and twenty-three hundred and twenty-five of the Revised Statutes of the United States concerning mineral lands.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section twenty-three hundred and twenty-five of the Revised Statutes of the United States be amended by adding thereto the following words: “Provided, That where the claimant for a patent is not a resident of or within the land district wherein the vein, lode, ledge, or deposit sought to be patented is located, the application for patent and the affidavits required to be made in this section by the claimant for such patent may be made by his, her, or its authorized agent, where said agent is conversant with the facts sought to be established by said affidavits: And provided, That this section shall apply to all applications now pending for patents to mineral lands.”

SEC. 2. That section twenty-three hundred and twenty-four of the Revised Statutes of the United States be amended by adding the following words: “Provided, That the period within which the work required to be done annually on all unpatented mineral claims shall commence on the first day of January succeeding the date of location of such claim, and this section shall apply to all claims located since the tenth day of May, anno Domini eighteen hundred and seventy-two.”

Approved, January 22, 1880.

CHAP. 10.—An act directing the removal of obstructions from the harbor at the Delaware Breakwater.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, directed to cause to be removed from the harbor at the Delaware Breakwater and the entrance thereto and in the main ship channel of the Delaware Bay and River several vessels which were sunk in the year eighteen hundred and seventy-seven, and now forming obstructions endangering the safety of vessels entering said harbor after reasonable notice to the owners of such vessels to remove the same, and the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated for that purpose, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Approved, January 23, 1880.

CHAP. 12.—An act granting a right of way across Water Shops Pond in Springfield, Massachusetts, to the Springfield and New London Railroad Company.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the right of way by means of a bridge over and across the Water Shops Pond, so-called, belonging to the United States, in Springfield, Massachusetts, is hereby granted to the Springfield and New London Railroad Company, for railroad purposes; the same to be used and enjoyed by said company at the same point and in the same location and extent that a way is now used by said company by means of the bridge heretofore constructed with the approval of the Secretary of War: Provided, That whenever said right of way shall cease to be used for the purposes aforesaid the same shall revert to the United States: And provided further, That the right to repeal, alter, or amend this act is reserved to Congress.

Approved, January 24, 1880.