

Before disposing of said property the Secretary of War shall cause the grounds to be subdivided and platted in blocks, streets and alleys, corresponding as nearly as may be, with the plat of that part of the city of Newport in which said grounds are situated, and having reference to the location of the buildings thereon. He shall cause the lots and parcels to be appraised separately and shall not sell any lot or parcel for a less amount than its appraised value. The expenses of advertisement, appraisement, survey and sale, shall be paid out of the proceeds of said sale, and the remainder shall be paid into the Treasury of the United States.

- New site to be purchased. SEC. 2. That the Secretary of War is hereby authorized and directed to purchase, at as early a day as practicable, a suitable site for the location of barracks, officer's quarters, and other necessary buildings, in the county of Campbell, State of Kentucky, and as near the city of Newport as suitable grounds for that purpose can be procured, but the same shall not cost more than sixty thousand dollars, which sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated for the purpose aforesaid, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.
- Appropriation. SEC. 3. That the sum of one hundred thousand dollars is also hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War, in the erection of necessary and suitable buildings and the construction of other necessary improvements upon the grounds purchased by him under the second section of this act; but before such purchase is completed the title to the ground proposed to be acquired shall be approved by the Attorney-General of the United States.
- Appropriation for new buildings. SEC. 4. That the Secretary of War, shall transmit to Congress a report showing the amount realized from the sale of said property in the city of Newport, the expenses connected with such sale, the price paid for the new site, and the location and description of the same.
- Report. SEC. 5. That the provisions of the first section of this act shall be inoperative until the Secretary of War shall have obtained for the Government of the United States the option of the right to purchase such suitable land as he may select for a site, at a price to be approved of by him.
- Old barracks not to be sold until new site selected.

Approved, March 3, 1887.

Mar. 3, 1887.

CHAP. 376.—An act to provide for the adjustment of land grants made by Congress to aid in the construction of railroads and for the forfeiture of unearned lands, and for other purposes.

Land grants to railroads to be immediately adjusted. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Secretary of the Interior be, and is hereby authorized and directed to immediately adjust, in accordance with the decisions of the Supreme Court, each of the railroad land grants made by Congress to aid in the construction of railroads and heretofore unadjusted.

Patents, etc., erroneously issued, to be cancelled. SEC. 2. That if it shall appear, upon the completion of such adjustments respectfully, or sooner, that lands have been, from any cause, heretofore erroneously certified or patented, by the United States, to or for the use or benefit of any company claiming by, through, or under grant from the United States, to aid in the construction of a railroad, it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Interior to thereupon demand from such company a relinquishment or reconveyance to the United States of all such lands, whether within granted or indemnity limits; and if such company shall neglect or fail to so reconvey such lands to the United States within ninety days after the aforesaid demand shall have been made, it shall thereupon be the duty of the Attorney-General to commence and prosecute in the proper courts the

necessary proceedings to cancel all patents, certification, or other evidence of title heretofore issued for such lands, and to restore the title thereof to the United States.

SEC. 3. That if, in the adjustment of said grants, it shall appear that the homestead or pre-emption entry of any bona fide settler has been erroneously canceled on account of any railroad grant or the withdrawal of public lands from market, such settler upon application shall be reinstated in all his rights and allowed to perfect his entry by complying with the public land laws: *Provided*, That he has not located another claim or made an entry in lieu of the one so erroneously canceled: *And provided also*, That he did not voluntarily abandon said original entry: *And provided further*, That if any of said settlers do not renew their application to be reinstated within a reasonable time, to be fixed by the Secretary of the Interior, then all such unclaimed lands shall be disposed of under the public land laws, with priority of right given to bona fide purchasers of said unclaimed lands, if any, and if there be no such purchasers, then to bona fide settlers residing thereon.

Entries of bona fide settlers, erroneously cancelled, may be perfected.

Provisos.

Application to be made in a reasonable time.

SEC. 4. That as to all lands, except those mentioned in the foregoing section, which have been so erroneously certified or patented as aforesaid, and which have been sold by the grantee company to citizens of the United States, or to persons who have declared their intention to become such citizens, the person or persons so purchasing in good faith, his heirs or assigns, shall be entitled to the land so purchased, upon making proof of the fact of such purchase at the proper land-office, within such time and under such rules as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior, after the grants respectively shall have been adjusted; and patents of the United States shall issue therefor, and shall relate back to the date of the original certification or patenting, and the Secretary of the Interior, on behalf of the United States, shall demand payment from the company which has so disposed of such lands of an amount equal to the Government price of similar lands; and in case of neglect or refusal of such company to make payment as hereafter specified, within ninety days after the demand shall have been made, the Attorney-General shall cause suit or suits to be brought against such company for the said amount: *Provided*, That nothing in this act shall prevent any purchaser of lands erroneously withdrawn, certified, or patented as aforesaid from recovering the purchase-money therefor from the grantee company, less the amount paid to the United States by such company as by this act required: *And provided*, That a mortgage or pledge of said lands by the company shall not be considered as a sale for the purpose of this act, nor shall this act be construed as a declaration of forfeiture of any portion of any land-grant for conditions broken, or as authorizing an entry for the same, or as a waiver of any rights that the United States may have on account of any breach of said conditions.

