

rendition of the judgment objected to, and that the said courts shall give such causes precedence: *And provided further*, That nothing in this Act shall be accepted or construed as a confession that the United States admit that the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations have any claim to or interest in said lands or any part thereof.

Claim not to be construed as admitted, etc.

That said action shall be presented by a single petition making the United States party defendant, and shall set forth all the facts on which the said Choctaw and Chickasaw nations claim title to said land; and said petition may be verified by the authorized delegates, agents, or attorneys of said Indians upon their information and belief as to the existence of such facts, and no other statement or verification shall be necessary: *Provided*, That if said Choctaw and Chickasaw nations do not bring their action within ninety days from the approval of this Act, or should they dismiss said suit, and the same shall not be reinstated, their claim shall be forever barred: *And provided further*, That, in the event it shall be adjudged in the final judgment or decree rendered in said action that said Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations have any right, title, or interest in or to said lands for which they should be compensated by the United States, then said sum of one million five hundred thousand (\$1,500,000) dollars shall be subject to such legislation as Congress may deem proper.

Procedure.

Provided, Claim barred by failure to bring action.

Disposal of fund on judgment for Choctaws and Chickasaws.

Approved, June 6, 1900.

CHAP. 814.—An Act To provide for the inspection of the boilers of the Alvena and Ailsa.

June 6, 1900.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to cause the inspection of the five foreign-built boilers taken from the wrecks Alvena and Ailsa, in New York Harbor in eighteen hundred and ninety-seven, and purchased from the United States by John W. Chittenden, of New York, and to direct the issue of the usual certificate of inspection, whether said boilers are or are not constructed pursuant to the laws of the United States, or whether they are or are not constructed of iron stamped pursuant to said laws. The tests in the inspection of such boilers shall be the same in all respects as to strength and safety as are required in the inspection of boilers constructed in the United States for marine purposes: *Provided*, That in the inspection of these boilers to ascertain their fitness for marine purposes the owners thereof shall cause the tubes to be removed in order to permit the inspectors of steam vessels to make the fullest examination of the interior of said boilers.

"Alvena" and "Ailsa." Issue of certificate of inspection authorized for foreign-built boilers of.

Provided, Inspection

Approved, June 6, 1900.

CHAP. 815.—An Act To establish a fish-hatchery and fish station in the State of West Virginia.

June 6, 1900.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, be, and the same is hereby, appropriated for the establishment of a fish-cultural station in the State of West Virginia, including purchase of site, construction of buildings and ponds, and equipment, at some suitable point to be selected by the United States Commissioner of Fish and Fisheries.

West Virginia. Establishment of fish station in, authorized.

Approved, June 6, 1900.