THE

STATUTES AT LARGE

OF THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

FROM

DECEMBER, 1891, TO MARCH, 1893,

AND

RECENT TREATIES, CONVENTIONS, AND EXECUTIVE PROCLAMATIONS.

EDITED, PRINTED, AND PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF
CONGRESS, UNDER THE DIRECTION OF
THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

VOL. XXVII.

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.
1893.

HeinOnline -- 27 Stat. i 1888-1893

proper authorities of the State of South Carolina, in accordance with an act of the legislature of that State approved December twenty-fourth, anno Domini eighteen hundred and ninety, the amount of money to which said State is now entitled under the act of Congress approved August thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety, entitled "An act to apply a portion of the proceeds of the public lands to the more complete endowment and support of the colleges for the benefit of agriculture and the mechanic arts established under the provisions of an act of Congress approved July second, eighteen hundred and sixty-two."

Vol. 26, p. 417.

Approved, July 26, 1892.

July 26, 1892.

CHAP. 255.—An act in relation to the execution of declarations and other papers in pension claims.

Pensions.

Declarations may be made before any officer authorized to administer oaths.

R. S., sec. 4719, p. 919, amended.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That declarations of pension claimants shall be made before a court of record, or before some officer thereof having custody of its seal, or before some officer who, under the laws of his State, city or county, has authority to administer oaths for general purposes; and said officers are hereby fully authorized and empowered to administer and certify any oath or affirmation relating to any pension or application therefor: *Provided*, That where such declaration or other papers are executed before an officer authorized as above but not required by the laws of his State to have and use a seal to authenticate his official acts, he shall file in the Pension Bureau a certificate of his official character, showing his official signature and term of office, certified by a clerk of a court of record or other proper officer of the State as to the genuineness thereof; and when said certificate has been filed in the Bureau of Pensions his own certificate will be recognized during his term of office.

Proviso.

Certificate of official character to be filed.

Recognized during term of office.

Declarations made in foreign countries.

SEC. 2. That the Commissioner of Pensions may accept declarations and other papers of claimants residing in foreign countries made before a United States minister or consul or other consular officer, or before some officer of the country duly authorized to administer oaths for general purposes, and whose official character and signature shall be duly authenticated by the certificate of a United States minister or consul or other consular officer; and declarations in claims of Indians may be made before a United States Indian agent.

Declarations of Indians.

Curing defective declarations, etc.

SEC. 3 That any and all declarations or affidavits now on file in the Pension Bureau which are considered informal by reason of not having been executed in conformity to the laws heretofore in force covering such, and in which it is shown or may be hereafter shown by proper evidence that the same were executed by and before an officer who was duly authorized to administer oaths for general purposes at said date of execution, shall be accepted as formal as from date of filing such declarations or affidavits.

Repeal.

SEC. 4. That all acts and parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

Approved, July 26, 1892.

July 26, 1892.

CHAP. 256.—An act to legalize the deed and other records of the Office of Indian Affairs, and to provide and authorize the use of a seal by said office

Indian Department.

Recording of deeds, etc., in Indian Office, legalized.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the recording of all deeds and papers heretofore made and done in the office of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs be, and is hereby, confirmed, approved, and legalized; and said record heretofore made shall be deemed, taken, and held to be good and valid and shall have all the force and effect and be entitled to the same credit as if it had been made in pursuance of and in conformity

to law. But shall have no effect whatever upon the validity or invalidity of the deed or paper so recorded, and shall be no evidence of constructive notice to any persons not actually knowing the contents.

Validity of deed, etc., not affected.

SEC. 2. That the Commissioner of Indian Affairs is hereby empowered and directed to continue to make and keep a record of every deed executed by any Indian, his heirs, representatives, or assigns, which may require the approval of the President of the United States or of the Secretary of the Interior, whenever such approval shall have been given, and the deed so approved returned to said office.

Records of all deeds by Indians to be kept.

SEC. 3. That the Commissioner of Indian Affairs shall cause a seal to be made and provided for the said office, with such device as the President of the United States shall approve, and copies of any public documents, records, books, maps, or papers belonging to or on the files of said office, authenticated by the seal and certified by the Commissioner thereof, or by such officer as may, for the time being, be acting as or for such Commissioner, shall be evidence equally with the originals thereof.

Seal to be made.

Certifications.

SEC. 4. That the Commissioner of Indian Affairs shall have the custody of said seal, and shall furnish certified copies of any such records, books, maps, or papers belonging to or on the files of said office, to any person applying therefor who shall comply with the requirements of said office, upon the payment by such parties at the rate of ten cents per hundred words, and one dollar for copies of maps or plats, and the additional sum of twenty-five cents for the Commissioner's certificate of verification, with the seal of said office; and one of the employés of said office shall be designated by the Commissioner as the receiving clerk, who shall give bond in the sum of one thousand dollars, and the amounts so received shall, under the direction of the Commissioner, be paid into the Treasury of the United States; but fees shall not be demanded for such authenticated copies as may be required by the officers of any branch of the Government or by any Indian who shall satisfy the Commissioner by satisfactory legal evidence that he or she is not able, by reason of poverty, to pay such fees, nor for such unverified copies as the Commissioner in his discretion may deem proper to furnish.

Furnishing certified copies of records.

Fees.

Receiving clerk.

No fees for copies for official use., etc.

Approved, July 26, 1892.

CHAP. 257.—An act authorizing the payment of a certificate of indebtedness of the District of Columbia, numbered forty-nine hundred and eighty seven.

July 26, 1892.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the sum of one hundred and seven dollars is hereby appropriated, one-half out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated and the other half out of the revenues of the District of Columbia, for the redemption, with interest, of a certificate of indebtedness numbered four thousand nine hundred and eighty-seven, issued by authority of section seven of the legislative assembly of the District of Columbia, approved June twenty-sixth, eighteen hundred and seventy-three, dated July first, eighteen hundred and seventy-three.

District of Columbia.
Appropriation to pay a certificate of indebtedness.

Approved, July 26, 1892.

CHAP. 264.—An act to extend the privileges of the transportation of dutiable merchandise without appraisement to the port of Dunkirk, New York.

July 27, 1892.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the privileges of the seventh section of the act approved June tenth, eighteen hundred and eighty, governing the transportation of dutiable merchandise without appraisement, be, and the same are hereby, extended to the port of Dunkirk, in the State of New York.

Dunkirk, N. Y.
Immediate transportation privileges to.
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Approved, July 27, 1892.