

April 9, 1898.

CHAP. 116.—An Act To incorporate the National Florence Crittenton Mission.

District of Columbia.
National Florence Crittenton Mission.
Incorporation of.

Purposes of incorporation.

Powers.

Board of trustees.

—vacancies.

Amendment.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Charles N. Crittenton, Franklin B. Waterman, Wager Swayne, Kate Waller Barrett, and Charles S. Morton, and their associates and successors, are hereby constituted a body politic and corporate in the District of Columbia for the period of twenty years from and after March fourth, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven, by the name of "The National Florence Crittenton Mission," for the following purposes, namely: To aid and encourage destitute, homeless, and depraved women and men to seek reformation of character and respectability and to reach positions of honorable self-support, and especially to provide for women and young girls who have led profligate lives, or having been betrayed from the path of virtue are sincerely willing to reform, temporary homes and employment until they can be restored to friends or established in honest industry; also to establish homes for working girls, and for those purposes to carry on such homes, industrial enterprises, and such other instrumentalities as may be adapted thereto. Said corporation, through its board of trustees, shall have power to have and use a common seal, to sue and be sued, to plead and be impleaded in any court of the United States, to collect subscriptions, make reasonable by-laws, rules, and regulations needful for the government of said corporation and giving effect to the objects of its creation not inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of the United States; to receive, have, and hold real and personal estate by purchase, gift, or devise, and the same to use, sell; and convey for the reasonable purposes and benefit of said corporation; to employ such officers, agents, and employees as they may reasonably deem necessary for such purposes; fix their compensation, duties, and obligations, and change or remove them as often as in their judgment the interests of the said corporation may require.

SEC. 2. That the number of trustees for the first year of said organization shall be five, namely, Charles N. Crittenton, Franklin B. Waterman, Wager Swayne, Kate Waller Barrett, and Charles S. Morton; and any and all vacancies which may occur in said board of trustees shall be filled by an affirmative vote of a majority of the trustees present entitled to vote at any meeting duly called or set for that purpose. The right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act at any time is hereby expressly reserved.

Approved, April 9, 1898.

April 11, 1898.

CHAP. 118.—An Act Authorizing the Shreveport and Red River Valley Railway Company to construct and maintain a bridge across the Loggy Bayou, in Louisiana.

Shreveport and Red River Valley Railway may bridge Loggy Bayou, Louisiana.

Passage of vehicles, etc.

Toll.

Lawful structure and post road.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Shreveport and Red River Valley Railway Company, a corporation created and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Louisiana, be, and is hereby, authorized to construct and maintain a bridge across Loggy Bayou, in the State of Louisiana, at such point suitable to the interests of navigation as may hereafter be selected by said railway company for crossing said bayou with its railroad line. Said bridge shall be constructed to provide for the passage of railway trains, and at the option of said railway company may be used for the passage of wagons and vehicles of all kinds, for the transit of animals, and for foot passengers, for such reasonable rates of toll as may be fixed by said railway company and approved by the Secretary of War.

SEC. 2. That said bridge built under this Act and subject to its limitations shall be a lawful structure, and shall be recognized and known as a post route, upon which also no higher charge shall be made for the transmission over the same of the mails, the troops, and munitions of

war of the United States' than the rate per mile paid for the transportation over the railroad or public highways leading to the said bridge, and shall enjoy the rights and privileges of other post roads in the United States; 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 its approaches for postal-telegraph purposes: *Provided*, That the bridge herein authorized to be constructed shall be so kept and managed by the company owning or operating it as to afford such proper ways and means for the passage through or under it of vessels, barges, or rafts at all times, both by day and by night, as may be required by the Secretary of War; and there shall be displayed on said bridge, from sunset to sunrise, such lights and signals as the Light-House Board shall prescribe.

Telegraph and telephone companies.

Proviso.
Aids to navigation.

Lights.

Interference with free navigation.

—alterations.

—expense of.

—litigation.

