

[Printer's No., 74.

40TH CONGRESS,
1ST SESSION.

H. R. 124.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

JULY 10, 1867.

Read twice, referred to the Committee on Reconstruction, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. JULIAN, on leave, introduced the following bill:

A BILL

Further to extend and apply the provisions of the "Act for the disposal of the public lands for homestead actual settlement in the States of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Florida," approved June twenty-first, eighteen hundred and sixty-six.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That all the unsold public lands in the States of Alabama,
4 Mississippi, Louisiana, and Florida, which were patented to
5 said States in the year eighteen hundred and fifty-six to aid
6 them in the construction of railroads therein, and which
7 grants have now expired by limitation, are hereby declared
8 forfeited to the United States, and shall henceforward be
9 subject to homestead entry and settlement, under the act of
10 Congress approved June twenty-first, eighteen hundred and
11 sixty-six, for the disposal of the public lands for homestead

12 actual settlement in said States, precisely as are other public
13 lands therein under said act.

1 SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That when the corner
2 posts or field marks of the public surveys have been so ob-
3 literated as to make it impossible to identify particular tracts
4 of land, it shall be the duty of the Commissioner of the Freed-
5 men's Bureau to appoint an efficient and trustworthy deputy
6 surveyor, at a compensation to be fixed by him, and which
7 shall be paid by the United States, who shall retrace the
8 lines of the original survey, and establish them in exact ac-
9 cordance with the field notes of the public surveys which have
10 heretofore been executed under the authority of the United
11 States; and no other surveyor or person shall charge or re-
12 ceive any fees for the survey of any land in any of the States
13 to which the said act of June twenty-first, eighteen hundred
14 and sixty-six, applies, nor shall any register or receiver in any
15 of said States charge any claimant of land under said act any
16 fees, or receive the same, other than those expressly provided
17 for in said act. And it is hereby further enacted, that no
18 reduction of the quantity of land of any claimant shall be
19 exacted on account of its proximity to any railroad.

1 SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That all the public lands
2 of the State of Texas, which have not been lawfully disposed
3 of by said State, are hereby declared forfeited to the United
4 States, by reason of her treason and rebellion against the same;

5 and said lands shall be, to all intents and purposes, subject to
6 the act of Congress aforesaid, in the same manner as the
7 public lands of the other States herein mentioned, so soon
8 as the surveys of the United States shall be extended over
9 the same, and the machinery of the land department of the
10 government established therein, which shall be done, as soon
11 as practicable, under the direction of the Secretary of the
12 Interior.

1 SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That all agricultural
2 lands in any of the States lately in rebellion which shall
3 hereafter be forfeited and sold by reason of non-payment of
4 federal taxes, and all such lands in said States which shall be
5 sold under proceedings in bankruptcy in pursuance of the
6 “Act to establish a uniform system of bankruptcy in the
7 United States,” approved March second, eighteen hundred
8 and sixty-seven, shall be disposed of only in lots not less than
9 twenty acres, nor more than eighty acres.

A BILL

Further to extend and apply the provisions of the "Act for the disposal of the public lands for homestead actual settlement in the States of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Florida," approved June 21, 1866.

JULY 10, 1867.—Read twice, referred to the Committee on Reconstruction, and ordered to be printed.