

Mississippi River at Prairie du Chien" approved June sixth, eighteen hundred and seventy-four, except that in the bridge herein authorized one draw only shall be required, which shall not be less than four hundred feet in width in the clear: *And provided further*, That any bridge built under the provisions of this act shall be at right-angles to the current of the river.

Proviso.

Not to obstruct navigation.

Approval of plans.

Alterations.

Litigation for obstruction, where tried.

Declared lawful structure and post-route.

Charges for transportation for United States.

Lights and safeguards.

Right to amend.

SEC. 3. That no bridge shall be erected or maintained under the authority of this act which shall at any time substantially or materially obstruct the free navigation of said river; and no bridge shall be commenced or built under this act until the location thereof and the plans and specifications for its construction shall have been submitted to, and approved by, the Secretary of War; and any change in the plan of such construction or any alteration in the bridge after its construction shall be subject to the like approval; and whenever said bridge shall, in the opinion of the Secretary of War, substantially obstruct the free navigation of said river, 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 owner or owners of said bridge; and in case of any litigation arising from any obstruction or alleged obstruction to the free navigation of the Missouri River at or near the crossing of said bridge caused or alleged to be caused thereby, the cause shall be commenced and tried in the district courts of either judicial district of Iowa or Nebraska in which the said bridge or any portion of such obstruction touches.

SEC. 4. That any bridge built under this act and according 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 transportation over the same of the mails, the troops, and munitions of war of the United States than the rate per mile paid for their transportation over the railroads or public highways leading to such bridge. Such lights shall be kept upon said bridge as the Light-House Board shall direct, and said bridge shall moreover be provided with all proper safeguards for the security of person and property.

SEC. 5. That Congress may at any time alter, amend, or repeal this act.

Approved, August 15, 1876.

Aug. 15, 1876.

CHAP. 304.—An act to provide for the appointment of commissioners for taking affidavits, &c., for the courts of the United States.

Notaries public may take testimony, etc.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That notaries public of the several States, Territories, and the District of Columbia be, and they are hereby, authorized to take depositions, and do all other acts in relation to taking testimony to be used in the courts of the United States, take acknowledgments and affidavits, in the same manner and with the same effect as commissioners of the United States circuit court may now lawfully take or do.

Approved, August 15, 1876.

Aug. 15, 1876.

CHAP. 305.—An act relieving the State of Kansas from charges on account of ordnance-stores furnished to Kansas Territory.

Preamble.

Whereas, it appears from the books of the Ordnance Bureau of the War Department that the State of Kansas stands charged with eleven thousand four hundred and twenty-five dollars for arms issued to the Territory of Kansas; and

Whereas said arms were used by Government officials in maintaining the authority of the United States and were never turned over to the State of Kansas: Therefore,

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Chief of the Ordnance Bureau of the War Department be, and he is hereby, directed to cause the State of Kansas to be credited on its ordnance-account with the amounts now charged against it for arms and ordnance stores issued to the Territory of Kansas upon the return to the United States by the State of Kansas, of all such arms and other ordnance-stores as may have come into its possession as the successor of said Territory.

Approved, August 15, 1876.

Kansas to be credited for certain ordnance-stores.

CHAP. 306.—An act to amend an act entitled "An act authorizing the repavement of Pennsylvania Avenue"

Aug. 15, 1876.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That that part of section five of an act entitled "An act authorizing the repavement of Pennsylvania Avenue" approved July nineteenth, eighteen hundred and seventy-six, which reads as follows: "*Provided* That said pavement shall be fully completed and ready for use December first eighteen hundred and seventy-six" be, and the same is hereby amended so as to read as follows: "*Provided,* That the said pavement shall be fully completed and ready for use January fifteenth, eighteen hundred and seventy-seven."

Approved, August 15, 1876.

Ante, p. 93.
Post, p. 223.

Pavement of Pennsylvania avenue, when to be completed.

CHAP. 307.—An act to create an additional land office at Colfax, Whitman County, Washington Territory.

Aug. 15, 1876.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized to establish an additional land-district in the Territory of Washington, which district shall be bounded as follows, namely: commencing at a point where the Columbia guide-meridian intersects the third standard parallel in said Territory; thence east along the line of said standard parallel to where the same intersects Snake River; thence along said Snake River to where the same intersects the boundary-line between Washington Territory and Idaho Territory; thence north on said boundary-line to where the same intersects the boundary-line between Washington Territory and British Columbia; thence west along said line to where the same intersects the aforementioned Columbia guide-meridian; thence south along the line of said meridian to the place of beginning. Said district, as above bounded, shall be known and designated as the Whitman district, and the office of said district shall be located at the town of Colfax, or at such place as the President may direct, in the Territory of Washington; and the President of the United States shall have power to change the location of said land-office, in said Territory, from time to time, as the public interests may seem to require.

Whitman land-district created.

Boundaries.

Name of district.
Location of office.

SEC. 2. That the President is hereby authorized to appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, or during the recess thereof, a register and a receiver for the district hereby created, who shall each reside in the place where said land-office is located, and shall have the same powers, responsibilities, and emoluments, and be subject to the same acts and penalties, which are or may be prescribed by law in relation to other land-officers in said Territory.

Register and receiver to be appointed.

Powers, etc.

SEC. 3. That the public lands in said district shall be subject to sale and disposal upon the same terms and conditions as other public lands of the United States: *Provided,* That all sales and locations made at the office of the old district of land situated within the limits of the new

Public lands in, to be subject to sale.
Proviso.