

be done under the supervision and direction of the Secretary of War, and through the aid of some practical agent acquainted with the situation of the river, its respective bars, islands, and danderous [dangerous] places and parts; and he shall likewise cause the channel of said river, at a part usually called the Grand Chain, near its mouth, so to be deepened by a proper channel formed, that at the usual state of the water, steamboats may be enabled safely to pass and re-pass the same.

30,000 dollars
appropriated.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That, for carrying this act into effect, the sum of thirty thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby, appropriated, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

APPROVED, March 3, 1827.

STATUTE II.

March 3, 1827.

CHAP. XCIII.—*An Act to grant a certain quantity of land to the state of Ohio, for the purpose of making a road from Columbus to Sandusky.*

Land granted.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That there be, and are hereby, appropriated, to the state of Ohio, for the purpose of aiding the Columbus and Sandusky turnpike company in making a road from Columbus to Sandusky city, the one half of a quantity of land equal to two sections, on the western side of said road, and most contiguous thereto, to be bounded by sectional lines, from one end of said road to the other, wheresoever the same may remain unsold, reserving to the United States each alternate section the whole length of said road through the lands of the United States, to be selected by the commissioner of the general land office, under the direction of the President: *Provided*, That no toll shall at any time be collected of any mail stage, nor of any troops, or property of the United States.

APPROVED, March 3, 1827.

STATUTE II.

March 3, 1827.

CHAP. XCIV.—*An Act for the gradual improvement of the navy of the United States.*

Act of March
2, 1833, ch. 67.
Act of May
31, 1838, ch. 92,
sec. 2.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That, for the gradual improvement of the navy of the United States, the sum of five hundred thousand dollars per annum, for six years, is hereby appropriated, to be applied as in this act prescribed, and as may, hereafter, be directed by law.

President authorized to cause to be procured ship timber, suitable for the construction of vessels of different classes.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby authorized to cause to be procured, ship timber suitable for the construction of vessels of the various classes now recognised in the navy of the United States; and also the timber proper for the construction of steam batteries; and to take the proper measures for having the said timber duly seasoned and preserved, so as to be fit for immediate use.

Measures to be adopted to preserve the live oak timber, growing on the lands of the United States.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized to take the proper measures to preserve the live oak timber growing on the lands of the United States, and he is also authorized to reserve from sale such lands, belonging to the United States, as may be found to contain live oak, or other timber in sufficient quantity to render the same valuable for naval purposes. (a)

(a) Acts providing for the preservation of timber for the navy of the United States are:—
An act making reservation of certain public land, to supply timber for naval purposes, March 1, 1817, ch. 22.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized to cause to be constructed two dry docks, on the most approved plan, for the use of the navy of the United States, the one of said docks to be erected at some point to the south, and the other to the north of the Potomac river.

Two dry docks.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized to cause the necessary examinations and inquiries to be made, to ascertain the practicability and expediency of erecting a marine rail-way for the repair of sloops of war, and other vessels of an inferior class, at Pensacola, and, if it shall appear from such inquiry an [and] examination, that such rail-way would be useful to the navy of the United States, and can be constructed at a reasonable expense, that he cause the same to be constructed, on the most approved plan.

Marine rail-way for the repairs of sloops of war, &c., at Pensacola.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized to cause the navy yards of the United States to be thoroughly examined, and plans to be prepared, and sanctioned by the President, for the improvement of the same, and the preservation of the public property therein, from which plans, no deviation shall hereafter be made but by his special order.

Navy yards to be thoroughly examined.

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That the money appropriated by this act shall not be transferred to any other object of expenditure, nor shall any part thereof be carried to the fund denominated the surplus fund; and annual reports shall be submitted to Congress of the expenditures under this act, and the measures taken to carry the same into effect.

Money appropriated to be paid from the treasury.

APPROVED, March 3, 1827.

STATUTE II.

CHAP. XCV.—*An Act granting to the corporation of the city of Mobile the right of preference in purchase of four sections of land, or a quantity equal to four sections, at or near Spring Hill, in the county of Mobile.*

March 3, 1827.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the register and receiver of the land office at Saint Stephen's be, and they are hereby, authorized and directed to receive from the corporation of the city of Mobile, the sum of one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, for a quantity of land, not exceeding four sections, at or near Spring Hill, in the county of Mobile, and state of Alabama; and, upon the receipt of said sum as aforesaid, the said register and receiver shall issue their certificate to, and in the name of the corporation of the city of Mobile, for the said quantity of land, not exceeding four sections as aforesaid.

Register and receiver at St. Stephen's to receive from the corporation of the city of Mobile, 1 dollar 25 cents, per acre, for a certain quantity of land.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That, for and in consideration of the sum aforesaid, paid as aforesaid, [that] all the right and claim of the United States, to the said quantity of land, not exceeding four sections, in the county of Mobile, and state aforesaid, be, and the same is hereby, vested in the mayor and aldermen of the said city of Mobile, for the time being, and their successors in office, to be applied or disposed of by them, for the sole use and benefit of the said city forever: *Provided*, That no part of any claim, arising from acts of Congress, known as donations or pre-emptions by the reported list of actual settlers, or from grants recognised by any treaty, shall be covered or taken by this grant, but the same shall be excepted from, and held as not covered or interfered with by this act.

In consideration of the sum paid as aforesaid, the United States relinquish their title.

Proviso.

An act to amend "An act making reservation of certain public lands for naval purposes," passed 1st March, 1817, May 15, 1820, ch. 136.

An act for the preservation of the timber of the United States in Florida, Feb. 23, 1822, ch. 9.

An act to provide for the punishment of offences committed in cutting, destroying, or removing, live oak and other timber or trees, reserved for naval purposes, March 2, 1831, ch. 66.