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proposed location, the topography of the banks of the river, the shore-lines at high and low water, the direction and strength of the current 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, so as to prevent or remove all substantial obstruction to the navigation of said river such change shall be subject to the approval of Secretary of War; and if any litigation shall be had in regard to said bridge, the same shall be in the circuit court of the United States in whose territorial jurisdiction said bridge, or any part thereof, is located.

Changes.

Litigation.

Amendment.

SEC. 5. That the right to alter, amend, or repeal this act, is hereby expressly reserved; and any alterations or changes that may be required by Congress in the bridge constructed under this act, or its entire removal, shall be made by the corporation owning or controlling the same, at its own expense. Furthermore, if the construction of said bridge shall not be commenced within two and completed within four years after the passage of this act, all privileges conferred hereby, and this act, shall become null and void.

Commencement and completion.

Approved, June 9, 1888.

June 9, 1888.

CHAP. 385.—An act authorizing the construction of a bridge over the Tennessee river at or near Guntersville, Alabama, and for other purposes.

Tennessee and Coosa Railroad Company may bridge Tennessee River at Guntersville, Ala.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That it shall be lawful for the Tennessee and Coosa Railroad Company of Alabama, a corporation duly and legally incorporated under the laws of the State of Alabama, its successors or assigns, to construct and maintain a bridge over the Tennessee River at or near Guntersville, Alabama. Said bridge shall be constructed to provide for the passage of railway trains, and, at the option of the persons by whom 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.

Railway, wagon, and foot bridge.

Lawful structure and post-route.

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 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. And equal privileges in the use of said bridge shall be granted to all companies upon such terms as may be agreed upon by the parties, and if they can not agree then as the same shall be determined by the Secretary of War; and the United States shall have the right of way across said bridge and its approaches for postal-telegraph purposes.

Other companies may use.

Postal telegraph.

Draw.

SEC. 3. That the said bridge shall be constructed as a draw-bridge; the draw or pivot pier shall be at such point in the channel of the river as the Secretary of War may direct, and the opening or passage-way of said draw-pier shall be so protected and arranged that water-craft can be worked through it at any and all times; and the draw-span shall not be of less width, nor shall the lowest part of the same be of less elevation above high water, than are the widest and highest of those authorized by Congress for any bridge over the

Tennessee River, and the piers of said bridge shall be parallel with and the bridge itself at right angles to the current of the river: *Provided*, That in said bridge there shall be one span of not less than three hundred feet in the clear: *Provided, also*, That said draw shall be opened promptly upon reasonable signal for the passing of boats; and said company or corporation shall maintain, at its own expense, from sunset till sunrise, such lights or other signals on said bridge as the Light House Board shall prescribe. 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 cause may be brought in the circuit court of the United States of the State of Alabama in whose territorial jurisdiction 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.

Provisos.
Opening draw.
Lights.
Navigation to be unobstructed.
Existing laws.

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 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.

Other companies may use.
Compensation.

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 company or corporation 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 one mile above and one mile below the proposed location, the topography of the banks of the river, the shore-lines at 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 if any change is required by the Secretary of War in the plan of said bridge, whilst the same is in process of construction, or after its completion, or if the entire removal of said bridge is required by him at any time, the cost of such change or removal shall be paid by the company owning or controlling said bridge.

Secretary of War to approve plans, etc.

SEC. 6. That this act shall be null and void if actual construction of the bridge herein authorized be not commenced within one year and completed within three years from the date thereof.

Commencement and completion.

SEC. 7. That the right to alter, amend, or repeal this act is hereby expressly reserved.

Amendment.

Approved, June 9, 1888.