CHAP. 820.—An Act To amend an Act to prohibit the passage of special or local laws in the Territories, to limit the Territorial indebtedness, and so forth.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Act of Congress approved July thirtieth, eighteen hundred and eighty-six, entitled “An Act to prohibit the passage of local or special laws of the Territories of the United States, to limit Territorial indebtedness, and for other purposes,” is hereby amended so as to permit, authorize, and legalize the issuance of bonds by chartered municipal corporations having a bona fide population of not less than ten thousand persons, in any Territory of the United States, for erecting a city building and purchasing the ground for the same. The limitations of said Act of July thirtieth, eighteen hundred and eighty-six, shall not apply to such municipal corporations: Provided, That before any bonds shall be issued the mayor and common council of such municipal corporation shall cause an election to be held in such city or town, and the mayor and common council of such municipal corporation shall cause to be published in a newspaper of general circulation published in said city or town a notice of the time and place or places of holding such election. Such notice shall be given not more than sixty nor less than thirty days before such election. On the question of the issuance of said bonds no person shall be qualified to vote except he be in all respects a qualified elector and owner of real or personal property subject to taxation within the municipality. In case two-thirds of the qualified voters, as above described, shall vote affirmatively for the issuance of said bonds, then the mayor and common council shall issue the same, and not otherwise. Said bonds shall contain all necessary provisions as to form, and such municipality shall provide a proper sinking fund for the redemption of said bonds. Said bonds shall not bear a rate of interest exceeding five per centum, and the interest shall be paid semi-annually, and none of said bonds shall be sold at less than their par value: Provided further, That no city under this Act shall issue bonds in excess of thirty thousand dollars.

Approved, June 6, 1900.

CHAP. 821.—An Act To amend the Act of Congress approved May fourteenth, eighteen hundred and eighty, entitled “An Act for the relief of settlers on the public lands.”

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the third section of the Act of Congress approved May fourteenth, eighteen hundred and eighty, entitled “An Act for the relief of settlers on the public lands,” be amended by adding thereto the following:

"Where an unmarried woman who has heretofore settled, or may hereafter settle, upon a tract of public land, improved, established, and maintained a bona fide residence thereon, with the intention of appropriating the same for a home, subject to the homestead law, and has married, or shall hereafter marry, before making entry of said land, or before making application to enter said land, she shall not on account of her marriage forfeit her right to make entry and receive patent for the land: Provided, That she does not abandon her residence on said land, and is otherwise qualified to make homestead entry: Provided further, That the man whom she marries is not, at the time of their marriage, claiming a separate tract of land under the homestead law.

"That this Act shall be applicable to all unpatented lands claimed by such entrywoman at the date of passage.”

Approved, June 6, 1900.