

Missouri River between the city of Leavenworth, in the State of Kansas and Platte County, in the State of Missouri," approved March second, eighteen hundred and eighty-nine, and by an act of Congress entitled "An act to authorize the Leavenworth and Platte County Bridge Company to substitute a pivot drawbridge over the Missouri River in place of a pontoon bridge," approved July twenty-fifth, eighteen hundred and ninety; and any such transfer and conveyance as has been heretofore made is hereby consented to and confirmed: *Provided, however,* That the conditions, limitations, and restrictions imposed by existing law upon the said Leavenworth and Platte County Bridge Company shall continue in force as to the said Leavenworth Terminal Railway and Bridge Company.

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Proviso.
Conditions, etc.,
continued.

Approved, May 9, 1892.

CHAP. 62.—An act to provide for the permanent preservation and custody of the records of the volunteer armies, and for other purposes.

May 9, 1892.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the division organized by the Secretary of War in his office for the preservation and custody of the records of the volunteer armies under the name of the record and pension division is hereby established as now organized, and shall hereafter be known as the Record and Pension Office of the War Department; and the President is hereby authorized to select an officer of the Army whom he may consider to be especially well qualified for the performance of the duties hereinafter specified and, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to appoint him in the Army to be chief of said office, who shall have the rank, pay, and allowances of a colonel and shall, under the Secretary of War, have charge of the military and hospital records of the volunteer armies and the pension and other business of the War Department connected therewith; and all laws or parts of laws inconsistent with the terms of this act are hereby repealed.

Record and Pension
Office, War Department,
established.

Appointment of
chief of office.

Duties.

Approved, May 9, 1892.

CHAP. 63.—An act to encourage American shipbuilding.

May 10, 1892.

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 is hereby authorized and directed to grant registers, as vessels of the United States, to such foreign-built steamships now engaged in freight and passenger business, and sailing in an established line from a port in the United States, as are of a tonnage of not less than eight thousand tons, and capable of a speed of not less than twenty knots per hour, according to the existing method of Government test for speed, of which not less than ninety per centum of the shares of the capital of the foreign corporation or association owning the same was owned January first, eighteen hundred and ninety, and has continued to be owned until the passage of this act by citizens of the United States, including as such citizens corporations created under the laws of any of the States thereof, upon the American owners of such majority interest obtaining a full and complete transfer and title to such steamships from the foreign corporations owning the same: *Provided,* That such American owners shall, subsequent to the date of this law, have built, or have contracted to build, in American shipyards, steamships of an aggregate tonnage of not less in amount than that of the steamships so admitted to registry. Each steamship so built or contracted for to be of a tonnage of not less than seven thousand tons

American registers
granted to certain for-
eign-built steamships.

Tonnage and speed.

Ownership.

American owners to
obtain full title.

Proviso.
Owners to build
equal tonnage of ships
in American ship-
yards.

Minimum tonnage.

Record of transfer.

SEC. 2. That the Secretary of the Treasury, on being satisfied that such steamships so acquired by American citizens, or by such corporation