

April 24, 1896.

CHAP. 122. An Act To amend an Act approved August twenty-fourth, eighteen hundred and ninety-four, entitled "An Act to authorize purchasers of the property and franchises of the Choctaw Coal and Railway Company to organize a corporation and to confer upon the same all the powers, privileges, and franchises vested in that company."

Preamble.

Whereas, pursuant to the authority conferred in and by the Act of which this is amendatory, a corporation was fully organized by the name and style of the Choctaw, Oklahoma and Gulf Railroad Company by the purchasers of the property and franchises formerly of the Choctaw Coal and Railway Company, and it is desirable that the powers of said corporation should be defined as hereinafter provided: Therefore,

Choctaw, Oklahoma
and Gulf Railroad
Company.
Right of way Indian
Territory.
Vol. 28, p. 502.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the power to construct and operate branches, including those mentioned in section two of this Act, conferred in and by section four of the Act approved August twenty-fourth, eighteen hundred and ninety-four, entitled "An Act to authorize purchasers of the property and franchises of the Choctaw Coal and Railway Company to organize a corporation and to confer upon the same all the powers, privileges, and franchises vested in that company," shall be exercisable in the Indian Territory only after maps showing the location of such branches shall have been filed with and approved by the Secretary of the Interior.

Approval of loca-
tion.
Construction of
branches.
Vol. 28, p. 503.

SEC. 2. That the powers conferred by said section four shall extend to branches intended to aid the development of any coal or timber territory contiguous or tributary to the lines of railroad of the said Choctaw, Oklahoma and Gulf Railroad Company, whether owned or controlled by said company or by others, said branches not to exceed in length five miles, and to the construction and operation of a branch from any point on its existing line of railroad to the northern line of the State of Texas, and for this purpose the said company shall have the like rights, powers, and franchises, as to the acquisition of a right of way and depot grounds, and as to the construction and operation of the said branch, and shall be subject to the like conditions and restrictions as it possesses or is subject to under or by virtue of the provisions of the said Act of August twenty-fourth, eighteen hundred and ninety-four, as to the line of railroad acquired or constructed thereunder.

Time requirements
complied with.

SEC. 3. That the line of railroad which has been heretofore constructed shall be regarded and treated as a full compliance by said company with the requirements of the Act applicable to it, by which it was required, as a condition of further construction thereafter, to complete its main line prior to February eighteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-six, and said company may exercise from time to time the rights, powers, and franchises heretofore or by this Act conferred as to further extensions of or branches from its existing line.

Approved, April 24, 1896.

April 24, 1896.

CHAP. 123. An Act To authorize reassessments for improvements and general taxes in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

District of Colum-
bia.
Reassessment of lots
technically defective.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Commissioners of the District of Columbia be, and they are hereby, authorized and directed, in all cases where general taxes or assessments for local improvements in the District of Columbia may hereafter be quashed, set aside, or declared void by the supreme court of said District, by reason of an imperfect or erroneous description of the lot or parcel of ground against which the same shall have been levied by reason of such tax or assessment not having been authenticated by the proper officer, or of a defective return of service of notice, or for any technical reason other than the right of the public authorities to levy the tax or make the improvement in respect of which the assessment was levied, to reassess the lot or parcel of ground in respect of such general taxes