

with all the rights granted to railroads by the Act of Congress entitled "An Act granting to railroads a right of way through the public lands of the United States," approved March third, eighteen hundred and seventy-five; and for the purposes of this grant and the construction of said railway all the provisions of said Act are hereby declared to be applicable thereto to the same extent as though the lands in said reservation were open to settlement and sale.

Vol. 18, p. 482.

Approved, March 6, 1896.

**CHAP. 46.**—An Act Making appropriations for the payment of invalid and other pensions of the United States for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven, and for other purposes.

March 6, 1896.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the following sums be, and the same are hereby, appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the payment of pensions for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven, and for other purposes, namely:

Pensions appropriations.

For Army and Navy pensions, as follows: For invalids, widows, minor children, and dependent relatives, army nurses, survivors and widows of the war of eighteen hundred and twelve and with Mexico, and the survivors and widows of the Indian wars of eighteen hundred and thirty-two to eighteen hundred and forty-two, inclusive, one hundred and forty million dollars: *Provided*, That the appropriation aforesaid for Navy pensions shall be paid from the income of the Navy pension fund, so far as the same may be sufficient for that purpose: *Provided further*, That the amount expended under each of the above items shall be accounted for separately.

Invalid, etc., pensions.

*Provisos.*  
Navy pensions.

Accounts.

That whenever a claim for pension under the Act of June twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety, has been, or shall hereafter be, rejected, suspended, or dismissed, and a new application shall have been, or shall hereafter be, filed, and a pension has been, or shall hereafter be, allowed in such claim, such pension shall date from the time of filing the first application, provided the evidence in the case shall show a pensionable disability to have existed, or to exist, at the time of filing such first application, anything in any law or ruling of the Department to the contrary notwithstanding.

Pensions restored after rejection, etc., to date from first filing.  
Vol. 26, p. 182.

For fees and expenses of examining surgeons for services rendered within the fiscal year eighteen hundred and ninety seven, seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars. And each member of each examining board shall, as now authorized by law, receive the sum of two dollars for the examination of each applicant whenever five or a less number shall be examined on any one day, and one dollar for the examination of each additional applicant on such day: *Provided*, That if twenty or more applicants appear on one day, no fewer than twenty shall, if practicable, be examined on said day, and that if fewer examinations be then made, twenty or more having appeared, then there shall be paid for the first examinations made on the next examination day the fee of one dollar only until twenty examinations shall have been made: *Provided further*, That no fee shall be paid to any member of an examining board unless personally present and assisting in the examination of applicant: *Provided*, That the report of such examining surgeons shall specifically state the rating which in their judgment the applicant is entitled to.

Examining surgeons.  
Fees, etc.

*Provisos.*  
Examinations.

No fee unless service rendered.

Rating.

Agents' salaries.

For salaries of eighteen agents for the payment of pensions, at four thousand dollars each, seventy-two thousand dollars.

For clerk hire, four hundred and fifty thousand dollars: *Provided*, That the amount of clerk hire for each agency shall be apportioned as nearly as practicable in proportion to the number of pensioners paid at each agency, and the salaries paid shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

Clerk hire.  
*Provisos.*  
Apportionment.

For fuel, two hundred and fifty dollars.

Fuel.

Lights.	For lights, five hundred dollars.
Stationery, etc.	For stationery and other necessary expenses, exclusive of clerical services, to be approved by the Secretary of the Interior, thirty thousand dollars.
Rents.	For rents, twenty-five thousand eight hundred and thirty dollars. Approved, March 6, 1896.

---

March 6, 1896.

**CHAP. 47.**—An Act To authorize the construction of a bridge across Lake Saint Francis, in the State of Arkansas.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Saint Francis Bridge and Turnpike Company is hereby authorized to construct, operate, and maintain a drawbridge across Lake Saint Francis, at or near Lake City, in the State of Arkansas. Said bridge shall be constructed in accordance with such plans as the Secretary of War may decide to be necessary in the interest of navigation; and the draw shall be constructed in accordance with such plans as may be approved by the Secretary of War, and may be of pontoon or other construction, and may, by permission and under the direction of the Secretary of War, be changed. Said bridge shall provide for the passage of wagons and vehicles of all kinds, for the transit of animals, and for foot passengers, and the said company may charge reasonable rates of toll, to be approved by the Secretary of War.

**SEC. 2.** That said bridge constructed under this Act shall be a lawful structure, and shall be recognized as a post route, upon which no charge shall be made for the transmission over the same of the mails, troops, and munitions of war of the United States; and equal privileges in the use of said bridge shall be granted to all telegraph companies; and the United States shall have the right of way across said bridge and approaches for postal telegraph purposes: *Provided,* That before the construction of any bridge herein authorized is commenced, the said company shall submit to the Secretary of War, for his examination and approval, a design and drawing of such bridge and a map of the location, giving sufficient information to enable the Secretary of War to fully and satisfactorily understand the subject, and unless the plan and location of such bridge are approved by the Secretary of War the structure shall not be built: *Provided further,* That any bridge constructed under authority of this Act shall at all times be so kept and managed as to offer proper and reasonable means for the passage of vessels and other water crafts through or under said structure; and for the safety of vessels passing at night there shall be displayed on said bridge from sunset to sunrise such lights or other signals as may be prescribed by the Light-House Board when any vessel shall signal to pass.

**SEC. 3.** 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 approval of this Act.

**SEC. 4.** That Congress shall have the power at any time to alter, amend, or repeal this Act, or any part thereof, if in its judgment the public interests so require.

Approved, March 6, 1896.

---

March 6, 1896.

**CHAP. 48.**—An Act Making appropriations for the support of the Military Academy for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the following sums be, and the same are hereby, appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury