CHAP. 52.—An act for the erection of a public building at Houlton, Maine.

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 hereby is, authorized and directed to purchase or otherwise procure a suitable site, and cause to be erected thereon, at the town of Houlton, in the State of Maine, a substantial and commodious public building, with fire-proof vaults, for the use and accommodation of the United States custom-house and post-office, and for other Government uses. The site, and the building thereon when completed according to plans and specifications to be previously made and approved by the Secretary of the Treasury, shall not exceed the cost of fifty thousand dollars: 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, and the State of Maine 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 any civil process therein, 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 further, That no site shall 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 involving an expenditure exceeding the said sum of fifty thousand dollars for site and building.

Approved, March 27, 1890.