

Vested rights not impaired hereby.

forfeited and escheat to the United States: *Provided*, That existing vested rights in real estate shall not be impaired by the provisions of this section.

APPROVED, July 1, 1862.

July 2, 1862. CHAP. CXXVII. — *An Act to provide for additional Medical Officers of the Volunteer Service.*

Additional surgeons and assistant surgeons.

Rank, pay, &c. Previous examination.

Vacancies, how filled. Act, how long to continue.

Brigade surgeons, how known, &c.

To be surgeons of volunteers.

Regiments of volunteers to have two assistant surgeons. 1861, ch. 9, § 2. *Ante*, p. 269.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, forty surgeons and one hundred and twenty assistant surgeons of volunteers, who shall have the rank, pay and emoluments of officers of corresponding grades in the regular army; *Provided*, That no one shall be appointed to any position under this act unless he shall previously have been examined by a board of medical officers to be appointed by the Secretary of War, and that vacancies in the grade of surgeon shall be filled by selection from the grade of assistant surgeon on the ground of merit only: *And provided, further*, That this act shall continue in force only during the existence of the present rebellion.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That from and after the passage of this act, Brigade Surgeons shall be known and designated as Surgeons of Volunteers, and shall be attached to the general medical staff under the direction of the Surgeon General; and hereafter such appointments for the medical service of the army shall be appointed Surgeons of Volunteers.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That instead of "one assistant surgeon," as provided by the second section of the act of July 22nd, 1861, each regiment of Volunteers in the service of the United States shall have two Assistant Surgeons.

APPROVED, July 2, 1862.

July 2, 1862. CHAP. CXXVIII. — *An Act to prescribe an Oath of Office, and for other Purposes.*

Oath of office for all persons in civil, military or naval department of the public service.

Post, p. 701.

Oath to be preserved.

False swearing in taking the oath to be perjury.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That hereafter every person elected or appointed to any office of honor or profit under the government of the United States, either in the civil, military or naval departments of the public service, excepting the President of the United States, shall, before entering upon the duties of such office, and before being entitled to any of the salary or other emoluments thereof, take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation: "I, A. B., do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I have never voluntarily borne arms against the United States since I have been a citizen thereof; that I have voluntarily given no aid, countenance, counsel, or encouragement to persons engaged in armed hostility thereto; that I have neither sought nor accepted nor attempted to exercise the functions of any office whatever, under any authority or pretended authority in hostility to the United States; that I have not yielded a voluntary support to any pretended government, authority, power or constitution within the United States, hostile or inimical thereto. And I do further swear (or affirm) that, to the best of my knowledge and ability, I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States, against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion, and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter, so help me God;" which said oath, so taken and signed, shall be preserved among the files of the court, House of Congress, or Department to which the said office may appertain. And any person who shall falsely take the said oath shall be guilty of perjury, and on conviction, in addition to the penalties now

prescribed for that offence, shall be deprived of his office and rendered incapable forever after of holding any office or place under the United States. Penalty.

APPROVED, July 2, 1862.

CHAP. CXXIX. — *An Act to establish a Land District in the Territory of Nevada, and for other Purposes.* July 2, 1862.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the public lands of the United States in the Territory of Nevada shall constitute a land district, to be called the District of Nevada, the office for which shall be established at such place within said district as the President of the United States may from time to time direct, and the preëmption laws are hereby extended to said Territory. Land district of Nevada established.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the President be, and he is hereby, authorized to appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, a register and receiver for said district, who shall be required to reside at the site of said office, and who shall have the same powers and perform the same duties as are now or may hereafter be prescribed by law for other land officers, and whose compensation shall be the same as allowed to such officers by the act approved April twenty, eighteen hundred and eighteen, entitled "An act for changing the compensation of receivers and registers of the land offices." Register and receiver to be appointed.

1818, ch 123.
Vol. iii. p. 466.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That when the settlers in any township or townships, not mineral or reserved by government, shall desire a survey made of the same under the authority of the Surveyor-General of the United States, and shall file an application therefor in writing, and deposit in a proper United States depository to the credit of the United States a sum sufficient to pay for such survey, together with all expenses incident thereto, without cost or claim for indemnity on the United States, it shall and may be lawful for said Surveyor-General, under such instructions as may be given him by the Commissioner of the General Land Office, and in accordance with existing laws and instructions, to survey such township or townships, and make return thereof to the general and proper local land office: *Provided,* That the townships so proposed to be surveyed are within the range of the regular progress of the public surveys embraced by existing standard lines or bases for the township and sub-divisional surveys. Settlers in townships not mineral or reserved may have surveys made, &c.

Proviso.

APPROVED, July 2, 1862.

CHAP. CXXX. — *An Act donating Public Lands to the several States and Territories which may provide Colleges for the Benefit of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts.* July 2, 1862.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there be granted to the several States, for the purposes hereinafter mentioned, an amount of public land, to be apportioned to each State a quantity equal to thirty thousand acres for each senator and representative in Congress to which the States are respectively entitled by the apportionment under the census of eighteen hundred and sixty: *Provided,* That no mineral lands shall be selected or purchased under the provisions of this act. Public lands, not mineral, to be given to each State.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the land aforesaid, after being surveyed, shall be apportioned to the several States in sections or subdivisions of sections, not less than one quarter of a section; and whenever there are public lands in a State subject to sale at private entry at one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, the quantity to which said State shall be entitled shall be selected from such lands within the limits of such State, and the Secretary of the Interior is hereby directed to issue to each How apportioned.

To be selected from those subject to sale at private entry, &c. if any.