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importation of the person or persons whose labor or service is contracted for into the United States, shall be utterly void and of no effect,

Penalty for violation of first section, fine; how recovered.

SEC. 3. That for every violation of any of the provisions of section one of this act the person, partnership, company, or corporation violating the same, by knowingly assisting, encouraging or soliciting the migration or importation of any alien or aliens, foreigner or foreigners, into the United States, its Territories, or the District of Columbia, to perform labor or service of any kind under contract or agreement, express or implied, parol or special, with such alien or aliens, foreigner or foreigners, previous to becoming residents or citizens of the United States, shall forfeit and pay for every such offence the sum of one thousand dollars, which may be sued for and recovered by the United States or by any person who shall first bring his action therefor including any such alien or foreigner who may be a party to any such contract or agreement, as debts of like amount are now recovered in the circuit courts of the United States; the proceeds to be paid into the Treasury of the United States; and separate suits may be brought for each alien or foreigner being a party to such contract or agreement aforesaid. And it shall be the duty of the district attorney of the proper district to prosecute every such suit at the expense of the United States.

Master of vessel, knowingly bringing such emigrant laborer, guilty of misdemeanor, punishable by fine or imprisonment.

SEC. 4. That the master of any vessel who shall knowingly bring within the United States on any such vessel, and land, or permit to be landed, from any foreign port or place, any alien laborer, mechanic, or artisan who, previous to embarkation on such vessel, had entered into contract or agreement, parol or special, express or implied, to perform labor or service in the United States, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars for each and every such alien laborer, mechanic or artisan so brought as aforesaid, and may also be imprisoned for a term not exceeding six months.

Foreigners temporarily residing in the United States may engage other foreigners as private secretaries, servants, etc.

Skilled workman in foreign countries may be engaged to perform labor in any new industry not established in the United States.

Proviso.

Artists, lecturers, servants, etc., excepted.

Proviso, as to assisting relatives and friends.

SEC. 5. That nothing in this act shall be so construed as to prevent any citizen or subject of any foreign country temporarily residing in the United States, either in private or official capacity, from engaging, under contract or otherwise, persons not residents or citizens of the United States to act as private secretaries, servants, or domestics for such foreigner temporarily residing in the United States as aforesaid; nor shall this act be so construed as to prevent any person, or persons, partnership, or corporation from engaging, under contract or agreement, skilled workman in foreign countries to perform labor in the United States in or upon any new industry not at present established in the United States: *Provided*, That skilled labor for that purpose cannot be otherwise obtained; nor shall the provisions of this act apply to professional actors, artists, lecturers, or singers, nor to persons employed strictly as personal or domestic servants: *Provided*, That nothing in this act shall be construed as prohibiting any individual from assisting any member of his family or any relative or personal friend, to migrate from any foreign country to the United States, for the purpose of settlement here.

Laws conflicting herewith, repealed.

SEC. 6. That all laws or parts of laws conflicting herewith be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

Approved, February 26, 1885.

CHAP. 165.—An act to authorize the construction of a bridge across the Mississippi River at Memphis, Tennessee.

February 26, 1885.

Bridge across Mississippi River at Memphis Tenn., may be constructed by the Tennessee and Arkansas

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Tennessee and Arkansas Bridge Company, a corporation organized and created under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Arkansas, and the Tennessee Construction and Contracting Company, a corporation organized and created under and by virtue of the laws of Tennessee, be, and the same

Bridge Company, and the Tennessee Construction and Contracting Company.

are hereby, jointly authorized and empowered to erect, construct, and maintain a bridge over the Mississippi River from or near Memphis, in the State of Tennessee, to or near the town of Hopefield, in the State of Arkansas. Said bridge shall be constructed to provide for the passage of railway trains, and, at the option of the corporations by which it may be built, may be used for the passage of wagons and vehicles of all kinds, for the transit of animals, and for foot passengers, for such reasonable rates of toll as may be approved from time to time by the Secretary of War.

Passage of railway trains, etc.

Toll.

Declared a post-route and lawful structure.

SEC. 2. That any bridge built under this act and subject to its limitations shall be a lawful structure, and shall be recognized and known as a post-route, upon which also no higher charge shall be made for the transmission over the same of the mails, the troops, and the munitions of war of the United States, or for passengers or freight passing over said bridge, than the rate per mile paid for the transportation over the railroad or public highways leading to the said bridge; and it shall enjoy the rights and privileges of other post roads in the United States.

Spans.

