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CHAP. 118.—An act to exclude the public lands in Alabama from the operation of the laws relating to mineral lands. Mar. 3, 1883.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That within the State of Alabama all public lands, whether mineral or otherwise, shall be subject to disposal only as agricultural lands: *Provided however*, That all lands which have heretofore been reported to the General Land Office as containing coal and iron shall first be offered at public sale: *And provided further*, That any bona fide entry under the provisions of the homestead law of lands within said State heretofore made may be patented without reference to an act approved May tenth, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, entitled "An act to promote the development of the mining resources of the United States," in cases where the persons making application for such patents have in all other respects complied with the homestead law relating thereto.

Mineral lands in Alabama, etc.

Proviso.

Proviso.

17 Stat., 91.

Approved, March 3, 1883.

CHAP. 119.—An act authorizing and directing the Postmaster General to readjust the salaries of certain Postmasters in accordance with the provision of section eight of the act of June twelfth, eighteen hundred and sixty six. Mar. 3, 1883.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Postmaster-General be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to readjust the salaries of all postmasters and late postmasters of the third, fourth, and fifth classes, under the classification provided for in the act of July first, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, whose salaries have not heretofore been readjusted under the terms of section eight of the act of June twelfth, eighteen hundred and sixty-six, who made sworn returns of receipts and business for readjustment of salary to the Postmaster-General, the First Assistant Postmaster General, or the Third Assistant Postmaster-General, or who made quarterly returns in conformity to the then existing laws and regulations, showing that the salary allowed was ten per centum less than it would have been upon the basis of commissions under the act of eighteen hundred and fifty-four; such readjustments to be made in accordance with the mode presented in section eight of the act of June twelfth, eighteen hundred and sixty-six, and to date from the beginning of the quarter succeeding that in which such sworn returns of receipts and business, or quarterly returns were made: *Provided*, That every readjustment of salary under this act shall be upon a written application signed by the postmaster or late postmaster or legal representative entitled to said readjustment; and that each payment made shall be by warrant or check on the Treasurer or some assistant treasurer of the United States, made payable to the order of said applicant, and forwarded by mail to him at the post office within whose delivery he resides, and which address shall be set forth in the application above provided for.

Readjustment of salaries of certain postmasters.

13 Stat., 335.

14 Stat., 60.

Proviso.

Approved, March 3, 1883.

CHAP. 120.—An act to amend chapter fifty-eight of volume twenty of the United States Statutes at Large, relating to contracts under the War Department. Mar. 3, 1883.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That chapter fifty-eight of volume twenty of the United States Statutes at Large, entitled "An act to authorize the Secretary of War to prescribe rules and regulations to be observed in the preparation, submission, and opening of bids for

Contracts under War Department.

20 Stat., 36.