AUTHENTICATED
U.S. GOVERNMENT
INFORMATION
GPO

the Commissioner of Patents, and they shall be recorded, together with the specifications, in the Patent Office, in books to be kept for that purpose."

Approved, February 18, 1888.

CHAP. 16.—An act to relinquish the interest of the United States in certain lands in Kansas. February 20, 1888.

Public lands.
Right of United States to certain, in Kansas relinquished.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all the interest of the United States in and to the south-west fractional quarter of section thirty-one, township sixteen, range sixteen east of the sixth principal meridian, Osage County, Kansas, is hereby relinquished to those persons, their grantees and their successors in interest, who purchased from Samuel C. Gilliland, who entered the same on the seventh day of June, eighteen hundred and seventy, but which entry was thereafter canceled.

Approved, February 20, 1888.

CHAP. 17.—An act to carry into effect the International Convention of the fourteenth of March, eighteen hundred and eighty-four, for the protection of submarine cables. February 29, 1888.

Protection of submarine cables.
Punishment for injuries intentionally done.
Vol. 24, p. 989.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That any person who shall willfully and wrongfully break or injure, or to attempt to break or injure, or who shall in any manner procure, counsel, aid, abet, or be accessory to such breaking or injury, or attempt to break or injure, a submarine cable, in such manner as to interrupt or embarrass, in whole or in part, telegraphic communication, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction thereof, shall be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, or to a fine not exceeding five thousand dollars, or to both fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the court.

Penalty for culpable neglect.

SEC. 2. That any person who by culpable negligence shall break or injure a submarine cable in such manner as to interrupt or embarrass, in whole or in part, telegraphic communication, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction thereof, shall be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months, or to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, or to both fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the court.

Saving life, etc.

SEC. 3. That the provisions of the foregoing sections shall not apply to a person who breaks or injures a cable in an effort to save the life or limb of himself or of any other person, or to save his own or any other vessel: *Provided*, That he takes reasonable precautions to avoid such breaking or injury.

Observance of signals.

SEC. 4. That the master of any vessel which, while engaged in laying or repairing submarine cables, shall fail to observe the rules concerning signals that have been or shall hereafter be adopted by the parties to the convention with a view to preventing collisions at sea; or the master of any vessel that, perceiving, or being able to perceive the said signals displayed upon a telegraph ship engaged in repairing a cable, shall not withdraw to or keep at a distance of at least one nautical mile; or the master of any vessel that seeing or being able to see buoys intended to mark the position of a cable when being laid or when out of order or broken, shall not keep at a distance of at least a quarter of a nautical mile, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof, shall be liable to imprison-