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courts, and such indices and records shall at all times be open to the inspection and examination of the public.

Record in same county not requisite to validity of lien.

SEC. 3. Nothing herein shall be construed to require the docketing of a judgment or decree of a United States court, or the filing of a transcript thereof, in any State office within the same county or parish in the State of Louisiana in which the judgment or decree is rendered, in order that such judgment or decree may be a lien on any property within such county.

Approved, August 1, 1888.

August 1, 1888.

CHAP. 730.—An act for the erection of a public building at Opelousas, Louisiana.

Opelousas, La. Public building.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to purchase, acquire by condemnation, or otherwise provide a site, and cause to be erected thereon a substantial and commodious building, with fire-proof vaults, for the use and accommodation of the United States district and circuit courts, post-office, internal-revenue office,

Site, plans, etc.

and for other Government uses, at Opelousas, Louisiana. The site and building thereon, when completed upon plans and specifications to be previously made and approved by the Secretary of the Treasury, shall not exceed in cost the sum of fifty thousand dollars; nor shall

Estimates.

any site be purchased until estimates for the erection of a building which will furnish sufficient accommodations for the transaction of the public business, and which shall not exceed in cost the balance of the sum herein limited after the site shall have been purchased and paid for, shall have been approved by the Secretary of the

Limit.

Treasury; and no purchase of site, nor plan for said building, shall be approved by the Secretary of the Treasury involving an expenditure exceeding the said sum of fifty thousand dollars for site and buildings; and the site purchased shall leave the building unexposed to danger from fire by an open space of at least forty feet, including

Proviso. Title, etc.

streets and alleys: *Provided*, That no part of said sum shall be expended until a valid title to the said site shall be vested in the United States, nor until the State of Louisiana shall cede to the United States exclusive jurisdiction over the same, during the time the United States shall be or remain the owner thereof, for all purposes except the administration of the criminal laws of said State and the service of civil process therein.

Approved, August 1, 1888.

August 6, 1888.

CHAP. 738.—An act for the relief of certain settlers upon the school lands of Washington Territory.

Preamble.

Whereas sections sixteen and thirty-six of each township of land in Washington Territory was reserved unto that Territory for school purposes; and

Whereas on December second, eighteen hundred and sixty-nine, the legislative assembly of that Territory, by an act duly passed, authorized the county commissioners of the several counties in that Territory to lease said lands for a term of years not exceeding six years, the money received therefor being placed in the school fund; and

Whereas the lands so leased are greatly enhanced in value by the cultivation thereof, and the lessees thereof have made valuable improvements thereon and incurred large expense in reducing such land to a state of cultivation, and will incur much loss if they are caused to abandon their said improvements and cultivation; and

Whereas the validity of the said leases is questioned: Therefore,