

SEALS.

AN ACT respecting Seals

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted by the Council and House of Representatives of the Territory of Iowa,* That any instrument, to which the person making the same shall affix any device, or scrawl, by way of seal, shall be adjudged and held to be of the same force and obligation as if it were actually sealed. Scrawl equivalent to a seal.

SEC. 2. All instruments shall be considered, and adjudged, as sealed instruments whenever the aforesaid scrawl or device, is attached by the mark thereof, although the word "seal" is not mentioned in the body of the instrument. Scrawl, or device, without the word "seal."

APPROVED, January 24, 1839.

SEAT OF GOVERNMENT.

AN ACT to locate the Seat of Government of the Territory of Iowa, and for other purposes.

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted by the Council and House of Representatives of the Territory of Iowa,* That until the public buildings are completed, and ready for the reception of the Legislative Assembly and other officers of the Territory, at the permanent seat of government, located as hereinafter directed, the sessions of the Legislative Assembly shall be held at the town of Burlington, for three years, and until the aforesaid necessary buildings shall be declared, by the proclamation of the Governor, ready for the reception of the Legislative Assembly. Sessions of legislative assembly to be held at Burlington for three years.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted,* That the commissioners hereinafter mentioned, or a majority of them, shall, on the first day of May, in the year eighteen hundred and thirty-nine, meet at the town of Napoleon, and proceed to locate the seat of government at the most eligible point within the present limits of Johnson county, in said Territory. Meeting of commissioners.

SEC. 3. That three commissioners, to consist of one person from each judicial district in this Territory, shall be appointed by joint ballot of the Council and House of Representatives, to locate and establish the permanent seat of government of this Territory, as hereinbefore directed, in the said county of Johnson. Comm'rs to be appointed by joint ballot.

Public build-
ings.

Governor to of-
ficiate as treas-
urer.

Account to be
rendered.

Duty of acting
commissioner.

Comm'rs com-
pensation.

Land to be
laid out in lots,
streets, &c.

Copy of plat to
be sent to the
Governor.

Oath to be ta-
ken by com-
missioners.

SEC. 4. *Be it further enacted*, That the said commissioners, or a majority of them, shall agree upon a plan of said buildings, and shall issue proposals, giving six months notice thereof, and contract for the erection of said buildings without delay. The Governor of the Territory shall officiate as treasurer, whose duty it shall be to draw from the treasurer of the United States such sum or sums of money as have been, or hereafter may be, appropriated by Congress towards the erection of public buildings for the use of said Territory, and shall pay the same, upon the order of a majority of said commissioners, to such persons as they may direct. The Governor shall annually render to the Legislative Assembly a true account of all moneys received and paid out by him. And the said commissioners shall agree upon one of their number to be acting commissioner, whose duty it shall be to superintend daily, in person, the rearing and finishing said buildings; and the said acting commissioner shall have power at all times, when he may think proper, to call the board of commissioners together for the purpose of transacting business on this subject; and the said board shall, in all contracts, reserve the privilege of suspending any contract made by them, for the purpose or carrying into effect the object above named, until the matter in dispute shall be settled, if any there should be. The said commissioners shall receive such compensation as may hereafter be allowed them by law.

SEC. 5. *Be it further enacted*, That the said commissioners shall employ one or more competent surveyors, and all other hands necessary, and shall have six hundred and forty acres of land laid out in lots, out lots, streets, squares, and alleys, at the place where the said seat of government is so located, if practicable.

SEC. 6. *Be it further enacted*, That it shall be the duty of the commissioners to have the town platted, and to transmit a copy of the same to the Governor, which shall be filed in the office of the Secretary of the Territory.

