open space of at least forty feet, including streets and alleys: Pro-
vided, 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 estab-
lished 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 accommoda-
tions 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-