An act to grant a quantity of land to the State of Illinois for the purpose of ending in opening a canal to connect the waters of the Illinois River with those of Lake Michigan.

The act enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress Assembled,

Sec. 1. "That there be, and hereby is, granted to the State of Illinois, for the purpose of ending the said State in opening a canal to unite the waters of the Illinois River with those of Lake Michigan, a quantity of land equal to one half of five sections, on each side of said canal, and bearing each alternate width, on each side of said canal, to be selected by the Commissioner of the Land Office, and the direction of the President of the United States, from one end of said canal to the other, and the said lands shall be subject to the Disposal of the Legislature of said State, for the purpose of said canal, and no other. Provided that the said improvements and said canal when completed shall be and forever remain a public highway for the use of the Government of the United States or any State, or other grantee, whether under the name of the United States or otherwise, for any purpose of the United States or any State for any property of the United States or any person, and shall be free from any toll, or other charge, whatever.

Sec. 2. "And be it further enacted, That, so soon as the said canal shall be completed and opened on by the said State, it shall be the duty of the Governor thereof, or such other person or persons as may have been authorized to superintend the construction of said canal, to examine and ascertain the particular section to which the said State will be entitled, under the provisions of this act, and report the same to the Secretary of the United States, and that the said State, under the authority of the Legislature of the said State, may sell and convey the whole, or any part of the said lands, and to give a title in fee simple thereof, to whomsoever shall purchase the whole or any part thereof.

Passed 2d March 1827.