

STATUTE I.

April 20, 1826.

CHAP. XXVI.—*An Act to equalize the duties on vessels of the Republic of Columbia [Columbia] and their cargoes.*(a)

Duties imposed on vessels of Columbia, &c., to be the same as those payable on vessels of the United States, &c.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That no other or higher rate of duties shall be imposed or collected on vessels of the Republic of Columbia [Columbia,] and their cargoes, consisting of articles of the growth, produce, or manufacture of said republic, than are, or may be, payable on vessels of the United States with cargoes composed as aforesaid.

Secretary of the treasury to return all duties assessed since Jan. 29, 1826, on vessels of Columbia, and their cargoes being the growth, &c., of said republic.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized to return all duties which have been assessed since the twenty-ninth January, eighteen hundred and twenty-six, on vessels of the Republic of Columbia [Columbia,] and their cargoes composed of articles of the growth, produce or manufacture of the said republic, beyond the amount which would have been payable on vessels of the United States and cargoes, composed as aforesaid, imported therein; and that the same allowances of drawback on exportations, in vessels of the Republic of Columbia, [Columbia,] be made as on the like exportations, in vessels of the United States.

This act to continue in force during the time that the equality for which it provides be reciprocated in the ports of Columbia, &c.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That this act shall continue and be in force during the time that the equality for which it provides shall, in all respects, be reciprocated in the ports of the Republic of Columbia [Columbia,] and if, at any time hereafter, the said equality shall not be reciprocated in the ports of the said republic, the President may, and he is hereby authorized to, issue his proclamation, declaring that fact, whereupon this act shall cease and determine.

APPROVED, April 20, 1826.

STATUTE I.

April 20, 1826.

CHAP. XXVII.—*An Act appropriating a sum of money for the repair of the post-roads between Jackson and Columbus in the state of Mississippi.*

Appropriation for the repair of the post-road between Jackson and Columbus, Miss.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the sum of fifteen thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated, for the repair of the post-road in the Indian country, between Jackson and Columbus, in the state of Mississippi, to be expended under the direction of the Postmaster General; and that the said sum of money be paid out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

APPROVED, April 20, 1826.

STATUTE I.

April 22, 1826.

CHAP. XXVIII.—*An Act giving the right of pre-emption, in the purchase of lands, to certain settlers in the states of Alabama, Mississippi, and territory of Florida.*(b)

Any person, &c., who, on or before Jan. 1, 1825, cultivated, &c. a tract of land in Florida, &c., shall be entitled to the pre-emption in the purchase thereof, under the act of Feb. 5, 1813, ch. 20.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That every person, or the legal representatives of any person, who, being either the head of a family, or twenty-one years of age, did, on or before the first day of January, in the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty-five, actually inhabit and cultivate a tract of land situated in the territory of Florida, which tract is not rightfully claimed by any other person, and who shall not have removed from the said territory, shall be entitled to the right of pre-emption in the purchase thereof, under the same terms, restrictions, conditions, provisions and regulations, in every respect, as are directed by the

(a) See notes to the act of January 7, 1824, ch. 4, for notes of the act relating to discriminating duties.

(b) See notes to the act of May 8, 1822, ch. 129.

act, entitled "An act giving the right of pre-emption, in the purchase of lands, to certain settlers in the Illinois territory," passed February the fifth, one thousand eight hundred and thirteen: *Provided*, That no person shall be entitled to the provisions of this section, who claims any tract of land in said territory, by virtue of a confirmation of the commissioners, or by virtue of any act of Congress.

Act of Feb. 5, 1813, ch. 20.
Proviso.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That any person, or the legal representatives of any person, entitled to a preference in becoming the purchaser of a tract of land at private sale, according to the provisions of this act, who is settled on a fractional quarter section, shall have the privilege of purchasing an adjoining quarter section, or the fractional quarter section, improved by them, at their option.

Any person, &c., settled on a fractional quarter section, to have the privilege of purchasing an adjoining one.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That, in cases where two or more persons entitled to the right of pre-emption shall be settled on one quarter, or fractional quarter section of land, they shall be authorized to purchase one or more quarter sections, which, with the quarter section, or fractional quarter upon which such persons are settled, shall be equally divided between them, in such manner as the register and receiver shall direct, so as to secure, as far as may be practicable, to each person, their improvements, respectively: *Provided*, That in no instance shall any person be entitled to a preference in the purchase for more than one quarter section of land, in addition to his portion of the fractional quarter section on which he is settled.

Where two or more persons have the right or pre-emption.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That any person, or persons, who have settled on and improved any of the lands in the said territory, reserved for the use of schools, and who would have had the right of pre-emption thereto by this law, had not the same been so reserved, shall have the right of pre-emption under the same terms and conditions, and subject to the same restrictions, provided for in other cases of a right of pre-emption in said territory to a quarter section of unappropriated lands in the same township, and as near adjacent as lands of like quantity can be obtained.

Proviso.

Any person settled on, &c., any of the school lands, shall have the right of pre-emption, &c.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That every person, or his or her legal representative, comprised in the list of actual settlers, reported to the commissioner of the general land office, by the register and receiver for the district of Jackson Courthouse, in the state of Mississippi, under the authority of an act of Congress, entitled "An act for adjusting the claims to land, and establishing land offices in the districts east of the Island of New Orleans," approved the third day of March, one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, not having any written evidence of claim to land, in said district, and who, on the third day of March, one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, did actually inhabit and cultivate a tract of land in said district, not claimed by virtue of any written evidence of claim, legally derived from either the French, British, or Spanish governments, or granted as a donation by virtue of any act of Congress heretofore passed, shall be entitled to a right of preference, on becoming the purchaser from the United States of such tract of land, at the same price for which other public lands are sold at private sale: *Provided*, That such tract of land shall not contain more than one hundred and sixty acres, to be located by sectional lines, and that the same shall be duly entered with the register of the proper office, within the term of two years, or before, if the same shall be offered at public sale: *And provided also*, Where any person is settled on, and has improved any school lands in said district, he, she or they, shall be governed by the provisions of the fourth section of this act.

Right of pre-emption, &c., to certain persons.

Act of March 3, 1819, ch. 99.

Proviso.

Proviso.