

person authorized by law to take acknowledgment of deeds, may be recorded in the office of Register of Deeds of the proper county.

SEC. 2. It shall be the duty of the Register of Deeds in each county within this Territory, to receive and record at length, all such bonds, contracts, or agreements as shall be left with him for that purpose.

Duty of Register of deeds.

SEC. 3. Each and every bond, contract or agreement, made and recorded according to the provisions of the first section of this act, shall be notice to, and take precedence of any subsequent purchaser or purchasers, and shall operate as a lien upon the lands therein described, according to its import and meaning.

Effect of such record.

SEC. 4. The said Registers shall receive the same compensation for recording all papers, contemplated by this act as is now allowed, by law, for recording deeds and mortgages.

Fees of Register.

SEC. 5. This act shall take effect from and after its passage, and shall include all bonds, contracts or agreements, now made and recorded, or now made and not recorded, as well as those hereafter to be made.

When this act to take effect.

CHAP. LXVI.—An Act to prevent trespass and other injuries being done to the possession of settlers, on the public lands, and to define the right of possession on said lands.

SEC. 1. That, hereafter in actions of trespass *quare clausum fregit*, trespass, ejection, forcible entry and detainer, as well as forcible detainer, only, when any person may be settled upon any of the public lands, in this territory, where the same have not been sold by the General Government, his, her, or their possession shall be considered, on the trial, as extending to the boundaries, embraced by the "claim" of such person or persons, except mineral lots, so as to enable him, her, or them, to have and maintain either of the aforesaid actions, without being compelled to prove an actual enclosure: *Provided*, That such claim shall not exceed, in any case three hundred and twenty acres, and provided that such claim may be located, in two different parcels, as will suit the convenience of the holder. And every such claim shall be marked out, so that the boundaries thereof may be readily traced, and the extent of such claim easily known: *Provided*, That no person shall be entitled to sustain either of said actions for possession of, or injury done to, any claim unless he occupy the same, or shall have made improvements thereon, to the value of fifty dollars.

What deemed the possessions of a settler.

How he may defend them.

A 'claim' how acquired.

How abandoned.

SEC. 2. A neglect to occupy or cultivate said claim, for the period of six months, shall be considered such an abandonment as to preclude said owners from sustaining either of the aforesaid actions.

CHAP. LXVII.—An Act declaring Rivers navigable for certain purposes.

SEC. 1. That all rivers and streams of water in this territory, in all places where the same have been meandered and returned as navigable, by the surveyors employed by the United States Government, are hereby declared navigable to such an extent, that no dam, bridge or other obstruction may be made in, or over the same, without the permission of the Legislature.

Meandered streams not to be obstructed by dams etc.