

son, claiming the benefit of this law as aforesaid, shall swear falsely in the premises, he shall be subject to all the pains and penalties for perjury, forfeit the money which he may have paid for the land, and all right and title to the said land, and any grant or conveyance which he may have made in pursuance of such agreement or contract, as aforesaid, shall be void, except in the hands of a purchaser in good faith, for a valuable consideration without notice. And the certificate which shall be filed with the commissioner as aforesaid, shall be taken to be conclusive evidence that the oath was legally administered: *And provided, further*, That it shall be the duty of the President of the United States to cause to be reserved from sale or entry, under the provisions of this or any other law of the United States, any tract or tracts of land reserved to any Choctaw, under the provisions of the treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek, of one thousand eight hundred and thirty, and also to reserve from sale or entry, a sufficient quantity of the lands acquired by said treaty, upon which no such settlement or improvement has been made, as would entitle the settler or improver to a right of pre-emption under this act, to satisfy the claims of such Indians as may have been entitled to reservations under the said treaty, and whose lands may have been sold by the United States, on account of any default, neglect, or omission of duty on the part of any officer of the United States; such reservation from sale to continue until the claims to reservations under said treaty, shall be investigated by the board of commissioners appointed for that purpose, and their report finally acted on by Congress.

APPROVED, June 22, 1838.

Further provi-
sion.

Act of Sept. 4,
1841, § 16.

STATUTE II.
June 28, 1838.

Act of March
3, 1843, ch. 94,
sec. 5.

President au-
thorized to ap-
point three per-
sons.

CHAP. CXLVII.—*An Act authorizing the appointment of persons to test the usefulness of inventions to improve and render safe the boilers of steam engines against explosions. (a)*

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States be, and he hereby is, authorized to appoint three persons, one of whom at least shall be a man of experience and practical knowledge in the construction and use of the steam engine, and the others, by reason of their attainments in science, shall be competent judges of the usefulness of any invention designed to detect the causes of explosion in the boilers; which said persons shall jointly examine any inventions made for the purpose of detecting the cause, and preventing the explosion of boilers, that shall be presented for their consideration; and, if any one or more of such inventions or discoveries justify, in their judgment, the experiment, and the inventor desires that his invention shall be subjected to the test, then the said persons may proceed and order such preparations to be made, and such experiments to be tried, as, in their judgment, may be necessary to determine the character and usefulness of any such invention.

The board to
give notice of
the time and
place of their
meeting.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the said board shall give notice of the time and place of their meeting to examine such inventions, and shall direct the preparations to be made, and the experiments to be tried, at such place as they shall deem most suitable and convenient for the purpose; and shall make full report of their doings to Congress at their next session.

Appropriation.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That, to carry into effect the foregoing objects, there be, and hereby is, appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of six thousand dollars; and so much thereof as shall be necessary for the above purposes shall be subject to the order of the said board, and to defray such

(a) An act to provide for the better security of the lives of passengers on board of vessels propelled in whole or in part by steam; July 7, 1838, chap. 191. Act of July 7, 1838, ch. 163.

expenses as shall be incurred by their direction, including the sum of three hundred dollars, to each, for his personal services and expenses; *Provided, however,* That their accounts shall be settled at the Treasury, in the same manner as those of other public agents.

APPROVED, June 28, 1838.

Allowance to each of said board.
Proviso.

STATUTE II.

CHAP. CXLVIII.—*An Act relating to the Orphans' Court of Alexandria county, in the District of Columbia.*

June 28, 1838.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, from and after the passage of this act, the Secretary of the Treasury pay to the judge of the orphans' court of Alexandria county, in the district of Columbia, in quarterly payments, out of any unappropriated money in the Treasury, the sum of one thousand dollars per annum, in lieu of all other compensation for his services as judge of said court.

APPROVED, June 28, 1838.

Pay of the Judge.

STATUTE II.

CHAP. CL.—*An Act to confirm the act of the Legislative Council of Florida, incorporating the "Florida Peninsula Railroad and Steamboat Company," and granting the right of way to said company through the public lands, and for other purposes.*

June 28, 1838.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the act passed by the Legislative Council of Florida, entitled "An act to incorporate the Florida Peninsula Railroad and Steamboat Company," approved eighth January, eighteen hundred and thirty-eight, be, and the same is hereby, ratified and confirmed: *Provided, however,* That the said company shall not be deemed to have, nor shall they exercise, banking privileges; nor shall the said act be so construed as to give or grant banking privileges to said company; and in case the said company shall exercise banking privileges, of any description, in any way or manner, then this confirmation or ratification of said act of incorporation shall be void and of no effect.

Act of the Legislature of Florida, incorporating, &c. confirmed.

Proviso.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the right of way shall be, and is hereby, granted to said company over and through any of the public lands of the United States over which the said road may pass: *Provided,* That the said land to be used and occupied by said company for the line or route of such road shall not exceed eighty feet in width.

Right of way through the public lands, granted.
Proviso.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That the said company shall have the right to take from the public lands in the vicinity of said road and within twenty rods of the centre thereof, on each side, all such materials of earth, stone, or wood as may be necessary or convenient for the actual construction of said road or any part thereof; and, during the construction of said road, to occupy said lands to the width aforesaid, so far as may be necessary to the convenient performance of said work: *Provided, however,* That the rights and privileges granted by this section shall be so exercised as to cause as little damage as possible to the public lands adjacent to said road; and proper drains or sluices shall be constructed by the said company so as to prevent the obstruction of any streams or water-courses which may be crossed by said road.

Right to take from the public lands earth, stone, or wood.

Proviso.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That there shall be, and are hereby, granted to the said company all necessary sites for watering-places, depots, and workshops, along the line of road: *Provided,* That no one depot or watering place shall contain over four square acres, to be laid off in a square form; and not more than one of said squares shall be granted to or taken by said company for each ten miles of said road.

Sites granted for watering places, &c.
Proviso.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That the said company shall, with