within a year from, &c.

prescribed for filing their respective claims; and upon failure to file the proper notice, or to pay for the land within the required period, the same shall be subject to entry by any other qualified applicant.

In case of conflicting claims, priority of possession, &c., to determine.

Where improvements are already made.

SECTION 5. That in case of conflicting claims upon lands where the improvements shall be hereafter commenced, priority of possession and improvement, followed by proper filing and continued good faith, shall determine the preference right to purchase. And also where improvements have already been made at the date of the passage of this act, division of the land claimed may be made by legal subdivisions, to include, as near as may be, the valuable improvements of the respective parties; and the commissioner of the general land-office shall be, and is hereby, authorized to issue all needful rules and regulations for carrying into effect the provisions of this act.

Existing rights not impaired.

SECTION 6. That nothing in this act shall be construed to destroy or impair any rights which may have attached prior to its passage, or to authorize the sale of lands valuable for mines of gold, silver, or copper.

APPROVED, March 3, 1873.

March 3, 1873.

CHAP. CCLXXX. — *An Act for the Relief of Howard F. Moffat.*

Howard F. Moffat may be appointed master upon the retired list of the navy.

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 to nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to appoint, upon the retired list of the navy, with the rank of master, Howard F. Moffat, now a volunteer officer on the active list of the navy.

APPROVED, March 3, 1873.

March 3, 1873.

1866, ch. 296, §§ 12, 13. Vol. xiv. p. 322.

CCLXXXI. — *An Act to extend the Time for filing Claims for additional Bounty under the Act of July twenty-eighth, eighteen hundred and sixty-six.*

Time for filing claims for additional bounty extended.

1872, ch. 112. *Ante*, p. 54.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the time for filing claims for additional bounty, under the act of July twenty-eighth, eighteen hundred and sixty-six, and which expired by limitation January thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-three, be, and the same is hereby, revived and extended until the thirtieth day of January, eighteen hundred and seventy-four; and that all claims for such bounties filed in the proper department after the thirtieth day of January, eighteen hundred and seventy-three, and before the passage of this act, shall be deemed to have been filed in due time, and shall be considered and decided without filing.

APPROVED, March 3, 1873.

March 3, 1873.

1808, ch. 55. Vol. ii. p. 490.

CHAP. CCLXXXII. — *An Act to authorize and direct the Secretary of War to distribute Arms and military Equipments under the Act of April twenty-three, eighteen hundred and eight, and the Acts amendatory thereof.*

Proper quota of arms and military equipments to be distributed to certain States.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to distribute to such States as did not, from the year eighteen hundred and sixty-two to the year eighteen hundred and sixty-nine, receive the same, their proper quota of arms and military equipments for each year, from eighteen hundred and sixty-two to eighteen hundred and sixty-nine, under the act of Congress approved April twenty-third, eighteen hundred and eight, and the several acts amendatory thereof: *Provided*, That in the organization and equipment of military companies and organizations with said arms, no discrimination shall be made between said companies and organizations on account of race, color, or former condition of servitude.

No distinction to be made between companies, &c., on account of race, color, &c.

APPROVED, March 3, 1873.

AUTHENTICATED U.S. GOVERNMENT INFORMATION GPO