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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.

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 hereof.

Amendment, etc.

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

Approved, January 26, 1897.

CHAP. 94.—An Act To incorporate the Convention of American Instructors of the Deaf.

January 26, 1897.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Edward M. Gallaudet, of Washington, in the District of Columbia; Francis D. Clarke, of Flint, in the State of Michigan; S. Tefft Walker, of Jacksonville, in the State of Illinois; James L. Smith, of Faribault, in the State of Minnesota; Sarah Fuller, of Boston, in the State of Massachusetts; David C. Dudley, of Colorado Springs, in the State of Colorado, and John R. Dobyns, of Jackson, in the State of Mississippi, officers and members of the Convention of American Instructors of the Deaf, and their associates and successors be, and they are hereby, incorporated and made a body politic and corporate in the District of Columbia by the name of the "Convention of American Instructors of the Deaf," for the promotion of the education of the deaf on the broadest, most advanced, and practical lines; and by that name it may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded in any court of law or equity, and may have and use a common seal and change the same at pleasure.

Convention of American Instructors of the Deaf, incorporated.

Object.

Powers.

SEC. 2. That the said corporation shall have the power to take and hold personal estate and such real estate as shall be necessary and proper for the promotion of the educational and benevolent purposes of said corporation, which shall not be divided among the members of the corporation, but shall descend to their successors for the promotion of the objects aforesaid.

Constitution, etc.

SEC. 3. That said corporation shall have a constitution and regulations or by-laws, and shall have power to amend the same at pleasure: *Provided*, That such constitution and regulations or by-laws do not conflict with the laws of the United States or of any State.

Proviso. Restriction.

Meetings and report.

SEC. 4. That said association may hold its meetings in such places as said incorporators shall determine, and shall report to Congress, through the president of the Columbia Institution for the Deaf and Dumb at Washington, District of Columbia, such portions of its proceedings and transactions as its officers shall deem to be of general public interest and value concerning the education of the deaf.

Approved, January 26, 1897.

CHAP. 95.—An Act To enable the town of Flagstaff, in the Territory of Arizona, to issue bonds to construct a water system.

January 26, 1897.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the town of Flagstaff, in the Territory of Arizona, by its mayor and common council, is hereby enabled to issue bonds of the said town, not to exceed sixty-five thousand dollars in amount, payable within thirty years from the date thereof, in lawful money of the United States of America, and to bear interest at not to exceed six per centum per annum, interest payable semiannually, the proceeds of the sale of said bonds, which shall not be sold at less than par, to be used exclusively in the construction of a

Flagstaff, Ariz. Issue of bonds authorized for water system.