

shall be established at Stevens Point, on the Wisconsin River, as soon as the public convenience may require it.

La Crosse land district constituted in Wisconsin.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That so much of the public lands of the United States, in the State of Wisconsin, as lies within the following boundaries, to wit:—commencing at a point where the line between townships ten and eleven, north, touches the Mississippi River, thence due east to the fourth principal meridian, thence north to the line between townships fourteen and fifteen, north, thence east to the southeast corner of township fifteen, north of range one, east of the fourth principal meridian, thence north on the range line to the south line of township number thirty-one, north, thence west on the line between townships number thirty and thirty-one, to the Chippewa River, thence down said river to its junction with the Mississippi River, thence down the Mississippi River to the place of beginning, shall be formed into a new land district, to be called the La Crosse Land District, and for the sale of the public lands within the district hereby constituted, a land-office shall be established at La Crosse, on the Mississippi River, as soon as the public convenience may require it.

Provision for a land-office at La Crosse.

Said land-offices may be removed by the President.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That the President is hereby authorized to cause the removal of either of the offices created by this act, to any other place within said district, whenever, in his opinion, such removal may be deemed expedient.

Provision for the appointment of officers for said districts.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That the President be, and he is hereby authorized to appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, a register and a receiver of public moneys for each of the said districts, who shall respectively be required to reside at the site of said office, and who shall have the same powers, perform the same duties, and be entitled to the same compensation as are or may be prescribed by law in relation to other land-officers of the United States. And in case it shall be found necessary or expedient to establish said districts, or either of them, during the recess of Congress, the President shall be, and he is hereby authorized to appoint the necessary officers during such recess, and until the end of the next session of Congress: *Provided, however*, That this act shall not go into effect until at least six months after its passage.

Act, when to take effect.

Books, &c., to be transferred to the new land-offices.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That the Commissioner of the General Land-Office shall cause to be transferred to the land-offices hereby created, all such books, maps, records, field notes, and plats, or transcripts thereof, relating to the surveys and entries of the public lands in the districts hereby created, as may be necessary for the sale of the public lands, in compliance with the provisions of this act.

APPROVED, July 30, 1852.

August 2, 1852. CHAP. LXXVII.—*An Act to create three additional Land Districts in the State of Iowa.*

The Chariton, Northern, and the Missouri River land districts, constituted in Iowa.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That all that portion of the public lands in the State of Iowa, lying west of the range line dividing ranges seventeen and eighteen, and east of the range line dividing ranges thirty-one and thirty-two, and now included in the district of lands subject to sale at Fairfield, shall comprise a new land district, to be called the Chariton District; that so much of the public lands in said State, now included in the Iowa and Dubuque land districts, as lie between the range line dividing ranges sixteen and seventeen, and the range line dividing ranges thirty-three and thirty-four, shall form a new land district, to be called the Northern District; that all that portion of the public lands in said State, now included in the district subject to sale at Fairfield, and lying west of the range line dividing ranges thirty-

one and thirty-two, and all that portion of the public lands now included in the districts subject to sale at Iowa City and Dubuque, and lying west of the range line dividing ranges thirty-three and thirty-four, shall form a new land district, to be called the Missouri River District; and that the district of lands subject to sale at Dubuque shall hereafter be bounded on the north by the northern boundary line of the State of Iowa.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the President be, and he is hereby authorized to appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, a register and a receiver of the public moneys for each of the said districts, respectively, who shall each be required to reside at the site of the respective office to which they may be appointed, and who shall have the same powers, perform the same duties, and be entitled to the same compensation as are or may be prescribed by law in relation to other land-offices of the United States.

Appointment of officers for said districts.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That the President is authorized to cause the public lands in said districts, respectively, (with the exception of sections numbered sixteen in each township, reserved for the use of schools, or such other lands as may be selected by law in lieu thereof, and of such other tracts as he may select for military or other purposes,) to be exposed to sale in the same manner and upon the same terms and conditions as the other public lands of the United States.

Sale of lands in said districts.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That the President is hereby authorized to designate the sites at which each of the several offices shall be established, and to remove the same to any other places within said districts respectively, whenever, in his opinion, it may be deemed expedient.

President may establish and alter sites of offices in said districts.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That any location or sales of land lying in either of the districts hereby created, made by the land-officers at Dubuque, Iowa City, or Fairfield, after the passage of this act, and prior to the receipt by them of instructions from the Commissioner of the General-Land Office under this act, shall be as good and valid in law as if this act had not been passed.

Sales in other districts confirmed.

APPROVED, August 2, 1852.

CHAP. LXXVIII.—*An Act to protect actual Settlers upon the Land on the Line of the Central Railroad and Branches, by granting Preemption Rights thereto.* August 2, 1852.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That each and every person now an actual settler and occupant, and who, on the twentieth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty, had made such an actual settlement and improvement as would have entitled him to a right of preemption under the act of September fourth, eighteen hundred and forty-one, but for his failure to give the requisite notice under that law, or to file proof within due time, on any tract of land now owned by the United States, and situated within the limits reserved from sale by order of the Government, because of the grant of alternate sections to the States of Illinois, Mississippi, and Alabama, in aid of the construction of the Chicago and Mobile railroad and branches, by virtue of an act of Congress, approved September twentieth, eighteen hundred and fifty, entitled, "An act granting the right of way and making a grant of land to the States of Illinois, Mississippi, and Alabama, in aid of the construction of a railroad from Chicago to Mobile," shall have the right to purchase, at the price established by law in regulating the sales of said lands, a quantity of the tract so settled on and improved, not less than forty nor more than one hundred and sixty acres, in legal subdivisions, on which said improvements may

Preemption rights secured to settlers on the line of the Central Railroad.

1850, ch. 61.