

on the govern-
ment of the
United States
to be consider-
ed guilty of
felony.

To be punish-
ed by imprison-
ment.

Persons know-
ingly having
fraudulent pa-
pers, &c. to be
fined and im-
prisoned.

The courts
of the several
states not to be
deprived of
jurisdiction
over the offences
punishable by
this law.

sons shall falsely make, alter, forge, or counterfeit; or cause or procure to be falsely made, altered, forged, or counterfeited; or willingly aid or assist in the false making, altering, forging, or counterfeiting, any deed, power of attorney, order, certificate, receipt, or other writing, for the purpose of obtaining or receiving, or of enabling any other person or persons, either directly or indirectly, to obtain or receive, from the United States, or any of their officers or agents, any sum or sums of money; or shall utter, or publish as true, or cause to be uttered or published as true, any such false, forged, altered, or counterfeited deed, power of attorney, order, certificate, receipt, or other writing, as aforesaid, with intent to defraud the United States, knowing the same to be false, altered, forged, or counterfeited; or shall transmit to, or present at, or cause or procure to be transmitted to, or presented at, any office or officer of the government of the United States, any deed, power of attorney, order, certificate, receipt, or other writing, in support of, or in relation to, any account or claim, with intent to defraud the United States, knowing the same to be false, altered, forged, or counterfeited, every such person shall be deemed and adjudged guilty of felony; and being thereof duly convicted, shall be sentenced to be imprisoned, and kept at hard labour, for a period not less than one year, nor more than ten years; or shall be imprisoned, not exceeding five years, and fined not exceeding one thousand dollars.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That if any person or persons shall knowingly have in his, her, or their, possession, any false, altered, forged, or counterfeited deed, power of attorney, order, certificate, receipt, or other writing, for the purpose of enabling any person or persons, either directly or indirectly, to obtain or receive from the United States, or any of its officers or agents, any sum or sums of money, knowing the same to be false, altered, forged, or counterfeited, as aforesaid, with intent to defraud the United States, every such person, upon being thereof duly convicted, shall be fined and imprisoned at the discretion of the court, according to the nature and aggravation of the offence: *Provided, nevertheless*, That nothing herein contained shall be construed to deprive the courts of the several states of jurisdiction, under the laws thereof, over offences declared punishable by this law.

APPROVED, March 3, 1823.

STATUTE II.

March 1, 1823.

Act of April
11, 1818, ch. 47.

Two years
allowed to offi-
cers and sol-
diers of the
Virginia line for
obtaining war-
rants.

Provisions of
the act of
March 3, 1807,
ch. 31, revived.

CHAP. XXXIX.—*An Act extending the time for locating Virginia military land warrants, and returning surveys thereon to the general land office.*

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the officers and soldiers of the Virginia line, on the continental establishment, their heirs or assigns, entitled to bounty lands within the country reserved by the state of Virginia, between the little Miami and Scioto rivers, shall be allowed a further time of two years, from the fourth day of January, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-three, to obtain warrants, and to complete their locations; and the further time of four years, from the fourth day of January, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-three, to return their surveys and warrants, or certified copies of warrants, to the general land office, to obtain patents.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the provisions of the act, entitled "An act authorizing patents to issue for lands located and surveyed by virtue of certain Virginia resolution-warrants," passed the third day of March, one thousand eight hundred and seven, shall be revived, and in force, with all its restrictions, except that the respective times allowed for making locations, and returning surveys thereon, shall be limited to the terms prescribed by the first section of this act, for the location and

return of surveys on other warrants; and that the surveys shall be returned to the general land office: *Provided*, That no locations, as aforesaid, in virtue of this or the preceding section of this act, shall be made on tracts of lands for which patents had previously been issued, or which had been previously surveyed; and any patent, which may nevertheless be obtained for land located contrary to the provisions of this act, shall be considered null and void.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That no holder of any warrant which has been, or may be, located, shall be permitted to withdraw or remove the same, and locate it on any other land, except in cases of eviction, in consequence of a legal judgment first obtained, or unless it be found to interfere with a prior location and survey; nor shall any lands heretofore sold by the United States, within the boundaries of said reservation, be subject to location by the holder of any such unlocated warrant.

APPROVED, March 1, 1823.

Proviso.

Holders of warrants not permitted to remove location.

STATUTE II.

CHAP. XL.—*An Act granting to the state of Alabama the right of pre-emption to certain quarter sections of land.*

March 3, 1823.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That there be granted to the state of Alabama, at the minimum price for which public lands of the United States are sold, the right of pre-emption to one quarter section of land, in, or near, the centre of each of the counties of Marengo, Perry, and Decatur, of the state aforesaid, in trust for said counties, respectively, for the establishment of seats of justice therein: *Provided*, That the proceeds of the sale of each of said quarter sections shall be appropriated for the purpose of erecting public buildings in the county for which it is located, after deducting therefrom the amount originally paid for the same: *And provided further*, That the seat of justice for said counties, respectively, shall be fixed and continued on the lands so located and selected.

Alabama allowed the right of pre-emption of lands for seats of justice.

Proviso.

Proviso.

APPROVED, March 3, 1823.

STATUTE II.

CHAP. XLI.—*An Act altering the time of holding the circuit court in the districts of Maine (a) and New Hampshire. (b)*

March 3, 1823.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the terms of the circuit court, which are now directed by law to be holden annually in the district of Maine, at Portland, on the eighth day of May; and at Wiscasset, on the eighth day of October: and in the district of New Hampshire, at Ports-

Days of holding the terms of the circuit court of Maine and New Hampshire changed.

(a) Circuit courts in Maine:

An act for altering the times and places of holding the circuit courts therein mentioned, and for other purposes, Act of March 3, 1801, ch. 32, sec. 1.

An act to repeal certain acts respecting the organization of the courts of the United States, and for other purposes, March 8, 1802, ch. 8.

An act establishing a circuit court within and for the district of Maine, March 30, 1820, ch. 25.

(b) Circuit courts in New Hampshire:

An act providing compensation for the officers of the judicial courts of the United States, and for jurors and witnesses, and for other purposes, March 3, 1791, ch. 22, sec. 2.

An act altering the time of holding the circuit courts in certain districts of the United States, and for other purposes, April 3, 1792, ch. 21, sec. 2.

An act to alter the times and places of holding the circuit courts in the eastern district and in North Carolina, and for other purposes, March 2, 1793, ch. 23.

An act concerning the circuit courts of the United States, March 3, 1797, ch. 27.

An act for altering the times and places of holding the circuit courts therein mentioned, and for other purposes, Act of March 3, 1801, ch. 32, sec. 1.

An act to repeal certain acts respecting the organization of the courts of the United States, and for other purposes, March 8, 1802, ch. 8.

An act to alter the times of holding the circuit court in the first district, March 26, 1812, ch. 45.