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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 submitted to and subject to the approval of the Secretary of War.

Secretary of War to approve plans, etc.

Change of plan.

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, etc.

Structural changes, etc.

Commencement and completion.

Approved, September 2, 1890.

CHAP. 857.—An act for the erection of a bridge across the Missouri River between the city of Saint Charles, Missouri, and the county of Saint Louis, Missouri.

September 2, 1890.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Saint Charles Ponton Bridge Company, a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Missouri, its successors and assigns, be, and are hereby, authorized to construct and maintain a floating ponton bridge, and approaches thereto, across the Missouri River between the city of Saint Charles, in the State of Missouri, and Saint Louis County, in the State of Missouri, at some point at least one quarter of a mile from any other bridge, to be selected consistent with the interests of river navigation. Said bridge shall be constructed to provide for the passage of wagons and vehicles of all kinds, steam and street cars, animals, foot-passengers, and for all road travel, for such reasonable rates of toll, and under such reasonable rules and regulations as may be prescribed by said corporation, its successors and assigns, and to be approved from time to time by the Secretary of War.

Saint Charles Ponton Bridge Company may bridge Missouri River near Saint Charles, Mo.

Floating ponton.

Wagon and foot bridge.

Toll.

Rules of travel to be approved by Secretary of War.

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 than the rate per mile paid for the transportation over the rail-road or public high ways 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 telegraph companies; and the United States shall have the right of way across said bridge and its approaches for postal-telegraph purposes.

Lawful structure and post-route.

Use by telegraph companies.

Postal-telegraph.

SEC. 3. That said bridge shall be constructed as a ponton draw-span bridge, and shall contain a ponton draw-span of not less than four hundred feet in length, which draw-span shall be maintained over the main channel of the river at an accessible and navigable

Construction.

Ponton draw-span.

Length.

Piers, etc.
Provisos.
Opening of draw.
Lights, etc.
Security of free navigation.
Obstructed navigation.
Changes, etc.
Litigation.
No repeal, etc., of existing law.

point, and the piers of said bridge shall be parallel with, and the bridge itself at right angles to, the current of the river: *Provided, also*, That said draw shall be opened promptly by said company, upon reasonable signal, for the passage of boats and rafts, and said company or corporation shall maintain, at its own expense, from sunset until 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 case may be brought in the district court of the United States of the State of Missouri in which any portion of said obstruction or bridge may be located: *And provided further*, That nothing in this act shall be 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.

Security of navigation.
Secretary of War to approve plans, etc.
Change of plan.

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-half 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 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.

Amendment, etc.
Structural changes, etc.

SEC. 5. 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 the Secretary of War shall decide that the public interests requires it, is also expressly reserved.

Commencement and completion.

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.

Approved, September 2, 1890.

September 4, 1890.

CHAP. 871.—An act to authorize the construction of two bridges across Bœuf River, Louisiana.

New Orleans, Natchez and Fort Scott Railway Company may bridge Bœuf River at the "cut off," Richland Parish, La.; also at a point on eastern line of Caldwell Parish, La.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the New Orleans, Natchez and Fort Scott Railway Company, or its successors, a corporation created and existing under the laws of the State of Louisiana, be, and is hereby, authorized to construct and maintain a bridge and approaches thereto over Bœuf River, at or near to the