

## CHAPTER 203.

[S. F. No. 121.]

AN ACT TO RE-EMBURSE SETTLERS FOR MONEY EXPENDED IN DEFENDING SUITS BROUGHT BY RAILROAD COMPANIES AGAINST PERSONS CLAIMING LANDS EMBRACED IN THE RELINQUISHMENT MADE IN PURSUANCE OF SECTION TEN (10), CHAPTER TWO HUNDRED AND ONE (201), SPECIAL LAWS OF ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-SEVEN (1877.)

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:*

Appropriation  
to reimburse  
settlers for  
expenses in  
land suits by  
railroad com-  
panies.

SECTION 1. That the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or so much thereof as may be necessary is hereby appropriated out of any money in the state treasury properly applicable thereto and not otherwise appropriated to re-imburse settlers for money expended for counsel fees in defending suits brought by any railroad company against such settlers claiming lands embraced in the relinquishment made in pursuance of section ten (10) of chapter two hundred and one (201) of the special laws for the year one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven (1877), the same to be paid upon the following conditions: The settler seeking to recover such money shall file in the office of the state auditor a statement, showing the date of such suit, the description of the lands embraced in said action and a detailed statement of the money paid out as counsel fees in making such defense together with a statement of the proceedings had in such action all of which shall be verified by the affidavit of the person making such application. He shall also file with such statement a certificate of the clerk of the court in which such action was tried, or the certificate of one of the land officers before whom said suit was tried, if tried before any land office, of the pendency of said action and the disposition of the same, and shall also file with said statement the affidavit of the person to whom such counsel fees were paid, that the amount claimed to have been paid was actually received by such counsel. Such statement shall be examined by the auditor who shall reject in whole or in part any item in such statement which shall appear excessive or unreasonable.

Proviso.

SEC. 2. *Provided*, nothing in this act shall be so construed as to apply to any action brought against any person claiming any of said lands since the passage of chapter one hundred and seventy-six (176) of the general laws for the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty-five (1885).

SEC. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved March 2d, 1887.

## CHAPTER 204.

[S. F. No. 191.]

AN ACT TO RESTRICT THE OWNERSHIP OF REAL ESTATE IN THE STATE OF MINNESOTA TO AMERICAN CITIZENS AND THOSE WHO HAVE LAWFULLY DECLARED THEIR INTENTIONS TO BECOME SUCH, AND SO FORTH, AND TO LIMIT THE QUANTITY OF LAND WHICH CORPORATIONS MAY ACQUIRE, HOLD, OR OWN.

323-204  
113 . . . 89  
129 . . . 89  
117 . . . 89

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:*

SECTION 1. That it shall be unlawful for any person or persons, not citizens of the United States, or who have not lawfully declared their intentions to become such citizens, or for any corporation, not created by or under the laws of the United States or of some state or territory of the United States, to hereafter acquire, hold or own, real estate so hereafter acquired, or any interest therein in this state except such as may be acquired by devise or inheritance, or in good faith in the ordinary course of justice in collection of debts hereafter created. *Provided*, That the prohibition of this section shall not apply in such cases as the right to hold lands in the United States is secured by existing treaties to the citizens or subjects of foreign countries which rights shall continue to exist so long as such treaties are in force. *Provided further*, That the provisions of this section shall not apply to actual settlers upon farms of not more than one hundred and sixty (160) acres of land, who may settle thereon at any time before January first (1st), one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine (1889).

Restricts the ownership of real estate in this state.

*Provided further*, That none of the provisions of this act shall be construed to apply to lands acquired, held or obtained in good faith by due process of law in the collection of debts, or the foreclosure of mortgages.

SEC. 2. That no corporation or association more than twenty (20) per centum of the stock of which is or may be owned by any person or persons, corporation or corporations, association or associations, not citizens of the United States, shall hereafter acquire, or shall hold or own any real estate hereafter acquired in this state.

Corporations restricted.