

structure shall be changed or removed, at the cost and expense of the owners thereof, from time to time, as Congress may direct, so as to preserve the free and convenient navigation of said river; and the authority to erect and continue said bridge shall be subject to revocation and modification by law when the public good shall, in the judgment of Congress, so require, without any expense or charge to the United States.

Revocation, etc.

SEC. 5. That the right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is hereby expressly reserved.

Amendment, etc.

SEC. 6. 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 three years from the date thereof.

Commencement and completion.

Approved, February 26, 1895.

CHAP. 137.—An Act To amend the Articles for the Government of the Navy relative to punishment on conviction by court-martial.

February 27, 1895.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Articles for the Government of the Navy be, and the same are hereby, amended by adding thereto the following:

Navy.
Articles amended.
R. S., sec. 1624, p. 284, amended.

“ARTICLE 63. Whenever, by any of the Articles for the Government of the Navy of the United States, the punishment on conviction of an offense is left to the discretion of the court-martial, the punishment therefor shall not, in time of peace, be in excess of a limit which the President may prescribe.”

Punishment for offenses in time of peace.

Approved, February 27, 1895.

CHAP. 138.—An Act Making the surveyor of the District of Columbia a salaried officer, and to provide for more efficient service in the surveyor's office.

February 28, 1895.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That from and after the passage of this Act the surveyor of the District of Columbia shall receive a salary of three thousand dollars per annum in lieu of fees, and shall be appointed by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia for a term of four years unless sooner removed for cause and shall be under the direction and control of the said Commissioners.

District of Columbia.
Surveyor to be appointed.
Salary, term.
R. S. D. C., ch. 16, p. 56.

SEC. 2. That the surveyor shall give bond to the United States in the penalty of twenty thousand dollars, with two sureties, to be approved by the Commissioners, conditioned for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office, and shall take and subscribe an oath or affirmation before the Commissioners that he will faithfully and impartially discharge the duties of his office, which bond and oath shall be deposited with the Commissioners of the District of Columbia.

Bond.

Oath.

SEC. 3. That the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, on the recommendation of the surveyor, be, and they are hereby, authorized to appoint one assistant surveyor, at a salary of one thousand eight hundred dollars per annum, and such employees as may in the judgment of the Commissioners of the District of Columbia be required for the surveyor's office and operations at an aggregate expense of not exceeding five thousand two hundred dollars in any one year.

Assistant, etc.

SEC. 4. That the surveyor shall, as speedily as possible, execute any order of survey made by any court or private individual of any lot or square within the city of Washington, or of any land within the District of Columbia outside of said city, and shall make due return of a true plat and certificate thereof.

Executing orders.

Work for the District.

Fees to be deposited.

Preservation of notes, records, etc.

Duties of assistant.

Schedules of fees.

Repeal.

SEC. 5. That it shall be the duty of the surveyor to execute any surveying work for the District of Columbia, without charge, on the order of the Commissioners; and all fees for surveys made by the surveyor or the assistant surveyor shall be paid over to the collector of taxes of the District of Columbia under regulations to be prescribed by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, and be covered into the Treasury of the United States as other revenues of the District are now; and the field notes of the surveyor and his assistant shall be preserved and shall be a part of the public property of the District of Columbia, and all records, plats, plans and other papers or documents now existing or hereafter made or secured by the office of the said surveyor shall be delivered by each surveyor to his successor in office, and no plat or survey of land shall be recorded in the office of the surveyor of the District of Columbia except it be certified to as correct by the surveyor of the said District.

SEC. 6. That the assistant surveyor shall take the same oath his principal is required to take, and may, during the continuance of his office, discharge and perform any of the official duties of his principal, and any default or misfeasance in office by the assistant surveyor, or other assistant or helper of the surveyor, shall be deemed a breach of the official bond of his principal.

SEC. 7. That the Commissioners of the District of Columbia are hereby empowered and directed to prescribe a schedule of fees to be charged by the surveyor for his services, in lieu of the fees now charged, which schedule shall be printed and conspicuously displayed in the office of the surveyor.

SEC. 8. That all laws and parts of laws inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed.

Approved, February 28, 1895.

February 28, 1895.

CHAP. 139.—An Act To amend section forty-four hundred and thirty-four of title fifty-two of the Revised Statutes of the United States.

Steam vessels.
R. S., sec. 4434, p. 859,
amended.

Thickness of boiler plates increased for vessels on certain rivers.

Space between flues.

Manhole.

Extra thickness allowed ocean, etc., vessels.

Proviso.
Average required.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section forty-four hundred and thirty-four of title fifty-two of the Revised Statutes be amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 4434. No externally fired boiler having its shell constructed of iron or steel plates exceeding an average thickness of thirty one-hundredths of an inch shall be employed on any steam vessel navigating the Red River of the North or rivers flowing into the Gulf of Mexico or their tributaries; and no externally fired boiler employed on any such steam vessel shall have less than three inches space between its shell and any of its internal flues, and not less than three inches space between such flues when any such flues are more than five inches in diameter; and every such externally fired boiler employed on any such steam vessel shall be provided with a manhole in the lower part of the front head thereof, of such dimensions as may be prescribed by the Board of Supervising Inspectors, in all cases where the distance between its internal flues is less than three inches. Externally fired boilers having shells constructed of iron or steel plates not exceeding an average thickness of fifty one-hundredths of an inch may, in the discretion of the Secretary of the Treasury, be authorized and employed on steam vessels navigating the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, or salt-water bays or sounds, or the Great Lakes, or any of them, and waters flowing to and from the same, or any of them: *Provided,* That on inspection no plate that is by this Act limited to a thickness of thirty one-hundredths of an inch and no plate that is by this Act limited to a thickness of fifty one-hundredths of an inch shall be rejected for use if found to exceed those dimensions, respectively, if the average thickness thereof does not exceed the limits therein specified, and the