

CHAPTER XVII.

[S. B. No. 77.]

RULE OF DECISION.

AN ACT declaring the rule of decision in the State of Washington, amending section 1 of the Code of 1881.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

SECTION 1. Section 1 of the code of Washington of 1881 is amended to read as follows: The common law, so far as it is not inconsistent with the constitution and laws of the United States, or of the State of Washington, nor incompatible with the institutions and condition of society in this state, shall be the rule of decision in all the courts of this state.

Approved February 24, 1891.

CHAPTER XVIII.

[S. B. No. 60.]

CEDING JURISDICTION TO THE UNITED STATES.

AN ACT to cede the jurisdiction of the State of Washington to the United States of America over land needed for the improvement of rivers and harbors, and for the purchase and condemnation thereof.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

SECTION 1. That the consent of the State of Washington be and the same is hereby given to the acquisition by purchase or by condemnation, under the laws of this state relating to the appropriation of private property to public uses, by the United States of America, or under the authority of the same, of any tract, piece or parcel of land, from any individual or individuals, bodies politic or corporate, within the boundaries or limits of this state, for the sites of locks, dams, piers, breakwaters, keepers' dwellings, and other necessary structures and purposes required in the improvement of the rivers and harbors of this state or

Purposes
defined.

Method of conveyance.

bordering thereon, or for the sites of forts, magazines, arsenals, docks, navy yards, naval stations, or other needful buildings authorized by any act of congress, and all deeds, conveyances of title papers for the same shall be recorded, as in other cases, upon the land records of the county in which the land so acquired may lie; and in like manner may be recorded a sufficient description by metes and bounds, courses and distances, of any tract or tracts, legal divisions or subdivisions of any public land belonging to the United States which may be set apart by the general government for any or either of the purposes before mentioned by an order, patent or other official document or papers describing such land; the consent herein and hereby given being in accordance with the seventeenth clause of the eighth section of the first article of the constitution of the United States, and with the acts of congress in such cases made and provided, and the jurisdiction of this state is hereby ceded to the United States of America over all such land or lands as may have been or may be hereafter acquired by purchase or by condemnation, or set apart by the general government for any or either of the purposes before mentioned: *Provided*, That this state shall retain a concurrent jurisdiction with the United States in and over all tracts so acquired or set apart as aforesaid, so far as that all civil and criminal process that may issue under the authority of this state against any person or persons charged with crimes committed, or for any cause of action or suit accruing without the bounds of any such tract, may be executed therein in the same manner and with like effect as though this assent and cession had not been granted.

Concurrent jurisdiction.

SEC. 2. The tracts, pieces or parcels of land so acquired or set apart, together with the tenements and appurtenances for the purposes before mentioned, shall be held exempt from taxation by the State of Washington.

Approved February 24, 1891.