

have been destroyed by fire, or otherwise, so that a connected chain of title cannot be deduced therefrom, it shall be lawful for any person, who can produce a deed or deeds showing a connected chain of title running back for the term of ten years or more, to make an affidavit before the county judge of such county to the effect that he is the identical person named as grantee in the last conveyance of such chain of title; that, as such grantee, he, or his immediate grantor or grantors, has been in continual occupation and possession of the premises, giving in such affidavit a full and complete description of such premises under such deed or deeds for a period of time not less than ten years, and the person so making such affidavit shall cause such affidavit and the deed or deeds to be recorded in the office of the register of deeds of such county, and thereupon said deeds and affidavit, or the record thereof, shall be *prima facie* evidence that said person so making the affidavit is the owner in fee of such described premises. In case any of the deeds described in said affidavit have been recorded since the destruction of said county records, it will not be necessary to re-record them with the affidavit.

SECTION 2. In case such premises are owned, or Affidavits. held, in the name of a corporation or a company, or by more than one person in joint tenancy or in common, then the affidavit may be made by the president or secretary of such corporation, or one of such owners in behalf of such corporation or joint owners.

SECTION 3. The provisions of section four thousand Right of possession. two hundred and twelve of the revised statutes shall apply for the purposes of constituting possession by any person making such affidavit.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved March 4, 1879.

[No. 197, S.]

[Published March 10, 1879.]

CHAPTER 178.

AN ACT to amend section nine hundred and sixty-seven of the revised statutes and to authorize the state superintendent to fill vacancies in the office of county superintendent.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows :

SECTION 1. Section nine hundred and sixty-seven Filling vacancies. of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding

thereto the following words: And whenever there shall be a vacancy in the office of county superintendent the state superintendent may appoint a suitable person to such office, until another shall be elected and qualified.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved March 4, 1879.

[No. 352, A.]

[Published March 3, 1879.]

CHAPTER 179.

AN ACT relating to the charter of the city of Portage and amendatory of chapter one hundred and twenty-two, laws of 1876.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

Reorganization
of wards.

SECTION 1. Section three of chapter one of chapter one hundred and twenty-two, of the laws of 1876, is hereby amended by repealing and striking out the whole of said section three after the twenty-second line thereof, and substituting for the part of said section so repealed and stricken out the following words, to wit:

Boundaries.

All that portion of the city which is bounded and described as follows, to-wit: Beginning on the northerly bank of the Wisconsin river, in the center of Cass street, running north through the center of said Cass street to the track of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, thence east along said track to the center of Mac street, thence south through the center of Mac street to the center of Wisconsin street, thence southeasterly through the center of said Wisconsin street to the canal which connects the Fox and Wisconsin rivers, thence westerly and northerly along said canal and river to the center of said Cass street, the place of beginning, shall constitute the fourth ward; all that portion of the city which is bounded and described as follows, to wit: All that part of said city which lies west and south of the Wisconsin river, all that part of the city which lies west of said Cass street and south of said railroad track, and all that part of the city which lies north of said railroad track, and west of the new piny road, shall constitute the fifth ward. The common council is hereby empowered to designate the school house or any other convenient place in the fourth ward,

Fourth ward.

Fifth ward.

as the place for holding the elections for the fifth ward.