

road pier at Gulf Port, Mississippi, and from Ship Island Harbor to Biloxi, Mississippi, and also for an anchorage basin at both places, with a view to ascertaining the cost of same and its advisability.

He shall also report a place for making and maintaining said channels and basins by necessary dredging and improvements, together with an estimate of the cost of same. He shall further cause to be made a survey for a channel twenty-six feet deep at mean low water through Ship Island Pass, Mississippi, and report the cost and advisability of making same by dredging.

Approved, June 16, 1898.

June 16, 1898.

CHAP. 460.—An Act To authorize the construction of a bridge across Saint Francis Lake, at or near Lake City, State of Arkansas.

Jonesboro, Lake City and Eastern Railroad may bridge Lake Saint Francis, Arkansas.

Provisos.
Secretary of War to approve plans, etc.

Aids to navigation.

Position of piers, etc.
Lights.

Railroads.
—right to use bridge.

—disagreement with owner.

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 Jonesboro, Lake City and Eastern Railroad Company, a corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of Arkansas, its successors or assigns, are 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, and approved by him: *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 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 craft through or under said structure; and the piers of said bridge shall be parallel with, and the bridge itself at right angles to, the current of the lake; 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.

SEC. 2. That all railroad companies desiring the use of said bridge shall have 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; and in case the owner of said bridge and any railroad company desiring such use shall fail to agree upon the sums to be paid or upon the conditions to be observed, all matters at issue shall be decided by the Secretary of War upon hearing the allegations and proof of the parties.

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 two years from the approval of this Act.

SEC. 4. That the right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is hereby expressly reserved.

Approved, June 16, 1898.

June 17, 1898.

CHAP. 463.—An Act To organize a hospital corps of the Navy of the United States; to define its duties and regulate its pay.

Navy.
Organization of hospital corps

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That a hospital corps of the United States Navy is hereby established, and shall consist of pharmacists hospital stewards, hospital apprentices (first class), and hospital

apprentices; and for this purpose the Secretary of the Navy is empowered to appoint twenty-five pharmacists with the rank, pay, and privileges of warrant officers, removable in the discretion of the Secretary, and to enlist, or cause to be enlisted, as many hospital stewards, hospital apprentices (first class), and hospital apprentices as in his judgment may be necessary, and to limit or fix the number, and to make such regulations as may be required for their enlistment and government. Enlisted men in the Navy or the Marine Corps shall be eligible for transfer to the hospital corps, and vacancies occurring in the grade of pharmacist shall be filled by the Secretary of the Navy by selection from those holding the rate of hospital steward.

SEC. 2. That all necessary hospital and ambulance service at naval hospitals, naval stations, navy-yards, and marine barracks, and on vessels of the Navy, Coast Survey, and Fish Commission, shall be performed by the members of said corps, and the corps shall be permanently attached to the Medical Department of the Navy, and shall be included in the effective strength of the Navy and be counted as a part of the enlisted force provided by law, and shall be subject to the laws and regulations for the government of the Navy.

SEC. 3. That the pay of hospital stewards shall be sixty dollars a month, the pay of hospital apprentices (first class) thirty dollars a month, and the pay of hospital apprentices twenty dollars a month, with the increase on account of length of service as is now or may hereafter be allowed by law to other enlisted men in the Navy.

SEC. 4. That all benefits derived from existing laws, or that may hereafter be allowed by law, to other warrant officers or enlisted men in the Navy shall be allowed in the same manner to the warrant officers or enlisted men in the hospital corps of the Navy.

SEC. 5. That all acts and parts of acts, so far as they conflict with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed.

Approved, June 17, 1898.

Duties, etc.

Pay.

—longevity.

Benefit of laws, etc.

Repeal.

CHAP. 464.—An Act To provide American registers for the steamers Specialist and Unionist.

June 18, 1898.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized and directed to cause the foreign-built steamers Specialist and Unionist to be registered as vessels of the United States, provided that they shall not engage in the coastwise trade of this Republic.

Steamers "Specialist" and "Unionist." Granted American registers.

Approved, June 18, 1898.

CHAP. 465.—An Act Granting to the Kettle River Valley Railway Company a right of way through the north half of the Colville Indian Reservation in the State of Washington.

June 18, 1898.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there be, and is hereby, granted to the Kettle River Valley Railway Company, a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Washington, a right of way for a railroad, to the extent of one hundred feet on each side of the center line thereof, across the said north half of the said Colville Indian Reservation, and also a right of way to the extent of one hundred feet on each side of the center line of any branches of said line, commencing at a point on the line of the Spokane Falls and Northern Railway, in Stevens County, Washington, crossing the Columbia River, and running thence westerly and northwesterly by the most feasible route through the north half of said reservation, said line or branches to con-

Kettle River Valley Railway granted right of way across Colville Indian Reservation, etc.

Location.

Connections.