

operation of those portions of the road already built. The said company shall also construct and maintain a branch line, beginning at a point, to be located by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, west of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad track on Fifth street in Takoma Park; thence along Fifth street to Umatilla street; thence west along Umatilla street to and across Piney Branch road, and thence to Brightwood avenue by such route as the Commissioners of the District of Columbia shall approve. Said branch line shall be operated by the overhead trolley system; and when the company lays its double track from Brightwood to Takoma Park said tracks shall be laid on one side of the said road; the cars used shall be first-class in every respect, and the schedule of the running of cars shall be subject to the approval of the District Commissioners, but cars shall be run as often as one every fifteen minutes between the hours of five o'clock ante meridian and twelve o'clock midnight. Work on the said branch road shall be begun within two months and completed, with cars running thereon, within one year from the date of the approval of this act.

Branch line.

Commencement and completion.

"SEC. 3. That in the event that the company should not be able to come to an agreement with the owner or owners of any land through which the said road may be located to pass, or upon which any necessary buildings may be required to be located, proceedings for the condemnation for the use of the company of so much of said land as may be required, not exceeding one hundred feet in width, for its roadway, and of so much as may be necessary for buildings, and so forth, may be instituted in the usual way in the supreme court of the District of Columbia, under such rules and regulations as said court may prescribe for such purposes.

Condemnation proceedings for right of way, etc.

"SEC. 4. That any failure to comply with any of the provisions of this act shall work a forfeiture of the original charter of the said Brightwood Railway Company. All acts or parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

Forfeiture on failure to comply.

"SEC. 5. That Congress reserves the right to alter, amend, or repeal this act."

Amendment, etc.

Approved, July 26, 1892.

CHAP. 253.—An act to amend "An act to authorize the construction of a bridge across the Tennessee River at or near Knoxville, Tennessee," approved August ninth, eighteen hundred and eighty-eight.

July 26, 1892.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the time for the commencement of the bridge authorized by an act entitled "An act to authorize the construction of a bridge across the Tennessee River at or near Knoxville, Tennessee," approved August the ninth, eighteen hundred and eighty-eight, be, and the same is hereby, extended one year from this passage of this act, and that the time for the completion of said bridge be extended three years from the same date.

Bridge across Tennessee River at Knoxville, Tenn. Vol. 25, p. 395.

Time for construction extended.

Approved, July 26, 1892.

CHAP. 254.—An act to authorize and direct the Secretary of the Treasury to pay over certain moneys to the State of South Carolina, as prescribed by the act of August thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety, entitled "An act to apply a portion of the proceeds of the public lands to the more complete endowment and support of the colleges for the benefit of agriculture and the mechanic arts established under the provisions of an act of Congress approved July second, eighteen hundred and sixty-two."

July 26, 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 be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed, notwithstanding the adverse report of the Secretary of the Interior, to pay over to the

South Carolina. To be paid allotment for agricultural colleges.

proper authorities of the State of South Carolina, in accordance with an act of the legislature of that State approved December twenty-fourth, anno Domini eighteen hundred and ninety, the amount of money to which said State is now entitled under the act of Congress approved August thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety, entitled "An act to apply a portion of the proceeds of the public lands to the more complete endowment and support of the colleges for the benefit of agriculture and the mechanic arts established under the provisions of an act of Congress approved July second, eighteen hundred and sixty-two."

Approved, July 26, 1892.

July 26, 1892.

CHAP. 255.—An act in relation to the execution of declarations and other papers in pension claims.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That declarations of pension claimants shall be made before a court of record, or before some officer thereof having custody of its seal, or before some officer who, under the laws of his State, city or county, has authority to administer oaths for general purposes; and said officers are hereby fully authorized and empowered to administer and certify any oath or affirmation relating to any pension or application therefor: *Provided,* That where such declaration or other papers are executed before an officer authorized as above but not required by the laws of his State to have and use a seal to authenticate his official acts, he shall file in the Pension Bureau a certificate of his official character, showing his official signature and term of office, certified by a clerk of a court of record or other proper officer of the State as to the genuineness, thereof; and when said certificate has been filed in the Bureau of Pensions his own certificate will be recognized during his term of office.

SEC. 2. That the Commissioner of Pensions may accept declarations and other papers of claimants residing in foreign countries made before a United States minister or consul or other consular officer, or before some officer of the country duly authorized to administer oaths for general purposes, and whose official character and signature shall be duly authenticated by the certificate of a United States minister or consul or other consular officer; and declarations in claims of Indians may be made before a United States Indian agent.

SEC. 3 That any and all declarations or affidavits now on file in the Pension Bureau which are considered informal by reason of not having been executed in conformity to the laws heretofore in force covering such, and in which it is shown or may be hereafter shown by proper evidence that the same were executed by and before an officer who was duly authorized to administer oaths for general purposes at said date of execution, shall be accepted as formal as from date of filing such declarations or affidavits.

SEC. 4. That all acts and parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

Approved, July 26, 1892.

July 26, 1892.

CHAP. 256.—An act to legalize the deed and other records of the Office of Indian Affairs, and to provide and authorize the use of a seal by said office

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the recording of all deeds and papers heretofore made and done in the office of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs be, and is hereby, confirmed, approved, and legalized; and said record heretofore made shall be deemed, taken, and held to be good and valid and shall have all the force and effect and be entitled to the same credit as if it had been made in pursuance of and in conformity