

to run its vehicles over the tracks of the Brightwood Railway Company, and to use the power of that company for propelling its cars, or to furnish power to that company for that purpose, upon such terms and conditions as may be mutually agreed upon; and in case said companies are unable to agree in regard thereto, either company may apply by petition to the supreme court of the District of Columbia, and after reasonable notice thereof to the other party said court shall, upon hearing and investigation being had, have full power to adjudicate and finally determine the terms and conditions upon which the joint use of said power and tracks shall be enjoyed; and the said companies are each hereby severally authorized to enter into any agreement with each other as may be necessary to insure a continuity of traffic over the tracks of said companies and under the management of either of said companies: *Provided*, That nothing contained herein shall operate to relieve the Brightwood Railway Company of any of its charter obligations, limitations, requirements, and restrictions, all of which shall remain in full force and effect, and shall be binding in all respects upon any company operating cars upon the route of said Brightwood Railway Company.

—terms, etc.

*Proviso.*  
Obligations of Brightwood Railway unaffected, etc.

SEC. 2. That Congress reserves the right to amend or repeal this Act.  
Approved, June 29, 1898.

Amendment.

CHAP. 535.—An Act To authorize the Montgomery-Elmore Bridge and Improvement Company to construct and maintain a bridge across the Alabama River near the city of Montgomery, Alabama.

June 29, 1898.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the Montgomery-Elmore Bridge and Improvement Company, a corporation created and existing under an act of the general assembly of the State of Alabama for the purpose of constructing and maintaining the bridge hereinafter mentioned, be, and is hereby, authorized to construct and maintain a wagon, foot-passenger, and railroad bridge, or a bridge for any one or more of such purposes, across the Alabama River at such point as may be selected by said company and approved by the Secretary of War, between the junction of the Coosa and Tallapoosa rivers and the city of Montgomery, in the State of Alabama, said bridge to be so constructed as not to obstruct the navigation of said river, and to be provided with a suitable draw: *Provided*, That any bridge constructed under this Act and according to its limitations shall be a lawful structure, and shall be known and recognized as a post route, upon which no higher charge shall be made for transportation over the same of the mails, troops, and munitions of war of the United States than the rate per mile paid for their transportation over the railroad leading to such bridge, and the United States shall have the right of way for a postal telegraph across said bridge.

Montgomery-Elmore Bridge, etc. Company may bridge Alabama River.

—location.

Obstruction of navigation.

*Proviso.*  
Lawful structure and post route.

SEC. 2. That the bridge authorized to be constructed under this Act shall be located and built under and subject to such regulations for the security of the navigation of said river 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 the proposed bridge and a map of the location giving, for the space of one-half mile above and one-half mile below the proposed location, the topography of the banks of the river, the shore lines at high and low water, the direction and strength of the currents, and the soundings, accurately showing the bed of the stream, and shall furnish such other information as may be required for a full and satisfactory understanding of the subject; and until the said plan and location of the bridge are approved by the Secretary of War no work upon the bridge shall be commenced, and should any change be made in the plan of said bridge during the progress of construction or

Secretary of War to prescribe regulations.

—to approve plans.

—changes.

after completion such change shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of War.

- Amendment.** SEC. 3. That Congress reserves the right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act at any time; and that if at any time navigation of said river shall in any manner be obstructed or impaired by the said bridge the Secretary of War shall have authority, and it shall be his duty, to require the said bridge company to alter and change the said bridge at its own expense in such manner as may be proper to secure free and complete navigation without impediment.
- Changes.—expense.**
- Draw.** SEC. 4. That the draw of the bridge herein authorized to be constructed shall be opened promptly upon reasonable signal for the passing of boats; and said company or corporation shall maintain at its own expense, from sunset till sunrise, such lights or other signals on said bridge as the Light-House Board shall prescribe.
- Lights.**
- Railroads.** SEC. 5. That all railroad companies desiring the use of any railroad bridge constructed under this Act shall have equal rights and privileges relative to the passage of trains and cars over the same and over the approaches thereto upon payment of a reasonable compensation for such use, and in case of any disagreement between the owners of the bridge and any railroad company desiring its use, regarding the compensation to be paid or the conditions to be observed, all matters at issue shall be decided by the Secretary of War after a proper hearing; and all telephone and telegraph companies shall be granted equal rights and privileges in the construction and operation of their lines across said bridge; and if actual construction of the bridge herein authorized shall not be commenced within one year from the passage of this Act, and be completed within three years from same date, the rights and privileges hereby granted shall cease and be determined.
- equal rights to use of bridge.**
- disagreement with owner of bridge.**
- Telegraph, etc., companies.**
- Commencement and completion.**

Approved, June 29, 1898.

June 29, 1898.

**CHAP. 536.**—An Act To designate Gladstone, Michigan, a subport of entry.

Gladstone, Mich.,  
made subport of entry.  
R. S., sec. 2599, p. 514.  
Immediate transportation.  
Vol. 27, p. 12.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Gladstone, in the State of Michigan, be, and the same hereby is, designated a subport of entry in the customs collection district of Superior, and that the privileges of immediate transportation of dutiable merchandise without appraisement, as defined by the Act of June tenth, eighteen hundred and eighty, entitled "An Act to amend the statutes in relation to the immediate transportation of dutiable goods, and for other purposes," be, and the same are hereby, extended to said subport.*

Approved, June 29, 1898.

June 29, 1898.

**CHAP. 537.**—An Act To provide for the construction of a bridge across Niagara River.

Niagara River.  
Construction of  
bridge across.

Location.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the assent of Congress be, and the same hereby is, given to the company or corporation organized under chapter four hundred and eighty-two of the laws of the State of New York, passed in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-two, as amended by chapter five hundred and six of the laws of said State, passed in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-three, which act as so amended is entitled "An Act to incorporate the Niagara River Bridge and Tunnel Company," or any Act or Acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto, to erect a bridge across the Niagara River, or either or both branches thereof, where the same separates to form Grand Island, at and from some point to be approved by the Secretary of War on the right or easterly bank of said river between the east line of lot*