Lands purchased from companies to be patented to purchasers.

Companies to pay purchase-money to Secretary of the Interior.

Provisos.

Recovery by purchaser.

Mortgage not considered a sale.

SEC. 5. That where any said company shall have sold to citizens of the United States, or to persons who have declared their intention to become such citizens, as a part of its grant, lands not conveyed to or for the use of such company, said lands being the numbered sections prescribed in the grant, and being coterminous with the constructed parts of said road, and where the lands so sold are for any reason excepted from the operation of the grant to said company, it shall be lawful for the bona fide purchaser thereof from said company to make payment to the United States for said lands at the ordinary Government price for like lands, and thereupon patents shall issue therefor to the said bona fide purchaser, his heirs or assigns: *Provided*, That all lands shall be excepted from the provisions of this section which at the date of such sales were in the bona fide occupation of adverse claimants under the pre-emption or homestead laws of the United States, and whose claims and occupation have not since been voluntarily abandoned, as to which excepted lands the said pre-emption and homestead claimants shall be permitted to perfect their proofs and entries and receive

Sales of lands on line of road not conveyed to companies.

Provisos.

Adverse claimants.

Not applicable to lands settled since Dec. 1, 1882.

patents therefor: *Provided further*, That this section shall not apply to lands settled upon subsequent to the first day of December, eighteen hundred and eighty-two, by persons claiming to enter the same under the settlement laws of the United States, as to which lands the parties claiming the same as aforesaid shall be entitled to prove up and enter as in other like cases.

Purchaser of lands sold for taxes to have prior right to purchase.

SEC. 6. That where any such lands have been sold and conveyed, as the property of any railroad company, for the State and county taxes thereon, and the grant to such company has been thereafter forfeited, the purchaser thereof shall have the prior right, which shall continue for one year from the approval of this act, and no longer, to purchase such lands from the United States at the Government price, and patents for such lands shall thereupon issue. *Provided*, That said lands were not, previous to or at the time of the taking effect of such grant, in the possession of or subject to the right of any actual settler.

Proviso.

Actual settlers. Limitation of lands conveyed.

SEC. 7. That no more lands shall be certified or conveyed to any State or to any corporation or individual, for the benefit of either of the companies herein mentioned, where it shall appear to the Secretary of the Interior that such transfers may create an excess over the quantity of lands to which such State corporation or individual would be rightfully entitled.

Approved, March 3, 1887.

Mar. 3, 1887.

CHAP. 377.—An act authorizing the construction of a bridge over the Tennessee River at or near Sheffield, Alabama, and for other purposes.

Sheffield Land, Iron and Coal Co., authorized to bridge Tennessee River, Ala.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That it shall be lawful for the Sheffield Land, Iron and Coal Company of Alabama, a corporation duly and legally incorporated under the laws of the State of Alabama, its successors or assigns, to construct and maintain a bridge over the Tennessee River at or near Sheffield, Alabama. Said bridge shall be constructed to provide for the passage of railway trains, and, at the option of the persons by whom it may be built, may be used for the passage of wagons and vehicles of all kinds, for the transit of animals, and for foot-passengers, for such reasonable rates of toll as may be approved from time to time by the Secretary of War.

Railway, wagon, and foot bridge.

To be a lawful structure and post-route.

SEC. 2. That any bridge built under this act and subject to its limitations shall be a lawful structure, and shall be recognized and known as a post-route, upon which also no higher charge shall be made for the transmission over the same of the mails, the troops, and the munitions of war of the United States, or passengers or freight passing over said bridge, than the rate per mile paid for the transportation over the railroad or public highways leading to the said bridge; and it shall enjoy the rights and privileges of other post-roads in the United States.

Draw.

SEC. 3. That the said bridge shall be constructed as a draw-bridge; the draw or pivot-pier shall be at such a point in the channel of the river as the Secretary of War may direct, and the opening or passage-way of said draw-pier shall be so protected and arranged that water-craft can be worked through it at any and all times; and the draw-span shall not be of less width than the widest draw-spans connected with any bridge on the Tennessee River, and the lowest point of said draw-span shall be as high above the water as the highest draw-span connected with any bridge over the Tennessee River, and the piers of said bridge shall be parallel with and the bridge itself at right angles to the current of the river: *Provided also*, That said draw shall be opened promptly upon reasonable signal for the passing of boats; and said company or corporation shall maintain, at its own expense, from sunset till sunrise, such lights or other signals on said bridge as the Light-House Board shall prescribe. No bridge shall be erected or maintained under the authority of this act which shall at any time substantially or materially

Provisos.
Opening draw.

Lights. Not to obstruct navigation.