

July 7, 1898.

CHAP. 577.—An Act To authorize the construction of a bridge over Tombigbee River, in the State of Mississippi.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the county of Monroe, in the State of Mississippi, is hereby authorized to construct and maintain a bridge and approaches thereto over the Tombigbee River, at or near a point three hundred yards north of where the railroad bridge of the main line of the Kansas City, Memphis and Birmingham Railroad crosses said river. Said bridge shall be constructed to provide for the passage of wagons and vehicles of all kinds, for the transit of animals, and for foot passengers.

SEC. 2. That any bridge built under the provisions of this Act shall be built and constructed without material interference with the security and convenience of navigation, such as is had or practicable to be had on said river, and in order to secure a compliance with this condition the board of supervisors of the said county and State shall submit to the Secretary of War a plan of the bridge provided for in this Act, with such other information as may be required by the Secretary of War for a full and satisfactory understanding of the subject; and the Secretary of War is hereby authorized and directed, upon receiving such plan and other information, and being satisfied that the bridge built upon such plan will conform to prescribed conditions of this Act, to immediately notify the board of supervisors for said county, in said State, that he approves the same, and upon receiving such notification the said county may proceed to the erection of said bridge: *Provided*, That until the Secretary of War shall approve the location and plan of the said bridge the same shall not be commenced or built, and any change in the location or plan before or after completion of the bridge shall be subject to his approval: *Provided further*, That the said bridge shall be so kept and managed as to offer reasonable and proper means for the passage of boats through or under said structure, and for the safety of vessels passing at night there shall be displayed on said bridge, at the expense of the owners thereof, from sunset to sunrise, such lights or other signals as the Light-House Board may prescribe.

SEC. 3. That any bridge constructed under this Act and according to these provisions and conditions shall be a lawful structure, over which may be transmitted the mails, troops, and munitions of war of the United States free of charge, and the United States shall have the right of way for postal telegraph purposes across said bridge.

SEC. 4. That the right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is hereby expressly reserved.

SEC. 5. 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.

Approved, July 7, 1898.

Monroe County, Miss., may bridge Tombigbee River.

Location.

Transit.

Not to obstruct navigation.

Secretary of War to approve plans, etc.

Provisos.
—approval to precede construction, etc.
—changes.

Aids to navigation.

Lights.

Lawful structure.

Amendment.

Commencement and completion.

July 7, 1898.

CHAP. 578.—An Act To amend section forty-seven hundred and forty-six of the Revised Statutes of the United States.

Pensions.
Penalty for false affidavit and post-dating vouchers.
R. S., sec. 4746, p. 924, amended.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section forty-seven hundred and forty-six of the Revised Statutes of the United States is hereby amended to read as follows:

"That every person who knowingly or willfully makes or aids, or assists in the making, or in any wise procures the making or presentation of any false or fraudulent affidavit, declaration, certificate, voucher, or paper or writing purporting to be such, concerning any claim for pension or payment thereof, or pertaining to any other matter within the jurisdiction of the Commissioner of Pensions or of the Secretary of the Interior, or who knowingly or willfully makes or causes to be made, or aids or assists in the making, or presents or causes to be pre-