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July 26, 1894.

CHAP. 163.—An Act Prescribing limitations of time for completion of title to certain lands disposed of under the Act of Congress approved September twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and fifty, and the Acts amendatory and supplemental thereto, and commonly known as the "Donation Act," and for the protection of purchasers and occupants on said lands.

Oregon donation lands. Vol. 9, p. 496.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in all cases where persons under the provisions of the Act of Congress entitled "An Act to create the office of surveyor-general of the public lands in Oregon, and to provide for the survey and to make donations to settlers of the said public lands," approved September twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and fifty, or the various Acts amendatory and supplemental thereto, have made proof of settlement on tracts of land in either of the States of Oregon, Washington, or Idaho, and given notice, as required by law, that they claimed such lands as donations, but have failed to execute and file in the proper land offices proof of their continued residence on and cultivation of the lands so settled upon and claimed, so as to entitle them to patents therefor, such claimants, their heirs, devisees and grantees shall have, and they are hereby given, until the first day of January, eighteen hundred and ninety-six, the right to make and file final proofs and fully establish their rights to donations of lands under the aforesaid Act of Congress, and no longer; and all claimants who shall fail to make and file final proof and perfect their claims to lands, as donations under the Acts aforesaid, before the said first day of January, eighteen hundred and ninety-six, shall thereafter be held to have abandoned their claims to the lands embraced in their notices: *Provided*, That as soon as practicable after the passage of this Act notices shall be published at least once a week for six successive weeks in one newspaper of general circulation published in the land district, in a form to be prescribed by the Commissioner of the General Land Office, requiring such donation claimants, their heirs, devisees, and grantees, and all persons making claim to such donation claims, to appear and make final proof for such claims within the time herein provided, and that in default of such final proof such donation claims will be held to have been abandoned and the lands embraced therein shall be, and are hereby, restored to the public domain and shall be subject to disposal under the then existing laws providing for the disposition of the public lands: *Provided further*, That where any such donation claims or any part thereof are claimed by descent, devise, judicial sale, grant, or conveyance, in good faith, under the original claimant, and are, at the date of this Act and for twenty years prior thereto have been, in the quiet adverse possession of such heir, devisee, grantee, or purchaser, or those under whom they claim, such heirs, devisees, grantees, or purchasers, upon making proof of their claims and adverse possession as aforesaid, shall be entitled to patents for the land so claimed and occupied by them: *Provided further*, That where any portion of any such abandoned donation claim shall have been settled upon prior to January first, eighteen hundred and ninety-four, by any person under an erroneous claim of right and has been used as a bona fide residence by such settler where final proof shall not be made by the original claimant, or his heirs, devisees or grantees, as aforesaid, and such settler has exhausted his or her homestead right, such settler may, within ninety days from the first day of January, eighteen hundred and ninety-six, file with the register of the land office of the district within which the lands are situate their affidavit and the affidavits of at least two disinterested witnesses establishing the facts of their bona fide settlement, occupancy, and improvement of said lands, and pay to the receiver of the proper land office one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre for the land so settled upon, occupied, and improved, not exceeding one hundred and sixty acres, and shall thereupon receive patent therefor.

Time extended for proving claims.

Provisos. Advertisements for claimants to appear.

Patents under quiet adverse possession.

Bona fide settlers on abandoned claims.

Payment.

Hearings by Commissioner of General Land Office.

SEC. 2. That nothing in this Act shall be so construed as to deprive the Commissioner of the General Land Office, under the regulations governing contests in land cases, of his right, if such right now exists,

to allow or direct hearings to be instituted to show that a donation claimant has abandoned the lands described in his notice, or prevent the Commissioner, when it is proven that such a claim is invalid or abandoned, from canceling the same upon the official records and thereafter disposing of the lands as a part of the public domain: *Provided*, That where hearings are allowed contestants shall pay the expenses incident thereto in the same manner that costs are paid in other contested land entries; and this Act shall not be construed to affect any case now pending before the Land Department in which final proof has been furnished.

Proviso. Payment of expenses.

SEC. 3. That the Commissioner of the General Land Office, with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, shall issue the necessary rules and regulations to give full force and effect to the provisions of this Act. Nothing in this Act contained shall be construed to impair or affect any adverse claims arising under any law of the United States other than said Donation Act, to or in respect of the lands in this Act referred to.

Regulations.

Approved, July 26, 1894.

CHAP. 164.—An Act Extending the time for final proof and payment on lands claimed under the public land laws of the United States.

July 26, 1894.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the time for making final proof and payment for all lands located under the homestead and desert land laws of the United States, proof and payment of which has not yet been made, be, and the same is hereby, extended for the period of one year from the time proof and payment would become due under existing laws.

Public lands. Time for final proof, etc, extended. Homestead and desert land claims.

SEC. 2. That the time of making final payments on entries under the pre-emption Act is hereby extended for one year from the date when the same becomes due in all cases where pre-emption entrymen are unable to make final payments from causes which they can not control, evidence of such inability to be subject to the regulations of the Secretary of the Interior.

Preemption claims.

Approved, July 26, 1894.

CHAP. 165.—An Act Making appropriations for the Naval Service for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-five, and for other purposes.

July 26, 1894.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following sums be, and they are hereby, appropriated, to be paid out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the Naval Service of the Government for the year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-five, and for other purposes:

Naval service appropriations.

PAY OF THE NAVY.

Pay of the Navy.

For the pay of officers on sea duty; officers on shore and other duty; officers on waiting orders; officers on the retired list; clerks to commandants of yards and stations; clerks to paymasters at yards and stations; general storekeepers; receiving ships and other vessels; extra pay to men re-enlisting under honorable discharge; interest on deposits by men; pay of petty officers, seamen, landsmen, and boys, including men in the engineer's force and for the Coast Survey Service and Fish Commission, eight thousand two hundred and fifty men and seven hundred and fifty boys, at the pay prescribed by law; in all, seven million four hundred seventy-five thousand dollars: *Provided*, That all officers who have been appointed to any corps of the Navy

Provisos. Previous service.