

A 5.

Circular to all Receivers and Registers of land offices.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, July 9, 1840.

By the 25th section of the act "to provide for the collection, safekeeping, transfer, and disbursement of the public revenue," approved on the 4th instant, it is enacted "that the Treasurer of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized to receive at the Treasury, and at such other points as he may designate, payments in advance for public lands; the payments so made, in all cases, to be evidenced by the receipt of the said Treasurer of the United States; which receipts so given shall be receivable for public lands, at any public or private sale of lands, in the same manner as the currency authorized by law to be received in payment for the public lands: *Provided, however,* That the receipts given by the Treasurer of the United States, pursuant to the authority conferred in this section, shall not be negotiable or transferable, by delivery, or assignment, or in any other manner whatsoever, but shall, in all cases, be presented in payment for lands by or for the person to whom the receipt was given, as shown upon its face."

In order to prevent imposition or mistake, a form of the receipt which will be issued under the above provision is enclosed, with the signature of the Treasurer of the United States, as well as of the Register of the Treasury, by whom they will be countersigned, together with the signatures of their chief clerks respectively, who may occasionally act in absence of their principals. The seal of the department will be affixed to each receipt.

Should any change in the form of the receipt be adopted, or any change in the office charged with authenticating them take place, you will be immediately notified, and a specimen of the new signatures furnished.

When received at a land office, these receipts will be at once cancelled, (by a cross cut through the signatures,) and the amount stated in the weekly returns of the receiver, who will make a short endorsement on each receipt, showing the land office at which it was surrendered, and referring to the number and date of *his receipt* covering the payment, affixing his own signature to such endorsement.

The original receipts will be returned to the Commissioner of the General Land Office monthly, the aggregate amount so returned being certified by the register on the back of the receiver's monthly returns to this office; and, at the end of each quarter, a general abstract of the names, dates, and amounts, of the receipts surrendered in that period, should accompany the receiver's quarterly account rendered to the Commissioner.

LEVI WOODBURY,
Secretary of the Treasury.

A 6.

Circular to all disbursing officers of the Treasury Department.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, July 15, 1840.

SIR: The 21st section of the act "to provide for the collection, safekeeping, transfer, and disbursement of the public revenue," enacts "that