

shall be prescribed by the Secretary of War upon hearing the allegations and proofs of the parties in case they shall not agree.

SEC. 5. That the structure herein authorized 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 said bridge and approaches by land and by water, 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 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 and approaches thereto are approved by the Secretary of War the bridge shall not be commenced or built, and should any change be made in the plan of said bridge during the process of construction such change shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of War; and the said structure shall be at all times so managed and kept as to offer reasonable and proper means for the passage of vessels through or under said structure; and to secure the safe passage of vessels at night there shall be displayed on said bridge, from the hour of sunset to that of sunrise, such lights as may be prescribed by the Light-House Board; and the said structure shall be changed, at the cost and expense of the owners thereof, from time to time, as the Secretary of War may direct, so as to preserve the free and convenient navigation of said river.

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.

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

Approved, July 23, 1892.

Secretary of War to approve plans, etc.

Changes.

Lights.

Commencement and completion.

Amendment.

**CHAP. 248.**—An act to enforce reciprocal commercial relations between the United States and Canada, and for other purposes.

July 26, 1892.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, with a view of securing reciprocal advantages for the citizens, ports, and vessels of the United States, on and after the first day of August, eighteen hundred and ninety-two, whenever and so often as the President shall be satisfied that the passage through any canal or lock connected with the navigation of the Saint Lawrence River, the Great Lakes, or the water ways connecting the same, of any vessels of the United States, or of cargoes or passengers in transit to any port of the United States, is prohibited or is made difficult or burdensome by the imposition of tolls or otherwise which, in view of the free passage through the Saint Marys Falls Canal, now permitted to vessels of all nations, he shall deem to be reciprocally unjust and unreasonable, he shall have the power, and it shall be his duty, to suspend, by proclamation to that effect, for such time and to such extent (including absolute prohibition) as he shall deem just, the right of free passage through the Saint Marys Falls Canal, so far as it relates to vessels owned by the subjects of the government so discriminating against the citizens, ports, or vessels of the United States, or to any cargoes, portions of cargoes, or passengers in transit to the ports of the government making such discrimination, whether carried in vessels of the United States or of other nations.*

In such case and during such suspension tolls shall be levied, collected, and paid as follows, to wit: Upon freight of whatever kind or

Canadian canals. President to suspend free passage through Saint Marys Falls Canal when unjust charges are made for navigation of Saint Lawrence River, etc., by United States vessels, etc.

Post, p. 1032.

Tolls.

*Proviso.*  
No charge for navigation west of Ogdensburg, N. Y.

Collection of tolls.

Proof of destination.

Tolls to be a lien.

description, not to exceed two dollars per ton; upon passengers, not to exceed five dollars each, as shall be from time to time determined by the President: *Provided*, That no tolls shall be charged or collected upon freight or passengers carried to and landed at Ogdensburg, or any port west of Ogdensburg, and south of a line drawn from the northern boundary of the State of New York through the Saint Lawrence River, the Great Lakes, and their connecting channels to the northern boundary of the State of Minnesota.

SEC. 2. All tolls so charged shall be collected under such regulations as shall be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, who may require the master of each vessel to furnish a sworn statement of the amount and kind of cargo and the number of passengers carried and the destination of the same, and such proof of the actual delivery of such cargo or passengers at some port or place within the limits above named as he shall deem satisfactory; and until such proof is furnished such freight and passengers may be considered to have been landed at some port or place outside of those limits, and the amount of tolls which would have accrued if they had been so delivered shall constitute a lien, which may be enforced against the vessel in default wherever and whenever found in the waters of the United States.

Approved, July 26, 1892.

July 26, 1892.

**CHAP. 249.**—An act to authorize the Postmaster-General to provide mail service, and for other purposes.

Postal service.  
Mode of securing  
before regular advertisements.

Contracts.

Temporary service  
on failure of contracts.

Repeal.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That after providing by general advertisement for the transportation of the mails in any State or Territory as authorized by law, the Postmaster-General may secure any mail service that may become necessary before the next general advertisement for said State or Territory by posting notices, for a period of not less than ten days, in the post-offices at the termini of any route to be let, and upon a bulletin board in the Post-Office Department, inviting proposals, in such form and with such guaranty as may be prescribed by the Postmaster-General, for the performance of the proposed service. The contract for such service shall be made to run to the end of the contract term under the general advertisement, shall be made with the lowest bidder whose proposal is in due form, and who, under the law, is eligible as a bidder for such postal service. Temporary service rendered necessary by reason of the failure of any bidder or contractor to perform the service awarded him under this act may be employed by the Postmaster-General without advertisement, at a rate which he may deem reasonable, at the expense of any such failing bidder or contractor.

SEC. 2. That all acts or parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

Approved, July 26, 1892.

July 26, 1892.

**CHAP. 250.**—An act to provide for the care of dependent children in the District of Columbia and to create a board of children's guardians.

District of Columbia.  
Board of children's  
guardians.

Appointment.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That there shall be created, in and for the District of Columbia, a board to be known as the board of children's guardians, composed of nine members who shall serve without compensation, the said board to be a body politic and corporate and to have the powers and to be constituted in the manner hereinafter provided.

SEC. 2. That the members of the board of children's guardians shall be appointed by the judges of the police court and the judge holding