SEC. 3. That said bridge shall be made with unbroken and continuous spans; two spans thereof shall not be less than five hundred and fifty feet in length in the clear, and no span shall be less than three hundred feet in the clear. The lowest part of the superstructure of said bridge shall be at least sixty-five feet above extreme high-water mark, as understood at the point of location, and the bridge shall be at right angles to and its piers parallel with the current of the river. No bridge shall be erected or maintained under the authority of this act which shall at any time substantially or materially obstruct the free navigation of said river; and if any bridge erected under such authority shall, in the opinion of the Secretary of War, obstruct such navigation, he is hereby authorized to cause such change or alteration of said bridge to be made as will effectually obviate such obstruction; and all such alterations shall be made and all such obstructions be removed at the expense of the owner or owners of said bridge. And in case of any litigation arising from any obstruction or alleged obstruction to the free navigation of said river, caused or alleged to be caused by said bridge, the case may be brought in the circuit court of the United States in which any portion of said obstruction or bridge may be located: *Provided further*, That nothing in this act shall be so construed as to repeal or modify any of the provisions of law now existing in reference to the protection of the navigation of rivers, or to exempt this bridge from the operation of the same.

Free navigation to be preserved.

Proviso.

Railroad companies to have equal rights, for compensation; Secretary of War to decide in case of failure of companies to agree.

SEC. 4. That all railroad companies desiring the use of said bridge shall have and be entitled to equal rights and privileges relative to the passage of railway trains or cars over the same, and over the approaches thereto, upon payment of a reasonable compensation for such use; and in case the owner or owners of said bridge and the several railroad companies, or any one of them, desiring such use shall fail to agree upon the sum or sums to be paid, and upon rules and conditions to which each shall conform in using said bridge, all matters at issue between them shall be decided by the Secretary of War, upon a hearing of the allegations and proofs of the parties: *Provided*, That the provisions of section two in regard to charges for passengers and freight across said bridge shall not govern the Secretary of War in determining any question arising as to the sum or sums to be paid to the owners of said bridge by said railroad companies for the use of said bridge.

Proviso, as to, sec. 2.

Secretary of War to prescribe regulations for security of navigation.

SEC. 5. That any bridge authorized to be constructed under this act shall be built and located under and subject to such regulations for the security of navigation of said river as the Secretary of War shall prescribe; and to secure that object the said companies or corporations shall submit to the Secretary of War, for his examination and approval, a design and drawings of the bridge, and a map of the location, giving, for the space of two miles above and two miles below the proposed location, the topography of the banks of the river, the shore-lines at extreme

Maps, plans, etc., to be submitted to the Secretary of War for approval.

high and low water, the direction and strength of the currents at all stages, and the soundings, accurately showing the bed of the stream, the location of any other bridge or bridges, and shall furnish such other information as may be required for a full and satisfactory understanding of the subject; and until the said plan and location of the bridge are approved by the Secretary of War the bridge shall not be built; and should any change be made in the plan of said bridge during the progress of construction, such change shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of War.

Specified rights of the United States reserved.

SEC. 6. That the right to alter, amend, or repeal this act is hereby expressly reserved; and the right to require any changes in said structure, or its entire removal, at the expense of the owners thereof, whenever Congress shall decide that the public interests require it, is also expressly reserved.

Special structures as aids to passage of bridge, etc.

SEC. 7. That it shall be the duty of the Secretary of War, on satisfactory proof that a necessity exists therefor, to require the companies or persons owning said bridge to cause such aids to the passage of said bridge to be constructed, placed, and maintained at their own cost and expense, in the form of booms, dikes, piers, or other suitable and proper structures for the guiding of rafts, steamboats, and other water-craft safely through the passage-way, as shall be specified in his order in that behalf; and on failure of the company or persons aforesaid to make and establish such additional structures within a reasonable time, the said Secretary shall proceed to cause the same to be built or made at the expense of the United States, and shall refer the matter without delay to the Attorney-General of the United States, whose duty it shall be to institute, in the name of the United States, proceedings in any circuit court of the United States in which such bridge or any part thereof, is located for the recovery of the cost thereof; and all moneys accruing from such proceedings shall be covered into the Treasury of the United States.

Penalty.

Approved, February 26, 1885.

CHAP. 166.—An act authorizing the printing of two thousand five hundred extra copies of the Annual Report of the Health Officer of the District of Columbia. February 26, 1885.

Annual Report of the Health Officer of the District of Columbia. Printing extra copies.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Public Printer be, and he is hereby, authorized to print two thousand five hundred extra copies of the Annual Report of the Health Officer of the District of Columbia; one hundred for the use of the Senate, three hundred and fifty for the use of the House of Representatives, and two thousand and fifty for the use of the said Health Officer of the District of Columbia

Approved, February 26, 1885.

CHAP. 260.—An act for the erection of a public building at La Crosse, Wisconsin. February 28, 1885.

La Crosse, Wis. Public building. Purchase of site.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to purchase a site for, and cause to be erected thereon, a suitable building, with fire-proof vaults therein, for the accommodation of the United States district and circuit courts, internal-revenue office, post-office, and other Government offices, at the city of La Crosse, Wisconsin. The plans, specifications, and full estimates for said building shall be previously made and approved according to law, and shall not exceed for the site and building complete the sum of one hundred thousand dollars; and it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury, after the site for said building

Plans; cost.