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Columbia, and known on the ground plan of said city as lots numbered three, four, and five in square numbered nine hundred and seventy-nine, and when satisfied by sufficient proof that the said Todd has the equitable title to said lots, or in being satisfied that said Todd, or the parties under whom he claims, has paid all taxes, general and special, levied against said lots for a period of fifty years, then he, the said Secretary, shall release and convey to said Todd, his heirs or assigns, all the title of the United States in and to said lots: *Provided*, That the said Thomas H. G. Todd pay to the proper officer of the District of Columbia all taxes, both general and special, now unpaid and standing against said property.

Conveyance to Thomas H. G. Todd.
Proviso.
Taxes.

Approved, April 28, 1904.

CHAP. 1796.—An Act To amend section twenty-three hundred and twenty-seven of the Revised Statutes of the United States, relating to lands.

April 28, 1904.
[H. R. 13298.]

[Public, No. 228.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section twenty-three hundred and twenty-seven of the Revised Statutes of the United States be, and the same is hereby, amended to read as follows:

Public lands.
R. S., sec. 2327, p. 427, amended.

"SEC. 2327. The description of vein or lode claims upon surveyed lands shall designate the location of the claims with reference to the lines of the public survey, but need not conform therewith; but where patents have been or shall be issued for claims upon unsurveyed lands, the surveyors-general, in extending the public survey, shall adjust the same to the boundaries of said patented claims so as in no case to interfere with or change the true location of such claims as they are officially established upon the ground. Where patents have issued for mineral lands, those lands only shall be segregated and shall be deemed to be patented which are bounded by the lines actually marked, defined, and established upon the ground by the monuments of the official survey upon which the patent grant is based, and surveyors-general in executing subsequent patent surveys, whether upon surveyed or unsurveyed lands, shall be governed accordingly. The said monuments shall at all times constitute the highest authority as to what land is patented, and in case of any conflict between the said monuments of such patented claims and the descriptions of said claims in the patents issued therefor the monuments on the ground shall govern, and erroneous or inconsistent descriptions or calls in the patent descriptions shall give way thereto."

Description of mining vein or lode claims.

Patents to conform to official monuments.

Monuments to govern descriptions.

Approved, April 28, 1904.

CHAP. 1797.—An Act To change and fix the time for holding the district and circuit courts for the northern division of the eastern district of Tennessee.

April 28, 1904.
[H. R. 14533.]

[Public, No. 229.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the term of the circuit and district courts of the United States for the northern division of the eastern district of Tennessee, held at Knoxville, Tennessee, shall commence on the first Monday in March of each year instead of the second Monday in March, as is now provided by law; and said term shall continue as long as the presiding judge may deem it necessary.

United States courts.
Tennessee, eastern district.
R. S., secs. 572, 658, pp. 101, 122.
Terms at Knoxville.
Vol. 29, p. 39; Vol. 30, p. 814.

SEC. 2. That no action, suit, proceeding, information, indictment, recognizance, bail bond, or other process in either of said courts shall abate or be rendered invalid by reason of the change of time in the holding of the term of said courts, but the same shall be deemed to be returnable to, pending and triable at the term herein provided for.

Pending causes.

SEC. 3. That all laws and parts of laws conflicting with this Act be, and are hereby, repealed.

Repeal.

Approved, April 28, 1904.