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GPO

Terms.

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 hearing of the allegations and proofs of the parties.

Notification of approval.

SEC. 4. That the Secretary of War is hereby authorized and directed, upon receiving any such plan and map and other information and upon being satisfied that a bridge built on such plan with such accessory works and at such locality will conform to the prescribed conditions of this act, to notify the company that he approves the same, and, upon receiving such notification, the said company may proceed to an erection of said bridge, conforming strictly to the approved plan and location; but until the Secretary of War approves the plan and location of said bridge and accessory works and shall notify the company of the same, the bridge shall not be commenced or built; and should any change be made in the plan of the bridge or said accessory works during the progress of the work thereon, such change shall be subject likewise to the approval of the Secretary of War.

Lawful structure and post-route

SEC. 5. That any bridge and accessory works, when built and constructed under this act and according to the terms and limitations thereof, shall be a lawful structure; and said bridge 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 than the rate per mile paid for the transportation over the railroads or public highways leading to said bridge; and said bridge shall enjoy the rights and privileges of other post-routes in the United States; and equal privileges in the use of said bridge shall be granted to all telegraph companies; and the United States shall have the right of way across said bridge and its approaches for postal telegraph purposes; and Congress reserves the right at any time to regulate by appropriate legislation the charges for freight and passengers over said bridge.

Postal telegraph.

Amendment.

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 removal, at the expense of the owners thereof, whenever Secretary of War shall decide that the public interests require it, is also expressly reserved.

Commencement and completion.

SEC. 7. 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.

Approved, August 6, 1888.

August 6, 1888.

CHAP. 751.—An act to authorize the construction of a bridge across the Oostanaula River, at or near Rome, Georgia.

Chattanooga, Rome and Columbus Railroad Company may bridge Oostanaula River at Rome, Ga.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Chattanooga, Rome and Columbus Railroad Company, a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Georgia, be, and the same is hereby, authorized to construct and maintain a bridge across the Oostanaula River, and approaches to said bridge, at or near Rome, in the county of Floyd, and State of Georgia, for the passage of railway trains.

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 poste-route, and it shall enjoy the rights and privileges of other post-roads in the United States, upon which no higher charge shall be made for the transmission over the same of the mail, troops and munitions of war of the United States, or for through railway passengers or freight passing over said bridge, than the rate per mile for their transmission over the railroad leading to said bridge; and equal

privileges in the use of said bridge shall be granted to all telegraph companies, and the United States shall have the right of way across said bridge for postal-telegraph purposes; that the said bridge shall be constructed, either by draw, span, or otherwise, that a free and unobstructed passage-way may be secured to all water-craft navigating said river at the point aforesaid: *Provided*, That if said bridge authorized to be constructed under this act shall be constructed as a draw-bridge, the draw shall be opened promptly upon the reasonable signals for the passage of boats or vessels; and said corporation shall maintain, at its own expense, from sunset to sunrise, such lights or other signals on said bridge as the Light House Board shall prescribe.

Postal telegraph.

Proviso.

Draw.

Lights, etc.

SEC. 3. 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 the 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 the hearing of the allegations and proofs of the parties.

Use by other companies.

Terms.

SEC. 4. 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 below and one mile above 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 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 construction of said bridge shall not be commenced; and should any change be made in the plan of said bridge during the progress of construction, such change shall be subject to the Secretary of War.

Secretary of War to approve plans, etc.

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 the Secretary of War 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.

Amendment.

Commencement and completion.

Approved, August 6, 1888.

CHAP. 752.—An act authorizing the Houston, Central Arkansas and Northern Railway Company to construct and maintain bridges across Bayou Bartholomew and across Ouachita, Red, Little, and Sabine Rivers in Louisiana.

August 6, 1888.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Houston, Central Arkansas and Northern Railroad Company, a corporation created and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the States of Louisiana and Arkansas, be, and is hereby, authorized to construct and maintain bridges across Bayou Bartholomew, Ouachita River, Little River, Red River, and Sabine River, in the State of Louisiana, at such points as may hereafter be selected by said railway company

Houston, Central Arkansas and Northern Railway Company may bridge Bayou Bartholomew and Ouachita, Little, Red, and Sabine Rivers, La.