

- five yards, thence in a line perpendicular to said road to the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, thence along said canal to the south line of the reservation, jurisdiction over which is retained by the Secretary of War.
- Intent of act. SEC. 2. That the declared purpose of this Act is to set apart said tract of land as a general experimental farm in its broadest sense, where all that pertains to agriculture in its several and different branches, including animal industry and horticulture, may be fostered and encouraged, and the practice and science of farming in the United States advanced, promoted, and practically illustrated.
- Secretary given immediate control of property, etc. SEC. 3. That the Secretary of Agriculture will take immediate and absolute control of said property described in section one, and by clearing, underdraining, grassing, laying out proper roads and driveways, constructing proper bridges and buildings, and in other ways as his judgment may dictate bring said property as rapidly as possible into the proper condition to answer the purposes for which it is set apart: *Provided*, That all improvements of or which may at any time be made upon said premises, as herein contemplated, shall be so located, constructed, and maintained as not to interfere with or obstruct the natural waterways or the sewers or other means now established or which may hereafter be provided, constructed, or maintained for the purpose of affording proper drainage and sewerage to the other portions of said estate: *And provided further*, That this Act shall not impair or interfere with any of the rights heretofore granted by Act of Congress to the Washington, Alexandria and Mount Vernon Railway Company to construct, maintain, and operate its electric railroad across the said portion of the estate lying east of said public road.
- Provisos. Existing sewers, etc., not to be obstructed.
- or rights of Washington, Alexandria and Mount Vernon Railway impaired.
- Secretary given full discretion, etc. SEC. 4. That in the development, improvement, and management of said property full discretion is hereby given the Secretary of Agriculture and his successors in office to carry into effect the declared purposes of this Act.
- Effect. SEC. 5. That this Act shall be in force from its passage.
- Approved, April 18, 1900.

April 18, 1900.

**CHAP. 244.**—An Act Repealing section forty-seven hundred and sixteen of the Revised Statutes, so far as the same may be applicable to the claims of dependent parents of soldiers, sailors, and marines who served in the Army or Navy of the United States during the war with Spain.

Pensions. Dependent parents of soldiers, etc., who served in the Confederate army and in the war with Spain may be pensioned. R. S., sec. 4716, p. 919.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That section forty-seven hundred and sixteen of the Revised Statutes be, and the same is hereby, repealed, so far as the same may be applicable to the claims to pension of dependent parents of soldiers, sailors, and marines who served in the Army or Navy of the United States during the war with Spain.

Approved, April 18, 1900.

April 18, 1900.

**CHAP. 245.**—An Act To authorize the holding of a regular term of the district court of the United States for the western district of Virginia in the city of Charlottesville, Virginia.

Virginia western judicial district. Term of district court to be held at Charlottesville.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That a regular term of the district court of the United States for the western district of Virginia shall be held in each year in the city of Charlottesville, Virginia, on the second Monday in January.

Approved, April 18, 1900.

**CHAP. 246.**—An Act To extend the privileges of the seventh section of the Act approved June tenth, eighteen hundred and eighty, to the port of Greenbay, Wisconsin.

April 18, 1900.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the privileges of the seventh section of the Act approved June tenth, eighteen hundred and eighty, governing the immediate transportation of dutiable merchandise without appraisement be, and they are hereby, extended to the port of Greenbay, in the customs collection district of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Greenbay, Wis.  
Granted immediate transportation privileges.  
Vol. 21, p. 173.

Approved, April 18, 1900.

**CHAP. 250.**—An Act To legalize and maintain the iron bridge across Pearl River at Rockport, Mississippi.

April 21, 1900.

Whereas the boards of supervisors of Copiah and Simpson counties, Mississippi, did, in eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, jointly contract for an iron bridge to be built across Pearl River, at Rockport, Mississippi, believing that said stream at this point was practically nonnavigable; that afterwards an injunction was sued out by the Government, restraining contractors, which, being heard before Judge H. C. Niles, of the district Federal court at Jackson, Mississippi, he decided that the part of Pearl River from Rockport to Jackson was a nonnavigable stream and dissolved the injunction; that an iron bridge was built in accordance with said contract and opened for travel in August, eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, without a draw; that in January, nineteen hundred, an appeal was taken by the Government to the United States circuit court and is now pending; and

Preamble.

Whereas said boards of supervisors are desirous of complying with their obligation with the bridge company and giving the citizens of said counties the benefit of said bridge, which is of great public utility: Therefore,

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the bridge aforesaid be, and the same is hereby, legalized and maintained as constructed by said counties for the use of the general public.

Bridge across Pearl River at Rockport, Miss., legalized.

SEC. 2. That Congress reserves the right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act at pleasure.

Amendment.

Received by the President, April 10, 1900.

[NOTE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE.—The foregoing act having been presented to the President of the United States for his approval, and not having been returned by him to the house of Congress in which it originated within the time prescribed by the Constitution of the United States, has become a law without his approval.]

**CHAP. 251.**—An Act To extend the provisions of an Act entitled "An Act granting increase of pension to soldiers of the Mexican war in certain cases," approved January fifth, eighteen hundred and ninety-three.

April 23, 1900.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the benefits of the Act entitled "An Act granting increase of pension to soldiers of the Mexican war in certain cases," approved January fifth, eighteen hundred and ninety-three, be, and they are hereby, extended to all survivors of the Mexican war who are pensionable under existing Mexican war service pension laws, and who have become or may hereafter become wholly disabled for manual labor and in such destitute circumstances

Mexican war pensions.  
Increase in certain cases authorized.  
Vol. 27, p. 413.