ranges thirteen and fourteen; thence north to the northern boundary line of the state of Missouri; thence east with the state line to the river Desmoines; thence, with the river Desmoines and the state line, to the Mississippi river; thence, with and down the Mississippi river to the place of beginning, so as to include all the islands within the limits of the state of Missouri, shall be formed into a new land district, to be called "The district of Salt river," and, for the sale of the public lands within the district hereby constituted, there shall be a land office established at such place, within the said district, as the President of the United States may designate.

A register and receiver to be appointed.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That there shall be a register and receiver appointed to said office to superintend the sales of public lands in the said district, and who shall reside at the place where said office is established, give security in the same manner and sums, and whose compensation, emoluments, duties, and authorities, shall, in every respect, be the same, in relation to the lands to be disposed of, at their offices, as are or may be, by law, provided, in relation to the registers and receivers of public moneys, in the several offices established for the sale of the public lands.

All lands embraced within said district which have been offered for sale pursuant to any proclamation of the President, and now remain unsold, liable to be disposed of at private sale.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That all such public lands, embraced within the district created by this act, which shall have been offered for sale to the highest bidder, at St. Louis, pursuant to any proclamation of the President of the United States, and which lands remain unsold at the taking effect of this act, shall be subject to be entered and sold, at private sale, by the proper officer or officers of the land office hereby created, in the same manner, and subject to the same terms and upon the like conditions, as the sales of said lands would have been subjected to, in the land office at St. Louis, had they remained attached to that office.

Approved, May 26, 1824.

Statute I.

May 26, 1824.

Chap. CLXXII.—*An Act to provide for the sale of lands conveyed to the United States in certain cases, and for other purposes.*

In all cases where the estates of insolvent debtors have been, or shall be, assigned to the United States under the act of June 6, 1798, ch. 49, the agent of the treasury is authorized to sell such estate, whether real or personal.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the agent of the treasury be, and he hereby is, authorized, in all cases where the estates of insolvent debtors have been, or hereafter shall be, assigned to the United States, under the act of the sixth June, seventeen hundred and ninety-eight, entitled "An act providing for the discharge of persons imprisoned for debts due to the United States, to sell such estates, whether real or personal, at such time, and in such manner, as, with the approbation of the Secretary of the Treasury, he shall think fit, for the best price that can be had therefor, and to make all needful conveyances, assignments, or transfers, of the same, to the purchaser or purchasers.

United States may become the purchaser of lands or tenements of a debtor, when sold at their suit.

Proviso.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That, at any and every sale, on executions, at the suit of the United States, of lands or tenements of a debtor, it shall be lawful for the United States, by such agent as the agent of the treasury shall appoint, to become the purchaser of such lands and tenements: *Provided*, That in no case shall such agent bid in behalf of the United States for a greater amount than that of the judgment for which such estate may be exposed to sale, and the costs; and it shall be the duty of the marshal of the district in which such sale shall be held, in case such purchases shall be made, to make all needful conveyances, assignments, transfers, to the United States; and the agent of the treasury is hereby authorized, with the approbation of the Secretary of the Treasury, to sell and convey the said lands and tenements in the same manner as is directed by the first section of this act, in respect to lands and tenements assigned by insolvent debtors.

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Act to be construed so as not to impair any other remedy than the one intended.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That nothing herein contained, shall be deemed or construed to take away or impair any other remedy which the United States may be now entitled to have against the person or property of debtors, to enforce the satisfaction of judgments obtained, or which may hereafter be obtained.

Approved, May 26, 1824.

Statute I.

May 26, 1824.

Chap. CLXXIII.—*An Act enabling the claimants to lands within the limits of the state of Missouri and territory of Arkansas to institute proceedings to try the validity of their claims.* (a)

Persons claiming lands &c. in that part of the late province of Louisiana, now included within the state of Missouri, by virtue of any French or Spanish grant, &c. legally made, and before the 10th March, 1804, to present petitions to the district court of the state of Missouri.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That it shall and may be lawful for any person or persons, or their legal representatives, claiming lands, tenements, or hereditaments, in that part of the late province of Louisiana which is now included within the state of Missouri, by virtue of any French or Spanish grant, concession, warrant, or order of survey, legally made, granted, or issued, before the tenth day of March, one thousand eight hundred and four, by the proper authorities, to any person or persons resident in the province of Louisiana, at the date thereof, or on or before the tenth day of March, one thousand eight hundred and four, and which was protected or secured by the treaty between the United States of America and the French republic, of the thirtieth day of April, one thousand eight hundred and three, and which might have been perfected into a complete title, under and in conformity to the laws, usages, and customs, of the government under which the same originated, had not the sovereignty of the country been transferred to the United States, in each and every such case, it shall and may be lawful for such person or persons, or their legal representatives, to present a petition to the district court of the state of Missouri, setting forth, fully, plainly, and substantially, the nature of his, her, or their claim to the lands, tenements, or hereditaments, and particularly stating the date of the grant, concession, warrant, or order of survey, under which they claim, the name or names of any person or persons claiming the same, or any part thereof, by a different title from that of the petitioner; or holding possession of any part thereof, otherwise than by the lease or permission of the petitioner; and, also, if the United States be interested on account of the lands within the limits of such claim, not claimed by any other person than the petitioner; also, the quantity claimed, and the boundaries thereof, when the same may have been designated by boundaries; by whom issued, and whether the said claim has been submitted to the examination of either of the tribunals which have been constituted by law for the adjustment of land titles in the present limits of the state of Missouri, and by them reported on unfavourably, or recommended for confirmation; praying, in said petition, that the validity of such title, or claim, may be inquired into and decided by the said court; and the said court is hereby authorized and required to hold and exercise jurisdiction of every petition, presented in conformity with the provisions of this act, and to hear and determine the same, on the petition, in case no answer or answers be filed after due notice: or on the petition, and the answer or answers of any person or persons interested in preventing any claim from being established: and the answer of the district attorney of the United States, where he may have filed an answer, according to the evidence which shall be adduced by the petitioner, by any person interested in preventing the decree of the court in favour of the title of

(a) See notes to act of May 26, 1824, ch. 154.
Act of June 13, 1812, ch. 99, and notes on page 748, vol. ii.