Proviso.
Existing law unchanged.

Equal rights to railroads.

SEC. 3. That if said bridge, erected and maintained under the authority of this Act, shall at any time substantially or materially obstruct the free navigation of said bayou, or shall, in the opinion of the Secretary of War, obstruct such navigation, he is hereby authorized to cause such change or alteration of said bridge to be made as will effectually obviate such obstruction, and such alterations shall be made and all obstructions be removed at the expense of the owner or owners of said bridge; and in case of any litigation arising from any obstruction or alleged obstruction to the free navigation of said bayou, the case may be brought in the district court of the United States in the State of Louisiana in which any portion of said obstruction or bridge may be located: *Provided*, That nothing in this Act shall be so construed as to repeal or modify any of the provisions of law now existing in reference to the protection of the navigation of bayous or to exempt said bridge from the operation of the same.

SEC. 4. That all railroad companies desiring the use of said bridge shall have and be entitled to equal rights and privileges relative to the passage of railway trains over the same and over the approaches thereto upon payment of a reasonable compensation for such use, or, in case of disagreement, upon such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Secretary of War upon hearing the allegations and proofs of the parties in interest.

Secretary of War to prescribe regulations.

—to approve plans, etc.

SEC. 5. That the bridge authorized to be constructed under this Act shall be built and located under and subject to such regulations for the security of navigation of said bayou 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 said bridge and map of the location, prepared with reference to a known datum plane, upon prescribed scale, furnished by the engineer officer having supervision of said bayou, and giving for the space of two miles above and two miles below the proposed location of the bridge the topography of the banks of the bayou, with shore lines at high and low water, the direction and strength of the currents at all stages, and the soundings, accurately showing the bed of the stream, the location of any other bridge or bridges, and shall furnish such other information as may be required for a full and satisfactory understanding of the subject; and until the said plans and location of the bridge are approved by the Secretary of War the bridge shall not be built; and should any change be made in the plan of the said bridge during the process of construction, such change shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of War, and said structure shall be changed at the cost and expense of the owners thereof from time to time as the Secretary of War may direct, so as to preserve the free and convenient navigation of said bayou.

—changes.

SEC. 6. 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 hereof.

Commencement and completion.

SEC. 7. That the right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is hereby expressly reserved.

Amendment.

Approved, April 11, 1898.

April 11, 1898.

CHAP. 119.—An Act To authorize the construction of a bridge across Saint Francis River, in the State of Arkansas.

St. Francois Bridge and Plank Road Company of Paragould, Ark., may bridge St. Francis River, Arkansas.

Secretary of War to approve plans.

—draw.

Passage of vehicles, etc.

Toll.

Lawful structure and post route.

Telegraph companies.

Provisos.
Secretary of War to approve location, plans, etc.

Aids to navigation.

Lights.

Commencement and completion.

Amendment.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Saint Francois Bridge and Plank Road Company of Paragould, Arkansas, incorporated under the laws of said State, is hereby authorized to construct, operate, and maintain a drawbridge across Saint Francis River, at or near the township line between townships sixteen and seventeen north, in Green County, 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, April 11, 1898.

April 11, 1898.

CHAP. 120.—An Act Extending the right of commutation to certain homestead settlers on lands in Oklahoma Territory, opened to settlement under the provisions of the Act entitled "An Act to ratify and confirm the agreement with the Kickapoo Indians in Oklahoma Territory, and to make appropriations for carrying the same into effect."

Public lands.
Commutation to settlers on ceded Kickapoo lands, Oklahoma.
Vol. 27, p. 562.

Vol. 29, p. 868.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the right of commutation is hereby extended to all bona fide homestead settlers on the lands in Oklahoma Territory, opened to settlement under the provisions of the Act of Congress entitled "An Act to ratify and confirm an agreement with the Kickapoo Indians in Oklahoma Territory, and to make appropriations for carrying the same into effect," approved March third, eighteen hundred and ninety-three, and the President's proclamation