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That the said commissioners, previous to their entering upon their duties, as provided in this act, shall take and subscribe the following oath before some person legally authorized to administer the same:

"We (*here insert the names of the commissioners*) do solemnly swear, (or affirm, as the case may be), in

the presence of Almighty God, that we will, to the best of our skill, abilities, and judgment, locate and establish the permanent seat of government for the Territory of Iowa, in the county of Johnson, in the Territory aforesaid; and that we will faithfully and honestly superintend the erection and completion of the public buildings, as is provided in the act entitled, 'An Act to locate the Seat of Government of the Territory of Iowa, and for other purposes,' and that in all things we will faithfully and truly discharge our duties under the same without partiality, favor, or interest:" which oath, subscribed as aforesaid, shall be transmitted and filed in the office of the Secretary of the Territory.

And filed in
the Secretary's
office.

APPROVED, January 21, 1839.

SEAT OF GOVERNMENT.

AN ACT supplementary to "An Act to locate the Seat of Government of the Territory of Iowa, and for other purposes."

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted by the Council and House of Representatives of the Territory of Iowa,* That so soon as the place shall be selected, agreeably to the provisions of the act to which this is a supplement, and report thereof made to the Governor, and the consent of the United States obtained, the commissioners shall proceed to lay out a town, to be called "Iowa City," on the piece of ground so selected, upon such place as may be agreed upon by a majority of said commissioners; and after a plat of the same shall have been recorded, the Governor shall, by proclamation, direct a sale of lots in said town, to be under the direction of the commissioners above named, the proceeds of which shall go into the Territorial Treasury, to be expended as may hereafter be directed by law.

Seat of Gov-
ernment to be
called "Iowa
City."

Sale of lots.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted,* That the acting commissioner shall give bond to the United States in the penal sum of forty thousand dollars, to be approved of by the Governor, for the faithful performance of his duty, and said bond shall be filed in the office of the Secretary of the Territory.

Acting com-
missioner to
execute a bond.

SEC. 3. *Be it further enacted,* That the acting commissioner shall annually render, to the Legislative Assembly, a true account of all monies received and paid out by him.

Account to be
rendered an-
nually.

Donation of
land, or pre-
emption.

\$20,000 ap-
propriated by
Congress.

Commission-
ers.

In case of va-
cancy, Govern-
or to appoint.

Proviso.

SEC. 4. *Be it further enacted*, That the Governor is hereby authorized to apply to Congress for a donation of, or a pre-emption to, four sections of land on which to locate the seat of government of the Territory of Iowa, and also to draw from the treasury of the United States the sum of twenty thousand dollars, appropriated by Congress to be expended in the erection of public buildings, and also such other sum or sums of money as may hereafter be appropriated for like purposes, and the said Governor is hereby required to pay the same to the acting commissioner, after he shall have given bond, as required in the second section of this act.

SEC. 5. *Be it further enacted*, That Chauncey Swan, John Ronalds, and Robert Ralston, be and they are hereby appointed a board of commissioners to locate the seat of government of the Territory of Iowa, and to superintend the erection of public buildings.

SEC. 6. *Be it further enacted*, That if by death, resignation, or any other cause, there shall be a vacancy in said board of commissioners, it shall be the duty of the Governor to appoint some person, from the district where the vacancy occurred, to perform the duties of such disqualified commissioner: *Provided*, however, That such appointment shall not extend beyond the meeting of the next Legislative Assembly.

SEC. 7. *Be it further enacted*, That such parts of the law, to which this is amendatory, as are contrary to the provisions of this act, are hereby superseded.

APPROVED, January 21, 1839.

SECURITIES.

AN ACT concerning debtors and their securities.

When security
apprehensive
that principal
will become
insolvent, &c.

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted by the Council and House of Representatives of the Territory of Iowa*, That when any person bound as security by bond, bill, note, or otherwise, for the payment of money, or performance of a contract, shall apprehend that the principal debtor for whom he is bound, is likely to become insolvent, or migrate from this Territory, without previously satisfying or discharging such debts due, demand, or obligation, so that it will become impossible, or difficult, for such security, after paying, satisfying, or discharging such debts due, or demand, to