all such goods and merchandise, or annuities of any character, shall be
made in the presence of a military officer not below the rank of captain,
to be detailed for that purpose by the commander of the department in
which the delivery shall be made, where such an officer shall be stationed
within fifty miles of the place of delivery, which officer shall attest by his
certificate the receipt thereof; and no receipt by Indians for goods or
property to any superintendent or agent shall be valid to discharge such
officer, unless the same be accompanied by the certificate of such military
officer, showing that said goods were actually delivered, and are of the
quantity and quality stated in the invoice or bill thereof; a copy of which
shall be attached to the receipt.

SEC. 3. And be it further enacted, That the sum of three thousand five
hundred dollars, provided for in the tenth article of the treaty of March
sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, with the Sacs, Foxes, and Iowas,
to be expended by the Secretary of the Interior in the construction of a
toll bridge across the Great Nemaha river, may be applied to the pur-
chase of oxen and agricultural implements, and so forth, for the use of
said Indians, in compliance with their request.

SEC. 4. And be it further enacted, That the sum of ten thousand three
hundred and fifty-six dollars be, and the same is hereby, appropriated out
of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, to enable the
Secretary of the Interior to defray the expenses of the Cherokee dele-
gation to Washington, District of Columbia, during the year eighteen hun-
dred and sixty-seven: Provided, That said sum be refunded to the treas-
ury of the United States out of that portion of the proceeds of the sale
of the Cherokee neutral lands in Kansas applicable to Cherokee national
purposes.

SEC. 5. And be it further enacted, That the committees on Indian
affairs of the Senate and the House of Representatives shall examine the
claim of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Indians for all matters of difference
between them and the government of the United States, and shall report
the result of said examination to their respective houses at the next
session of Congress.

SEC. 6. And be it further enacted, That the Mendocino Indian reserva-
tion in California be restored to the public lands of the United States, and
the Secretary of the Interior shall cause the same to be surveyed and
offered for sale in legal subdivisions, at not less than one dollar and
twenty-five cents per acre: Provided, That any improvement of the
United States on said reservation shall be appraised by the register and
receiver of the land office of the district, and be paid for by the pur-
chaser of the land on which they are located: Provided further, That all
improvements made by any persons on said reservation before the passage
of this act, shall be the sole property of the person making them, who
shall have priority of purchase of six hundred and forty acres of land
covering and adjoining said improvements, and all said lands shall be
sold and disposed of for money only.

APPROVED, July 27, 1868.

CHAP. CCXLIX — An Act concerning the Rights of American Citizens in foreign
States.

WHEREAS the right of expatriation is a natural and inherent right of
all people, indispensable to the enjoyment of the rights of life, liberty, and
the pursuit of happiness; and whereas in the recognition of this princi-
ple this government has freely received emigrants from all nations, and
invested them with the rights of citizenship; and whereas it is claimed
that such American citizens, with their descendants, are subjects of for-
eign states, owing allegiance to the governments thereof; and whereas it
is necessary to the maintenance of public peace that this claim of foreign
allegiance should be promptly and finally disavowed: Therefore,
Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That any declaration, instruction, opinion, order, or decision of any officer of this government which denies, restricts, impairs, or questions the right of expatriation, is hereby declared inconsistent with the fundamental principles of this government.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That all naturalized citizens of the United States, while in foreign states, shall be entitled to, and shall receive from this government, the same protection of persons and property that is accorded to native-born citizens in like situations and circumstances.

SEC. 3. And be it further enacted, That whenever it shall be made known to the President that any citizen of the United States has been unjustly deprived of his liberty by or under the authority of any foreign government, it shall be the duty of the President forthwith to demand of that government the reasons for such imprisonment, and if it appears to be wrongful and in violation of the rights of American citizenship, the President shall forthwith demand the release of such citizen, and if the release so demanded is unreasonably delayed or refused, it shall be the duty of the President to use such means, not amounting to acts of war, as he may think necessary and proper to obtain or effectuate such release, and all the facts and proceedings relative thereto shall as soon as practicable be communicated by the President to Congress.

APPROVED, July 27, 1868.

CHAP. CCL. — An Act to establish a new Land District in the State of Nebraska.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all that portion of the land district established in Nebraska, to wit: On the east by the line dividing ranges six and seven east; on the north by the line dividing townships twenty and twenty-one north; on the south by the south bank of the Platte River; and on the west by the west boundary of the State, shall constitute an additional land district; to be called the "Grand Island" district, the location of the office for which shall be designated by the President of the United States, and shall by him, from time to time, be changed as the public interest may seem to require.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That the President be, and is hereby, authorized to appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, a register and a receiver for said land district, who shall be required to reside at the site of their office, have the same powers, responsibilities, and emoluments, and be subject to the same acts and penalties which are or may be prescribed by law in relation to other land officers in said State.

SEC. 3. And be it further enacted, That the President is hereby authorized to cause the public lands in said district, with the exception of such as may have been or may be reserved for other purposes, to be exposed to sale in the same manner and upon the same terms and conditions as other public lands of the United States: Provided, That all sales and locations made at the office of the old district of lands situated within the limits of the new district which shall be valid and right in other respects, up to the day on which the new office shall go into operation, be, and the same are hereby, confirmed.

APPROVED, July 27, 1868.