

April 2, 1888.

CHAP. 54.—An act to amend section four hundred and sixty-one of the Revised Statutes, regulating fees for exemplifications of land patents, and for other purposes.

Fees, General Land Office.

R. S., sec. 461, p. 78, amended.

Fees for copies of records, etc.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section four hundred and sixty-one of the Revised Statutes be, and is hereby, amended so as to read as follows:

“SEC. 461. All exemplifications of patents or papers on file or of record in the General Land Office which may be required by parties interested shall be furnished by the Commissioner upon the payment by such parties at the rate of fifteen cents per hundred words, and thirty cents each for photolithographed copies of township plats or diagrams, unverified, not to exceed ten copies to any one person, and twenty-five cents each for all copies in excess of ten, with an additional sum of one dollar for the Commissioner's certificate of verification, with the General Land Office seal; and one of the employees of the office shall be designated by the Commissioner as the receiving clerk, and the amount so received shall, under the direction of the Commissioner, be paid into the Treasury; but fees shall not be demanded for such authenticated copies as may be required by the officers of any branch of the Government, nor for such unverified copies as the Commissioner, in his discretion, may deem proper to furnish.”

Approved, April 2, 1888.

April 4, 1888.

CHAP. 56.—An act for the relief of importers of animals for breeding purposes in certain cases.

Animals imported for breeding.

Duties remitted.

Pending actions.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to remit to any and all firms or persons, who shall have, prior to the passage of this act, in good faith, and in compliance with the decisions and regulations of the Treasury Department, specially imported into the United States animals for breeding purposes, whether for the importer's own use or for sale, all duties, if any shall have accrued, upon such importations.

SEC. 2. In all actions now pending in behalf of, and in the courts of, the United States for the recovery of any duty or duties upon the importation of animals heretofore made for the purposes aforesaid, and in accordance with said decisions and regulations, such remission of duties by the Secretary of the Treasury, or the fact, when established by competent evidence, that such animals were imported by the defendant or defendants for breeding purposes, whether for such use by the importers or for sale, shall be a sufficient defense in any such action.

Approved, April 4, 1888.

April 4, 1888.

CHAP. 57.—An act authorizing the Little Rock and Alexandria Railway Company to build certain bridges in the State of Arkansas.

Little Rock and Alexandria Railway Company may bridge Ouachita and Saline Rivers, Ark.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Little Rock and Alexandria Railway Company in Arkansas and Louisiana, a corporation duly and legally organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the said States, its successors or assigns, be, and is hereby, authorized to construct and maintain a bridge, and approaches thereto, over the Ouachita River, in Union County, in the State of Arkansas near Wilmington, at the point where said company's line of railway as projected crosses said river; and also a bridge, and approaches thereto, over the Saline River, in the State

of Arkansas at the point where said company's line of railway as now projected crosses said river. Said bridges shall be constructed to provide for the passage of railway trains, and at the option of said company by which it may be built, may be used for the passage of wagons and vehicles of all kinds, for the transit of animals, and for foot-passengers, for such reasonable rates of toll as may be approved from time to time by the Secretary of War. That if the said bridges, or either of them, over the said Ouachita and Saline Rivers shall be made with unbroken and continuous spans there shall be at least one span of a height of not less than eighty feet above low water and fifty feet above highest water, as understood at the point of location, measured to the lowest part of the superstructure of said bridge; and said span shall have a clear opening of at least two hundred feet between the piers, measured at right angles to the current, and shall be over the main channel of the river, and the bridge or bridges shall be at right angles to, and the piers parallel with, the current of the river. And if the bridges, or either of them, over the said Saline and Ouachita Rivers, shall be constructed as draw or pivot bridges, the draw or pivot piers shall be over the main channel of the river at an accessible navigable point, and the openings on each side of the pivot-pier shall not be less than one hundred and thirty feet in the clear, unless otherwise expressly directed by the Secretary of War, and if so directed shall be according to such direction, and, as nearly as practicable, the said openings shall be accessible at all stages of water, and the spans shall be not less than ten feet above extreme high water, as understood at the point of location, to the lowest part of the superstructure of the bridge, and the piers and draw rests shall be parallel with, and the bridge or bridges at right angles to, the current of the river or rivers; and no riprap or other outside protection for imperfect foundations shall be permitted to approach nearer than four feet to the surface of the water at its extreme low stage, or otherwise to encroach upon the channel-ways provided for in this act; and all and each of said draws shall be opened promptly upon reasonable signal for the passing of boats; and said company shall maintain, at its own expense, from sunset till sunrise, such lights or other signals on said bridges as the Light-House Board may prescribe.

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 railroad or public highways leading to the said bridge; and it shall enjoy the rights and privileges of other post-roads in the United States.

SEC. 3. That 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 rivers; 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 or bridges 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 circuit court of the United States for the State of Arkansas, in which any portion of said obstruction or bridge may be located: *Provided*, That nothing in this act shall be so 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 said bridges from the operation of the same.

Railway, wagon, and foot bridge.

Spans.

Draws.

Lights.

To be lawful structures and post-routes.

Free navigation to be unimpaired.

Litigation.

Proviso.

Other companies
may use.

SEC. 4. That all railway companies desiring the use of said bridges, or either of them, 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 payment of a reasonable compensation for such use.

Secretary of War to
approve plans, etc.

SEC. 5. That the bridges 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 rivers 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 bridges, and each of them, 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 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 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 or bridges are approved by the Secretary of War the bridge or bridges shall not be built; and should any change be made in the plan of said bridges, or either of them, during the progress of construction, such change shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of War. 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, or the whole of said structure may be removed at the expense of the owners thereof, if the Secretary of War may, at any time, so direct, so as to preserve the free and convenient navigation of said rivers, and the authority to erect and continue any and all of said bridges shall be subject to revocation by law whenever the public good shall, in the judgment of the Secretary of War, so require.

Changes.

Commencement and
completion.

SEC. 6. That this act shall be null and void if actual construction of the bridges herein authorized be not commenced within one year and completed within three years from the date thereof.

Amendment, etc.

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

Approved, April 4, 1888.

April 4, 1888.

CHAP. 58.—An act to provide for holding terms of the United States courts at Mississippi City.

Mississippi.
Southern judicial
district.

Term of courts at
Mississippi City.
R. S., sec. 572, p. 100.
R. S., sec. 658, p. 121.

Jurisdiction.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the counties of Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Marion, Perry, and Green, being a part of the southern judicial district of Mississippi, shall be known as the southern division of said district; and circuit and district courts, for the transaction of business pertaining to the persons and property in said southern division, shall be held at Mississippi City on the third Mondays of February and August in each year.

SEC. 2. That the said courts to be held at Mississippi City, as provided in section one of this act, shall be possessed of and shall exercise all the powers and jurisdiction now possessed or exercised, or which may hereafter be granted to or exercised, by the circuit and district courts in said district now held at Jackson; and all laws regulating and defining how suits against persons or property located or found in judicial districts shall be brought shall be applicable to and govern the bringing of suits in said division; and all laws touching the removal of causes from State courts to United States courts shall apply to said courts hereby established; but all crimes and offenses heretofore committed within said southern district shall be