

Leaves of absence employees outside of Washington.

ators, repair men, messengers, laborers, and other necessary employees, outside of the city of Washington, who, without additional expense to the Government, may hereafter, in the discretion of the Secretary of Agriculture, be granted such leaves of absence as are now authorized to employees in the office of the Chief of the Weather Bureau, not to exceed thirty days in any one year. three hundred and eighty-two thousand one hundred and ninety-five dollars.

Maps, bulletins, etc.

All other expenses, itemized as follows: Maps, bulletins, and stationery, and scientific publications for stations; and the maintenance of a printing office in the District of Columbia for printing the necessary circulars, weather maps, bulletins, and monthly weather reviews (including the hire of printers, lithographers, and other necessary working force); for traveling expenses; for freight and express charges; for instruments and shelters therefor; for telegraphing or telephoning reports and messages, the rates to be fixed by the Secretary of Agriculture by agreement with the companies performing the services; for rents and other incidental expenses of offices maintained as stations of observation; for maintenance and repair of seacoast telegraph lines; for river observations and reports; for storm and other signals; for cotton-region observations and reports; for corn and wheat observations and reports; for aerial observations and reports; for special observations and pay of observers of West Indian, Mexican, and Central American stations during the hurricane season; for supplies for climate and crop services; and for investigations on climatology, including assistance and all necessary expenses, three hundred and eighty-two thousand nine hundred and sixty-seven dollars.

Transportation, etc. Instruments. Telegraphing, etc.

Rents, etc.

Coast telegraphs. storm signals, etc.

Cotton, corn, and wheat reports. Aerial reports. Hurricane reports. Supplies, etc.

Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., erection of building.

ERECTION OF BUILDING AT SAULT SAINTE MARIE, MICHIGAN: For the erection of a small brick and stone building on the Government reservation at Sault Sainte Marie, Michigan, for use of the Weather Bureau, including all necessary labor, materials, and expenses, three thousand dollars.

Approved, March 22, 1898.

March 23, 1898.

CHAP. 86.—An Act To amend section forty-four hundred and forty of the Revised Statutes, authorizing the licensing of mates on river and ocean steamers.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section forty-four hundred and forty of the Revised Statutes of the United States be amended to read as follows:

Steam vessels. Licensing of mates. R. S., sec. 4440, p. 860, amended.

“SEC. 4440. Whenever any person applies for authority to be employed as chief mate of ocean or coastwise steam vessels, or as second or third mate of ocean or coastwise steam vessels, who shall have charge of a watch, or whenever any person applies for authority to be employed as mate of river steamers, the inspectors shall require satisfactory evidence of the knowledge, experience, and skill of the applicant in lading cargo and in handling and stowage of freight, and if for license as chief mate on ocean or coastwise steamers, or as second or third mate of ocean or coastwise steamers, who shall have charge of a watch, shall also examine him as to his knowledge and ability in navigation and managing such vessels and all other duties pertaining to his station, and if satisfied of his qualifications and good character they shall grant him a license authorizing him to perform such duties for the term of five years upon the waters upon which he is found qualified to act; but such license shall be suspended or revoked upon satisfactory proof of bad conduct, intemperate habits, unskillfulness, or want of knowledge of the duties of his station or the willful violation of any provision of this title.”

Examinations.

Revocation of license.

Approved, March 23, 1898.

CHAP. 87.—An Act To grant the right of way through the Indian Territory to the Denison, Bonham and New Orleans Railway Company for the purpose of constructing a railway, and for other purposes.

March 23, 1896.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Denison, Bonham and New Orleans Railway Company, a corporation created under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Texas, be, and the same is hereby, invested and empowered with the right of locating, constructing, owning, equipping, operating, using, and maintaining a railway and telegraph and telephone line through the Indian Territory, beginning at a point to be selected by said railway company on Red River, near Denison, in Grayson County, in the State of Texas, and running thence by the most practicable route through the Indian Territory in a northerly direction to the southern boundary of the State of Kansas, at some point in the south line of Chautauqua County, in said State, with the right to construct, own and maintain, and operate a branch line of railway, beginning at a point not exceeding thirty-five miles north of Red River, on the main line, thence in a northwesterly direction to Fort Sill, in Oklahoma Territory, with the right to construct, use, and maintain such tracks, turn-outs, branches, sidings, and extensions as said company may deem it to their interest to construct.

Denison, Bonham and New Orleans Railway Company granted right of way through Indian Territory.

—location.

Branch line.
—location.

SEC. 2. That said corporation is authorized to take and use for all purposes of a railway, telegraph, and telephone, and for no other purpose, a right of way one hundred feet in width through said Indian Territory, and to take and use a strip of land one hundred feet in width, with a length of two thousand feet, in addition to right of way, for stations for every ten miles of road, with the right to use such additional ground, where there are heavy cuts or fills as may be necessary for the construction and maintenance of the roadbed, not exceeding fifty feet in width on each side of the right of way, or as much thereof as may be included in said cut or fill: *Provided*, That no more than said addition of land shall be taken for any one station: *Provided further*, That no part of the lands herein authorized to be taken shall be sold by the company, and they shall not be used except in such manner and for such purposes only as shall be necessary for the construction and convenient operation of said railway, telegraph, and telephone lines, and when any portion thereof shall cease to be so used such portion shall revert to the nation or tribe of Indians from which the same shall have been taken.

Right of way.
Post, p. 914.

—width.
Stations.

Provisos.
Limit.
Restricted use, etc.

Reversion.

Damages.

SEC. 3. That before said railway, telegraph, or telephone line shall be constructed through any lands held by individual occupants according to the laws, customs, and usages of any of the Indian nations or tribes through which it may be constructed, or by allotments under any law of the United States or agreement with the Indians, full compensation shall be made to such occupants for all property to be taken or damage done by reason of the construction of such railway, telegraph, or telephone line. In case of failure to make amicable settlement with any occupant, such compensation shall be determined by the appraisement of three disinterested referees, to be appointed, one (who shall act as chairman) by the President of the United States, one by the chief of the nation to which said occupant belongs, or in case of an allottee, by said allottee, or by his duly authorized guardian or representative, and one by said railway company, who, before entering upon the duties of their appointment, shall take and subscribe, before a district judge, clerk of a district court, or United States commissioner, an oath that they will faithfully and impartially discharge the duties of their appointment, which oath, duly certified, shall be returned with their award to and filed with the Secretary of the Interior within sixty days from the completion thereof; and a majority of said referees shall be competent to act in case of the absence of a member, after due notice.

Referees, appraisal by.

—appointment of.

—oath, etc.

—majority may act.

And upon the failure of either party to make such appointment within thirty days after the appointment made by the President of the United States the vacancy shall be filled by the district judge of any United

—filling vacancies.