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Homestead settlers in burnt districts, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Michigan, given two years for final proof.

Michigan at the time of such fires, upon claims under the laws of the United States, on lands of the United States, whose property and buildings were destroyed by such fires, and the heirs of all such persons who perished by such fires, and all persons who by reason of such fires and loss of property were obliged to leave their homesteads, are hereby granted two years' additional time in which to make final proof. And temporary absence for any period within two years from the date of this Act shall be deemed constructive possession and residence, but shall not be deducted from the time required to make final proof.

Patents when property burned, etc.

SEC. 2. That all persons whose property was destroyed by such fires, and the heirs of all persons who were actual occupants of the homesteads at the time of the fire, and who lost their lives in and by that fire, may, by proving such actual occupancy at the date of such fires, make proof showing compliance with the law up to the date of the fire, and shall make payment at the minimum price under existing statutes, in the same manner as if such claimants were alive, and upon receipt of such proof of loss of property by such fires, or death of the claimant, heirs surviving, and upon payment as aforesaid, a patent shall be issued to such claimant, or his or her heirs.

Permission to cut timber by persons losing by fires.
R. S., sec. 2301, p. 421.
Vol. 26, p. 1098.

SEC. 3. That the claimant upon any homestead, who by reason of not having lived thereon the necessary length of time to enable him to commute under section twenty-three hundred and one of the Revised Statutes as amended by the Act of March third, eighteen hundred and ninety-one, his heirs, executor, administrator, or guardian of his minor heirs, may, when the quantity of timber destroyed upon his or her homestead shall not exceed seventy-five thousand feet of merchantable green timber, file an estimate in the land office where such homestead was entered with such reasonable proofs as the Commissioner of Public Lands may prescribe, as to the quantity of timber destroyed upon any sectional subdivision, and thereupon the register and receiver may, under the direction of the Commissioner of Public Lands, issue a license or permit to cut the burned timber on any homestead or sectional fraction thereof, upon payment of the sum of one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre for such sectional subdivision, and the Government shall issue a patent for the same to the claimant or his or her heirs.

Payment.

Approved, January 19, 1895.

January 21, 1895.

CHAP. 36.—An Act To make disposition of the accretions upon the fund received by the Government of the United States upon the account of the payment of the Caracas awards of eighteen hundred and sixty-eight, and to apply said accretions to the payment of the new awards made in eighteen hundred and eighty-nine and eighteen hundred and ninety under the Washington Commission.

Venezuelan claims.
Accretions of former fund added to new award.
Vol. 16, p. 713.
Post, p. 1053.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of State be, and he hereby is, authorized and directed to apply all the accretions of the said fund to the payment of the said new awards, and to credit the Venezuelan Government on account of the said new awards with the said accretions as well as with the principal of the said funds.

Approved, January 21, 1895.

January 21, 1895.

CHAP. 37.—An Act To permit the use of the right of way through the public lands for tramroads, canals, and reservoirs, and for other purposes.

Public lands.
Right of way for tramroads, canals, and reservoirs.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Interior be, and hereby is, authorized and empowered, under general regulations to be fixed by him, to permit the use of the right of way through the public lands of the United States, not within the limits of