

drawspans giving a clear width of waterway of not less than one hundred feet on each side of the pivot pier; and said draw shall be opened promptly, upon reasonable signal, for the passage of boats: *Provided further*, That whatever kind of bridge is constructed the owners thereof shall maintain thereon, at their own expense, from sunset to sunrise, such lights or other signals as may be prescribed by the Light-House Board.

Lights, etc.

SEC. 2. That any bridge built under the provisions of this Act shall be a lawful structure, and shall be recognized and known as a post route, upon which no higher charge shall be made for the transmission over the same of the mails, troops, and munitions of war of the United States passing over said bridge than the rate per mile paid for the transportation over the public highways leading to said bridge, and equal privileges in the use of said bridge shall be granted to all telegraph and telephone companies; and the United States shall have the right of way across said bridge and approaches for postal-telegraph purposes; and said bridge shall be so constructed and operated as not to interfere with the navigation of said river.

Lawful structure and post route.

Postal telegraph.

Free navigation.

SEC. 3. That said bridge company shall have the right to charge and collect a reasonable rate of toll, to be approved by the Secretary of War, not exceeding the rate limited by the law of Alabama.

Toll.

SEC. 4. That the bridge authorized to be constructed under this Act shall be located and built under and subject to such regulations for the security of the navigation of said river 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 the proposed bridge and a map of the location, giving for the space of one-half mile above and one half 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, and the soundings, accurately showing the bed of the stream, 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 are approved by the Secretary of War no work upon the bridge shall be commenced, and should any change be made in the plan of said bridge during the progress of construction such change shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of War.

Secretary of War to approve plans, etc.

Changes.

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 of approval hereof.

Commencement and completion.

SEC. 6. That Congress hereby expressly reserves the right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act.

Amendment, etc.

Approved, August 13, 1894.

CHAP. 284.—An Act Relating to lights on fishing vessels.

August 13, 1894.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That article ten of the Act approved March third, eighteen hundred and eighty-five, entitled "An Act to adopt the revised international regulations for preventing collisions at sea," so far as said article relates to lights for fishing vessels, is hereby re-enacted and continued in force, anything in the Act approved May twenty-eighth, eighteen hundred and ninety-four, entitled "An Act to amend an Act approved August nineteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety, entitled 'An act to adopt regulations for preventing collisions at sea,'" to the contrary notwithstanding.

Lights on fishing vessels required. Vol. 23, p. 439.

Ante, p. 63. Vol. 26, p. 320.

Approved, August 13, 1894.

August 13, 1894.

CHAP. 285.—An Act To authorize a bridge across the Perdido River between the States of Florida and Alabama.

Bridge authorized across Perdido River at Holman's Ferry, Fla. and Ala.

Free bridge.

Commencement and completion.

Amendment, etc.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the county authorities of the counties of Escambia, Florida, and Baldwin, Alabama, be, and are hereby, authorized to construct, in accordance with plans to be approved by the Secretary of War, an iron or wooden bridge for free use by the public at or near Holman's ferry across the Perdido River, between the States of Alabama and Florida, and to jointly maintain and regulate the same under such rules and regulations as may be agreed upon between the said counties.

SEC. 2. That said bridge shall be begun within one year and completed within three years from the date of the approval of this Act.

SEC. 3. The right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is hereby expressly reserved.

Approved, August 13, 1894.

August 14, 1894.

CHAP. 287.—An Act To provide an immediate revision and equalization of real-estate values in the District of Columbia; also to provide an assessment of real estate in said District in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-six and every third year thereafter, and for other purposes.

District of Columbia.
Assessment of real estate in name of owner.

Vol. 22, p. 568.

Board of three assistant assessors to be appointed.

Salary.

Assessor's salary.

Oath.

Vacancies.

Hearing complaints of present assessments.

Vol. 27, p. 360.

Revision.

Basis of taxes, fiscal year 1895.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all real property in the District of Columbia, except as hereinafter provided, shall be assessed in the name of the owner, or trustee or trustees of the owner thereof. All undivided real property of a deceased person may be assessed in the name of such deceased person until the same is divided, according to law, or has otherwise passed into the possession of some other person or persons; and all real property, the ownership of which is unknown, shall be assessed "owner unknown."

SEC. 2. That the Commissioners of the District of Columbia shall appoint three discreet persons, who shall have been bona fide residents of the District of Columbia for the period of at least five years, and conversant with real estate values therein, as a permanent board of assistant assessors, who shall hold office for a term of four years, unless sooner removed by said Commissioners for cause satisfactory to them, and shall each receive a salary of three thousand dollars annually, and the assessor of the District of Columbia shall hereafter receive a salary of three thousand five hundred dollars per annum. Each person so appointed on said board shall, within ten days after receiving notice thereof, take and subscribe an oath to diligently, faithfully, and impartially perform all and singular the duties imposed upon him by this Act. If any such appointee shall fail to qualify as aforesaid within the time prescribed, or shall fail to enter upon the discharge of his duties within fifteen days after such qualification, the appointment shall be void, and the Commissioners shall forthwith appoint another suitable person, who shall qualify as above provided; and when appointed and qualified as aforesaid, said board of assistant assessors shall immediately proceed to hear and consider such complaints as may be made regarding the assessment returned by the board of three members appointed by the President of the United States, under the Act of August fifth, eighteen hundred and ninety-two, revise and equalize said assessment, and make return to the assessor of the District of Columbia of the revision and equalization on or before the first Monday of January, eighteen hundred and ninety-five. And said revision and equalization so returned shall be the basis of assessment for the collection of taxes for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-five, and until the next general assessment is made and