

all such goods and merchandise, or annuities of any character, shall be made in the presence of a military officer not below the rank of captain, to be detailed for that purpose by the commander of the department in which the delivery shall be made, where such an officer shall be stationed within fifty miles of the place of delivery, which officer shall attest by his certificate the receipt thereof; and no receipt by Indians for goods or property to any superintendent or agent shall be valid to discharge such officer, unless the same be accompanied by the certificate of such military officer, showing that said goods were actually delivered, and are of the quantity and quality stated in the invoice or bill thereof, a copy of which shall be attached to the receipt.

Mode of delivery of goods, &c. to Indians.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That the sum of three thousand five hundred dollars, provided for in the tenth article of the treaty of March sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, with the Sacs, Foxes, and Iowas, to be expended by the Secretary of the Interior in the construction of a toll bridge across the Great Nemaha river, may be applied to the purchase of oxen and agricultural implements, and so forth, for the use of said Indians, in compliance with their request.

Appropriation for toll bridge, to be applied to purchase of agricultural implements, &c. for the Sacs, Foxes, and Iowas. Vol. xii. p. 1174.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That the sum of ten thousand three hundred and fifty-six dollars be, and the same is hereby, appropriated out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, to enable the Secretary of the Interior to defray the expenses of the Cherokee delegation to Washington, District of Columbia, during the year eighteen hundred and sixty-seven: *Provided*, That said sum be refunded to the treasury of the United States out of that portion of the proceeds of the sale of the Cherokee neutral lands in Kansas applicable to Cherokee national purposes.

Expenses of Cherokee delegation at Washington.

Proviso.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That the committees on Indian affairs of the Senate and the House of Representatives shall examine the claim of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Indians for all matters of difference between them and the government of the United States, and shall report the result of said examination to their respective houses at the next session of Congress.

Claim of Choctaws and Chickasaws to be examined, &c.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That the Mendocino Indian reservation in California be restored to the public lands of the United States, and the Secretary of the Interior shall cause the same to be surveyed and offered for sale in legal subdivisions, at not less than one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre: *Provided*, That any improvement of the United States on said reservation shall be appraised by the register and receiver of the land office of the district, and be paid for by the purchaser of the land on which they are located: *Provided further*, That all improvements made by any persons on said reservation before the passage of this act, shall be the sole property of the person making them, who shall have priority of purchase of six hundred and forty acres of land covering and adjoining said improvements, and all said lands shall be sold and disposed of for money only.

Mendocino Indian reservation in California to be restored to public lands, and offered for sale. Provisoes. Improvements.

APPROVED, July 27, 1868.

CHAP CCXLIX — *An Act concerning the Rights of American Citizens in foreign States.*

July 27, 1868.

WHEREAS the right of expatriation is a natural and inherent right of all people, indispensable to the enjoyment of the rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and whereas in the recognition of this principle this government has freely received emigrants from all nations, and invested them with the rights of citizenship; and whereas it is claimed that such American citizens, with their descendents, are subjects of foreign states, owing allegiance to the governments thereof; and whereas it is necessary to the maintenance of public peace that this claim of foreign allegiance should be promptly and finally disavowed: Therefore,

Rights of American citizens in foreign states. Preamble.

Right of expatriation declared.

Protection to naturalized citizens in foreign states.

Release of citizens imprisoned by foreign governments to be demanded.

Facts to be communicated to Congress.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That any declaration, instruction, opinion, order, or decision of any officers of this government which denies, restricts, impairs, or questions the right of expatriation, is hereby declared inconsistent with the fundamental principles of this government.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That all naturalized citizens of the United States, while in foreign states, shall be entitled to, and shall receive from this government, the same protection of persons and property that is accorded to native-born citizens in like situations and circumstances.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That whenever it shall be made known to the President that any citizen of the United States has been unjustly deprived of his liberty by or under the authority of any foreign government, it shall be the duty of the President forthwith to demand of that government the reasons for such imprisonment, and if it appears to be wrongful and in violation of the rights of American citizenship, the President shall forthwith demand the release of such citizen, and if the release so demanded is unreasonably delayed or refused, it shall be the duty of the President to use such means, not amounting to acts of war, as he may think necessary and proper to obtain or effectuate such release, and all the facts and proceedings relative thereto shall as soon as practicable be communicated by the President to Congress.

APPROVED, July 27, 1868.

July 27, 1868.

CHAP. CCL. — *An Act to establish a new Land District in the State of Nebraska.*

Grand Island land district established in Nebraska. Boundaries, &c.

Register and receiver.

Lands therein, not reserved, to be exposed to sale.

Proviso.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all that portion of the Omaha land district in the State of Nebraska included within the following limits, to wit: On the east by the line dividing ranges six and seven east; on the north by the line dividing townships twenty and twenty-one north; on the south by the south bank of the Platte River; and on the west by the west boundary of the State, shall constitute an additional land district, to be called the "Grand Island" district, the location of the office for which shall be designated by the President of the United States, and shall by him, from time to time, be changed as the public interest may seem to require.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the President be, and is hereby, authorized to appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, a register and a receiver for said land district, who shall be required to reside at the site of their office, have the same powers, responsibilities, and emoluments, and be subject to the same acts and penalties which are or may be prescribed by law in relation to other land officers in said State.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That the President is hereby authorized to cause the public lands in said district, with the exception of such as may have been or may be reserved for other purposes, to be exposed to sale in the same manner and upon the same terms and conditions as other public lands of the United States: *Provided,* That all sales and locations made at the office of the old district of lands situated within the limits of the new district which shall be valid and right in other respects, up to the day on which the new office shall go into operation, be, and the same are hereby, confirmed.

APPROVED, July 27, 1868.