

of said Choctaw Nation shall be taken within sixty days after the rendition of said judgment, and the said courts shall give such cause precedence.

SEC. 2. Said action shall be commenced by a petition stating the facts on which said nation claims to recover and the amount of its claim; and said petition may be verified by either of the authorized delegates of said nation as to the existence of such facts, and no other statements need be contained in said petition or verification.

Approved, March 3, 1881.

CHAP. 140.—An act to amend section twenty-three hundred and twenty-six of the Revised Statutes relating to suits at law affecting the title to mining claims.

March 3, 1881.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That if, in any action brought pursuant to section twenty-three hundred and twenty-six of the Revised Statutes, title to the ground in controversy shall not be established by either party, the jury shall so find, and judgment shall be entered according to the verdict. In such case costs shall not be allowed to either party, and the claimant shall not proceed in the land-office or be entitled to a patent for the ground in controversy until he shall have perfected his title

R. S. 2326.
Amended.
Title to mining claims.

Approved, March 3, 1881.

CHAP. 141.—An act to amend the act entitled "An act to encourage the establishment of public marine schools", approved June twentieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-four, so as to extend it to the ports of Wilmington, Charleston, Savannah, Mobile, New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Galveston, and in Narragansett Bay.

March 3, 1881.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the act entitled "An act to encourage the establishment of public marine schools", approved June twentieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-four, be, and the same is, amended so that it shall extend to the ports of Wilmington, Charleston, Savannah, Mobile, New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Galveston, and in Narragansett Bay.

Public marine schools, establishment of, at
Ports of: Wilmington, Charleston, Savannah, Mobile, New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Galveston, and in Narragansett Bay.
1874, ch. 339,
18 Stat., 121.

Approved, March 3, 1881.

CHAP. 142.—An act to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to sell certain real estate belonging to the United States, and vesting the title to certain other lands in the city of Vincennes, in the State of Indiana, and for other purposes.

March 3, 1881.

Whereas, the United States heretofore through the intervention of trustees acquired title for debt to certain real estate situate in and near the city of Vincennes, in the county of Knox, and State of Indiana, described as follows: The southeast half of lot number one and the whole of lot number eight in Harrison's addition to the borough, now city, of Vincennes, and also survey number five in upper prairie surveys, in township three north, range ten west, containing eighty-two acres and eighty-one hundredths of an acre, known as the "Steam Mill Tract", and situate in Knox County, Indiana; and

Preamble.
Sale of government lands in Vincennes, Indiana; vesting title of certain lands in the city of Vincennes.

Whereas the said eighty-two and eighty-one hundredths acre tract of land consists of a strip of about twenty-six rods in width commencing on the Wabash River, thence running in a southerly direction through said city of Vincennes and far beyond its limits; that said city has been built up on both sides of said land and its streets about thereon, said city not having the legal right to lay out and improve her streets through the same; in consequence whereof that part of said city through which said land is located has been greatly hindered and obstructed in its growth; and

Description.

Whereas said city is in great need of a public park, and as the portion of said survey which lies between the northern line of the extension of Fourth street through said land, and the Wabash River, can be improved and made suitable for such public park: Therefore,

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury shall, as soon practicable, after the passage of this act, cause a survey to be made extending said Fourth street of said city of Vincennes through said survey or tract of land, and shall establish the boundaries thereof on said land. And he shall then cause a survey to be made of all that part of said survey or land which lies between the southern boundary of said Fourth street, established as aforesaid, and the southern boundary or limit of said city; except so much thereof as is now occupied by the Ohio and Mississippi Railway Company, the Evansville and Terre Haute, and the Indianapolis and Vincennes Railroad Companies, with their respective road-beds and tracks, and shall cause the same to be laid off into streets, alleys, blocks, and lots, so as to conform to the streets, alleys, blocks, and lots of said city as near as practicable; and shall cause a plat of said streets, alleys, blocks, and lots to be made, and cause a duly certified copy of the same to be filed in the office of the clerk of said city, and cause the same to be appraised at its fair cash value. And he shall cause that part of said survey or land lying south of the southern boundary or limits of said city to be laid off into five-acre lots as near as may be; and after giving three weeks' notice of the time, place, and terms of sale in the public newspapers, one of which shall be published in said city, he shall on the premises, offer each of said lots, including said five-acre lots and the southeast half of lot number one and the whole of lot number eight in said Harrison's addition to said city, for sale separately at public auction, and shall sell the same to the highest and best bidder for cash, at not less than the appraised value; and he shall on payment of the purchase-money, execute to the purchasers all needful conveyances for the same, and after deducting all the necessary expenses incurred in making said surveys and sales the remainder of the proceeds shall be covered into the Treasury.

SEC. 2. That the title to all that part of said survey number five which lies between the northern boundary of said Fourth street and the Wabash River is hereby vested in the city of Vincennes for a public park, to be used for that purpose and none other.

Approved, March 3, 1881.

March 3, 1881. **CHAP. 143.**—An act to amend chapter one hundred and ninety-eight, volume sixteen, of the Statutes at Large.

1870, ch. 198,
16 Stat., 187,
amended.
Fort Ridgely
military reserva-
tion.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That chapter one hundred and ninety eight, volume sixteen, of the Statutes at Large, being an act for the disposal of the lands within the Fort Ridgely military reservation, Minnesota, be amended by adding thereto a new section:

Lands open to
homestead and
timber-culture en-
try.
Proviso.
Rights of prior
settlers preserved.

“**SEC. 4.** All lands within the limits of the said reservation and not embracing any government improvements, shall be open to homestead settlement and timber-culture entry as other public lands in Minnesota from and after the passage of this act: *Provided,* That all persons now residing on any of said lands, or who have filed on any of the lands of said reservation as bona fide settlers, shall have sixty days from and after the passage of this act to refile on the same tract as homestead or tree culture entry, and shall have a preference over all other persons as to the tracts so settled on by them. And all persons who were allowed to preempt any of said lands, and who have paid for the same at the rate of one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre shall be entitled to a patent for the same.”

Approved, March 3, 1881.