

# PRIVATE ACTS OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH CONGRESS

OF THE

## UNITED STATES,

*Passed at the second session, which was begun and held at the City of Washington, in the District of Columbia, on Monday, the fourth day of December, 1837, and ended on the ninth day of July, 1838.*

MARTIN VAN BUREN, President; RICHARD M. JOHNSON, Vice President of the United States, and President of the Senate; WILLIAM R. KING, President of the Senate, pro tempore, from the second day of July; JAMES K. POLK, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

### STATUTE II.

Feb. 2, 1838.

CHAP. VI. — *An Act to authorize the Commissioner of the Patent Office to issue a patent to James Smith.*

Patent to issue  
for a self-acting  
mule.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Commissioner of the Patent Office be, and he is hereby, authorized to issue, on application therefor at any time within six months from the passage of this act, a patent to James Smith, a British subject, being of the county of Perth, in Scotland, for his invention of certain improvements in the self-acting mule for spinning cotton and other fibrous materials, for which said Smith took out letters patent in England, sealed the twentieth day of February, one thousand eight hundred and thirty four, notwithstanding the lapse of more than six months since the publication of the said letters patent; the said Commissioner being governed in all other respects, in issuing such patent, by the provisions of the existing general laws relating to the granting and issuing of patents for new inventions and discoveries. And said patentee and his assigns shall have and possess the same rights by virtue of such patent, if any shall be granted, as he would have and possess if the said original letters patent had not been issued and published, and no other: *Provided, however,* That such patent shall be limited to the time for which said original letters patent were granted: *And provided, also,* That the same shall not interfere with, or affect the rights of any person, acquired by purchasing, constructing, or using said invention, prior to the granting of the patent herein authorized.*

Proviso.

Proviso.

APPROVED, February 2, 1838.

### STATUTE II.

Feb. 15, 1838.

CHAP. VII. — *An Act for the relief of the administrators of Edward W. Duval.*

To be credited  
with amount  
expended on an  
Indian reserva-  
tion taken from  
him.

*Be it enacted, &c., That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he hereby is, authorized and required to admit to the credit, on the books of the treasury, of Edward W. Duval, in the settlement of his account, the sum of one thousand four hundred and fifty-seven dollars and seventy-five cents, in consideration, in full, for that amount expended by him on an Indian reservation purchased by him from the government, in or about the year eighteen hundred and twenty-six, and subsequently, that is, in April, eighteen hundred and thirty-two, taken from the said Duval*

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