CHAP. 171.—An Act For a public building at the city of Altoona, Pennsylvania.

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 by private sale or secure by condemnation a site for, and to contract for the erection and completion of a suitable building, with fireproof vaults therein, for the accommodation of the United States district and circuit courts, post-office, and other Government offices, at the city of Altoona, in the county of Blair and State of Pennsylvania. The plans, specifications, and full estimate for said building shall be previously made and approved according to law, and shall not exceed, for the site and building, complete, the sum of one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars; nor shall any site be purchased until estimates for the erection of a building which will be 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 or condemned and paid for, shall have been approved by the Secretary of the Treasury: Provided, That the site shall leave the building unexposed to danger from fire in adjacent buildings by an open space of not less than forty feet, including streets and alleys.

Approved, February 21, 1899.

CHAP. 172.—An Act To amend an Act entitled “An Act to amend the statutes in relation to immediate transportation of dutiable goods, and for other purposes,” approved June tenth, anno Domini eighteen hundred and eighty, by extending the privileges of the first section thereof to the subport of Miami, Florida.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the privileges of the first section of the Act approved June tenth, anno Domini eighteen hundred and eighty, entitled “An Act to amend the statutes in relation to immediate transportation of dutiable goods, and for other purposes,” be, and the same are hereby, extended to the subport of Miami, in the State of Florida.

Approved, February 21, 1899.

CHAP. 173.—An Act For the erection of a public building for the use of the custom-house and post-office at Newport News, in the district of Newport News, Virginia.

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 acquire, by purchase, condemnation, or otherwise, a site, and cause to be erected thereon a suitable building, including fireproof vaults, heating and ventilating apparatus, and approaches, for the use and accommodation of the United States custom-house, post-office, and other Government offices, in the city of Newport News and State of Virginia, the cost of said site and building, including said vaults, heating and ventilating apparatus, and approaches, complete, not to exceed the sum of one hundred thousand dollars.

Proposals for the sale of land suitable for said site shall be invited by public advertisement in one or more of the newspapers of said city of largest circulation for at least twenty days prior to the date specified in said advertisement for the opening of said proposals.

Proposals made in response to said advertisement shall be addressed and mailed to the Secretary of the Treasury, who shall then cause the said proposed sites, and such other as he may think proper to designate, to be examined in person by an agent of the Treasury Depart-
ment, who shall make written report to said Secretary of the results of said examination and of his recommendation thereon and the reasons therefor, which shall be accompanied by the original proposals and all maps, plats, and statements which shall have come into his possession relating to the said proposed sites.

If, upon consideration of said report and accompanying papers, the Secretary of the Treasury shall deem further investigation necessary, he may appoint a commission of not more than three persons, one of whom shall be an officer of the Treasury Department, which commission shall also examine the said proposed sites and such others as the Secretary of the Treasury may designate, and grant such hearings in relation thereto as they shall deem necessary; and said commission shall, within thirty days after such examination, make to the Secretary of the Treasury written report of their conclusion in the premises, accompanied by all statements, maps, plats, or documents taken by or submitted to them, in like manner as hereinbefore provided in regard to the proceedings of said agent of the Treasury Department; and the Secretary of the Treasury shall thereupon finally determine the location of the building to be erected.

The compensation of said commissioners shall be fixed by the Secretary of the Treasury, but the same shall not exceed six dollars per day and actual traveling expenses: Provided, however, That the member of said commission appointed from the Treasury Department shall be paid only his actual traveling expenses.

The building shall be unexposed to danger from fire by an open space of at least forty feet on each side, including streets and alleys.

Approved, February 21, 1899.

CHAP. 174.—An Act To amend an Act entitled “An Act authorizing the Aransas Harbor Terminal Railway Company to construct a bridge across the Corpus Christi Channel, known as the Morris and Cummings Ship Channel, in Aransas County, Texas.”

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Act entitled “An Act authorizing the Aransas Harbor Terminal Railway Company to construct a bridge across the Corpus Christi Channel, known as the Morris and Cummings Ship Channel, in Aransas County, Texas,” approved May fourth, eighteen hundred and ninety-six, is hereby reenacted; and section five of the said Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 5. That this Act shall be null and void if actual construction of the bridge herein authorized be not commenced within one year and completed within three years from May fourth, eighteen hundred and ninety-nine.”

Approved, February 21, 1899.

CHAP. 175.—An Act For the establishment of a light-house and fog signal at or near Point Arguello, California.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That there be established at or near Point Arguello, about twelve miles northwest of Point Conception, California, a light-house and fog signal, at a cost not to exceed thirty-five thousand dollars.

Approved, February 21, 1899.