

March 2, 1909.
[S. 8664.]

CHAP. 238.—An Act For the relief of certain occupants of unsurveyed public lands in Craighead County, Arkansas.

[Public, No. 295.]

Cane Island, Ark.
Acceptance of State
survey.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the survey, made under the authority of the State of Arkansas in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, of a small area of land known as Cane Island, situated in Saint Francis River, in townships numbered fourteen and fifteen north, range six east, Craighead County, Arkansas, into blocks numbered, respectively, from one to thirty-three, inclusive, shall, upon the filing in the local land office, and with the Commissioner of the General Land Office, of the plat of said survey and the field notes thereof, be accepted as the governmental official survey of said body of land.

Homestead entries
by occupants allowed.

SEC. 2. That, under rules and regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior, all persons who at the date of the passage of this Act are bona fide occupants and owners of improvements situated upon any of the blocks returned by said survey, shall have a preferred right at any time within one year from the passage of this Act to make entry, under the provisions of the homestead laws, of the block or blocks so occupied and upon which their improvements are situated, as their respective interests may appear, or to make purchase of such lands at the rate of one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre: *Provided*, That no person shall be permitted to acquire title under this Act to more than one hundred and sixty acres: *Provided further*, That nothing in this Act shall be construed to grant to any person title to any part of the island, herein referred to, which is shown to be within the limits of land previously surveyed and disposed of by the Government.

Approved, March 2, 1909.

Purchase.

Proviso.
Limit.

Previous surveys.

March 2, 1909.
[H. R. 25823.]

CHAP. 239.—An Act To amend an Act entitled "An Act to extend the time for the completion of the Valdez, Marshall Pass and Northern Railroad, and for other purposes," approved February twenty-first, nineteen hundred and seven.

[Public, No. 296.]

Alaska.

Valdez, Marshall
Pass and Northern
Railroad Company.

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 to extend the time for the completion of the Valdez, Marshall Pass and Northern Railroad, and for other purposes," approved February twenty-first, nineteen hundred and seven, be, and the same is hereby, amended to read as follows:

Time extended for
completing road.
Vol. 30, p. 410.
Vol. 34, p. 915,
amended.

"That the time for the compliance of the Valdez, Marshall Pass and Northern Railroad Company with the provisions of sections four and five of the Act entitled 'An Act extending the homestead laws and providing for the right of way for railroads in the district of Alaska, and for other purposes,' approved May fourteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, by locating and completing its railroad in Alaska, is hereby extended—

Further extension.

"First. Said company shall have four years from the passage of this Act within which to complete the first twenty miles of its railroad, by way of Keystone Canyon, Marshall Pass to Copper River, and from thence to Tanana River, and six years from the date of the passage of this Act within which to complete said railroad to the Tanana River, all to be within such rights as it possesses and not in any way affecting or contravening any vested rights of any other company or person or the rights of the Government, provided said company carry out the requirements of law.

License tax exemp-
tion.

Proviso.

Time.

Condition.

"Second. Said company shall be exempt from license tax during the period of construction and for four years thereafter: *Provided*, That the total period of exemption shall not exceed ten years from the time of the passage of this Act: *And provided further*, That this exemption

shall exist and operate only during the continuance of the construction of said road in good faith, and in the event of unnecessary delay and failure in the construction and completion of said road the exemption from taxation herein provided shall cease and said tax shall be collectible as to so much of said road as shall have been completed.

“Third. Congress reserves the right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act.”

Approved, March 2, 1909.

Amendment.

CHAP. 240.—An Act To provide for holding sessions of the United States circuit and district courts at Springfield, Massachusetts.

March 2, 1909,
[S. 6074.]

[Public, No. 297.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That hereafter, and until otherwise provided by law, two sessions of the district and circuit courts of the United States for the district of Massachusetts shall be held in each and every year in the city of Springfield, Massachusetts, beginning, respectively, on the second Tuesday of May and the second Tuesday of December.

Massachusetts judicial district.
Terms of court, Springfield.
R. S., sec. 572, 658, pp. 99, 121.

SEC. 2. That the marshal and clerk of said district shall each, respectively, appoint at least one deputy, to reside in said city of Springfield, and he shall also maintain an office at that place.

Deputy marshal and clerk.

SEC. 3. That suitable rooms and accommodations shall be furnished for holding said courts free of expense to the Government of the United States until such time as a federal building shall be prepared for that purpose in said Springfield.

Court rooms.

Approved, March 2, 1909.

CHAP. 241.—An Act Authorizing the Secretary of Commerce and Labor to exchange property.

March 2, 1909.

[H. R. 15939.]

[Public, No. 298.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of Commerce and Labor be, and he is hereby, authorized to exchange property now occupied by the Light-House Board at Ashtabula, Ohio, for other property of not less value at another location and to make a contract for such exchange.

Ashtabula, Ohio.
Change of light-house property.

Approved, March 2, 1909.

CHAP. 242.—An Act Providing for an additional judge for the southern district of New York, and for other purposes.

March 2, 1909.

[H. R. 19655.]

[Public, No. 299.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to appoint an additional judge for the southern district of New York, whose length of term, compensation, duties, and powers shall be the same as now provided by law for the judges of said district.

New York southern judicial district.
Additional judge authorized.

R. S., sec. 551, p. 98.
Vol. 32, p. 805.
Vol. 34, p. 202.

SEC. 2. That that part of section six hundred and thirteen of the Revised Statutes which reads as follows: “and at every such term held by said judge of said eastern district he shall receive the sum of three hundred dollars, the same to be paid in the manner now prescribed by law for the payment of the expenses of another district judge while holding court in said district,” is hereby repealed.

Payment for services of judge, eastern district repealed.
R. S., sec. 613, p. 108, amended.

Approved, March 2, 1909.