

master's Department and an inspection by such department, all under the direction and authority of the Secretary of War.'

"And the words:

"*Provided*, That not more than one million dollars of the sums appropriated by this Act shall be paid out for the services of civilian employees in the Quartermaster's Department, including those heretofore paid out of the funds appropriated for regular supplies, incidental expenses, barracks and quarters, army transportation, clothing, camp and garrison equipage; that no employee paid therefrom shall receive a salary more than one hundred and fifty dollars per month unless the same be specially fixed by law.'

—civilian employees; limit.

"Third. So much of the Act approved March fifteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, entitled 'An Act making appropriations for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-nine,' under the heading 'Ordnance Department,' as provides that not more than sixty-five thousand dollars of the money appropriated for the Ordnance Department in all its branches shall be applied to the payment of civilian clerks in said department."

Ordnance Department.
Civilian clerks; limit.

SEC. 2. That during the time the operation of the foregoing provisions of law shall remain so suspended pursuant to this Act, materials required by the War Department may, in the discretion of the Secretary of War, be purchased abroad and shall be admitted free of duty.

Admission free of duty of war materials.

SEC. 3. That during the same time the Bureau of Ordnance of the War Department is authorized to purchase, without advertisement, such ordnance and ordnance stores as are needed for immediate use; and when such ordnance and ordnance stores are to be manufactured, then to make contracts without advertisement for such stores, to be delivered as rapidly as manufactured.

Purchases without advertisement.

Approved, February 24, 1900.

CHAP. 25.—An Act For the relief of claimants having suits against the United States pending in the circuit and district courts of the United States affected by the Act of June twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, amending the Act of March third, eighteen hundred and eighty-seven.

February 26, 1900.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That no suit shall abate or be affected by the Act of June twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, entitled "An Act to amend sections one and two of the Act of March third, eighteen hundred and eighty-seven," which was pending in any circuit court of appeals, circuit or district court of the United States at the time of the passage of said Act; and all such suits which have been dismissed by reason of said Act shall be restored to their places in such courts and proceeded with as if the same had not been enacted; and time within which an appeal or writ of error may be taken or prosecuted in any case affected by this Act is hereby extended six months from the passage hereof.

Suits pending in United States courts by Government officers to recover fees for services unaffected by transfer of jurisdiction to Court of Claims, etc.
Vol. 30, p. 495.
Vol. 24, p. 505.

Approved, February 26, 1900.

CHAP. 26.—An Act To amend an Act entitled "An Act to authorize the Grand Rapids Water Power and Boom Company, of Grand Rapids, Minnesota, to construct a dam and bridge across the Mississippi River," approved February twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety-nine.

February 27, 1900.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled; That section three of an Act entitled "An Act to authorize the Grand Rapids Water Power and Boom Company, of Grand Rapids, Minnesota, to construct a dam and bridge across the Mississippi River," approved, February twenty-

Time extended to Grand Rapids Water Power and Boom Company to dam, etc., Mississippi River at Grand Rapids, Minn.

seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

"SEC. 3. That this Act shall be null and void unless said dam herein authorized be commenced within two years and completed within four years from the date hereof."

Approved, February 27, 1900.

February 28, 1900.

CHAP. 27.—An Act To authorize the construction of a bridge across the Red River of the North, at Drayton, North Dakota.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the council of the city of Drayton, county of Pembina, State of North Dakota, be, and are hereby, authorized to construct and maintain a pontoon bridge and approaches thereto across the Red River of the North, between the State of North Dakota and the State of Minnesota, extending from the foot of Almeron or Grant streets in said town of Drayton to a point opposite, in the State of Minnesota. Said bridge shall be constructed so as to provide for the passage of wagons and vehicles of all kinds, animals, and foot passengers, and for all road travel, for such reasonable rates of toll and under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by said council and approved from time to time by the Secretary of War.

To be lawful structure and post route.

SEC. 2. That any 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 the munitions of war of the United States than is charged other parties for like privileges; and it shall enjoy the rights and privileges of other post roads in the United States, and the United States shall have the right of way across said bridge and its approaches for postal-telegraph purposes. And equal rights as to constructing and maintaining their lines over said bridge shall be granted to all telephone and telegraph companies desiring to use the same.

Telephone, etc., companies.

Draw, etc.

SEC. 3. That said bridge shall be constructed as a pontoon drawspan bridge, and shall contain a pontoon drawspan of such dimensions as the Secretary of War shall prescribe, which said drawspan shall be maintained on the main channel of the river at an accessible and navigable point; and the piers of said bridge shall be parallel with, and the bridge itself at right angles to, the current of the river: *Provided,* That said draw shall be opened promptly, upon reasonable signal, for the passage of boats and rafts; and said council of the city of Drayton shall maintain, at the expense of the said city, from sunset to sunrise, such lights or other signals on said bridge as the Light-House Board shall prescribe. No bridge shall be constructed or maintained under the authority of this Act which shall at any time substantially or materially obstruct the free navigation of said river; and if any bridge erected under said authority 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 all such alterations shall be made and all such obstructions be removed at the expense of the said city of Drayton; and in case of any litigation arising from any obstruction or alleged obstruction to the free navigation of said river, caused or alleged to be caused by said bridge, suit may be brought in any circuit court of the United States for the circuit in which said bridge or any part thereof is located to remove or remedy the same: *Provided further,* 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 pro-

Provisos.

—opening of.

Lights.

Not to obstruct navigation.

—litigation.

Existing law unaffected.