CHAP. 123.—An act for construction of a revenue cutter for Charleston, South Carolina, in maintenance of the service, to replace the United States revenue cutter McCulloch.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the sum of seventy-five thousand dollars, if so much be necessary, be, and the same is hereby, appropriated, out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of building a new revenue cutter to be stationed at Charleston, South Carolina, for service on the South Atlantic coast, in the place of the United States revenue cutter McCulloch, now in so dilapidated a condition as to be unequal to the requirement of the service.

Approved, April 19, 1888.

CHAP. 124.—An act to purchase of the widow and children of the late General James Shields certain swords.

Whereas, the State of Illinois and the State of South Carolina, after the war with Mexico, each presented to the late General James Shields a sword, in consideration of gallant and meritorious services rendered by him in said war; and

Whereas he has left surviving him a widow and three minor children, with but limited means of support, and said swords, though costly and valuable, can not be divided and apportioned between said children, and their value is needed for the education and support of said children: Therefore,

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, authorized and directed to purchase of said widow and children said swords, at their actual cost, not to exceed the sum of ten thousand dollars, to be paid for out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, and when so purchased the same to be deposited with the other military archives of the nation, in some public place at the National Museum.

Approved, April 19, 1888.

CHAP. 125.—An act for the erection of a public building at Birmingham, Alabama.

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 and directed to purchase, acquire by condemnation or otherwise provide a site, and cause to be erected thereon, a substantial and commodious building, with fire-proof vaults, for the use and accommodation of the United States courts and post-office, and for other Government uses, at Birmingham, State of Alabama. The site and building thereon, when completed upon plans and specifications to be previously made and approved by the Secretary of the Treasury, shall not exceed in cost the sum of three hundred thousand dollars; nor shall any site be purchased until estimates for the erection of a building which will furnish sufficient accommodations for the transaction of the public business, and which shall not exceed in cost the balance of the sum herein limited after the site shall have been purchased and paid for, shall have been approved by the Secretary of the Treasury; and no purchase of site, nor plans for said building, shall be approved by the Secretary of the Treasury, involving an expenditure exceeding the said sum of three hundred thousand dollars for site and building; and the site purchased shall leave the building unexposed to danger from fire by an
open space of at least forty feet, including streets and alleys: Provided, That no part of said sum shall be expended until a valid title to the said site shall be vested in the United States, nor until the State of Alabama shall cede to the United States exclusive jurisdiction over the same, during the time the United States shall be or remain the owner thereof, for all purposes except the administration of the criminal laws of said State and the service of civil process therein.

Approved, April 19, 1888.

CHAP. 126.—An act to give validity to certain patents for inventions which were irregularly executed.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all patents for inventions signed by David L. Hawkins, Second Assistant Secretary of the Interior, or any other Assistant-Secretary of the Interior, shall have the same force, effect, and validity as though the same had been signed by the Secretary of the Interior in person at the date on which they were respectively executed.

Approved, April 19, 1888.

CHAP. 127.—An act regulating the times for holding the terms of the United States courts in the northern district of Iowa.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That hereafter the terms of the circuit and district courts of the United States in and for the northern district of Iowa shall be held as follows: At Sioux City on the first Tuesdays in October and May; at Fort Dodge on the second Tuesday of November and first Tuesday in June; at Dubuque on the fourth Tuesday of November and first Tuesday in April.

SEC. 2. That all writs, processes, pleas, recognizances, and bonds made or returnable to the terms of said courts as now provided by law shall be considered as taken and returnable to the terms established by this act.

Approved, April 19, 1888.

CHAP. 128.—An act for the erection of a public building at Texarkana, situated on both sides of the line between the States of Arkansas and Texas.

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 and directed to purchase or otherwise provide a site, and cause to be erected thereon a substantial and commodious building, with fire-proof vaults, for the use and accommodation of the United States courts, post-offices, and other Government offices at the city of Texarkana in Arkansas and Texas. The site and building thereon, when completed upon plans and specifications to be previously made and approved by the Secretary of the Treasury, shall not exceed in cost the sum of one hundred thousand dollars; nor shall any site be purchased until estimates for the erection of a building which will furnish sufficient accommodations for the transaction of the public business, and which shall not exceed in cost the balance of the sum herein limited after the site shall have been purchased and paid for, shall have been approved by the Secretary of the Treasury; and no purchase of site, nor plan for said building, shall be approved by the Secretary of the Treasury in—