

him to answer for such misdemeanor, and then and there shall make complaint in due form.

Refusal to surrender leased property.

SEC. 4. That any person to whom land lying within any national parks may have been leased, who refuses to give up possession of the same to the United States after the termination of said lease, and after possession has been demanded for the United States by any park commissioner or the park superintendent, or any person retaining possession of land lying within the boundary of said park which he or she may have sold to the United States for park purposes and have received payment therefor, after possession of the same has been demanded for the United States by any park commissioner or the park superintendent, shall be deemed guilty of trespass, and the United States may maintain an action for the recovery of the possession of the premises so withheld in the courts of the United States, according to the statutes or code of practice of the State in which the park may be situated.

Action of trespass to recover.

Application.

SEC. 5. This Act shall apply only to the military parks of the United States.

Approved, March 3, 1897.

March 3, 1897.

CHAP. 373.—An Act To amend an Act entitled "An Act to authorize the Montgomery Bridge Company to construct and maintain a bridge across the Alabama River near the city of Montgomery, Alabama," approved March first, eighteen hundred and ninety-three.

Bridge over Alabama River, Montgomery, Ala. Vol. 27, p. 528.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section six of an Act approved March first, eighteen hundred and ninety-three, to authorize the Montgomery Bridge Company to construct and maintain a bridge across the Alabama River near Montgomery, Alabama, be, and is hereby, amended to read as follows:

Time for construction extended.

"SEC. 6. That 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 March first, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven, and be completed within three years from same date, the rights and privileges hereby granted shall cease and be determined.

Approved, March 3, 1897.

March 3, 1897.

CHAP. 374.—An Act To define the rights of purchasers under mortgages authorized by an Act of Congress approved April twentieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-one, concerning the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company.

Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That whenever any mortgage made by the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company under and by virtue of Acts of Congress is foreclosed in any court of the United States, or of any State or Territory thereof, and any sale of the road, equipment, lands, franchises, privileges, and other rights and property covered by said mortgage is made under a decree or decrees of such courts, the purchaser at any such sale or sales, and their associates or assigns, shall constitute a new company, which shall have and shall be entitled to hold and possess the franchises and property so sold, and to exercise the same rights, powers, privileges, grants, and franchises, including the franchise to be a corporation, granted by the Act of Congress approved July twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-six, incorporating the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company, and by acts amendatory thereof and supplemental thereto, which were owned and possessed by said Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company, or said

Purchasers under foreclosure to succeed to franchises, etc.

Vol. 14, p. 292.

Vol. 17, p. 19; Vol. 24, p. 123.

mortgagees at the time of such decree of foreclosure; and the incorporation as hereby provided shall be completed and become effective whenever the said purchasers and their associates or assigns shall file with the Secretary of the Interior a certificate of incorporation hereunder, duly acknowledged, specifying the name of such new corporation, its president, and the names of its directors, the amount of its proposed capital stock and bonds, together with certified copy of the decree or decrees ratifying such sale; but such new company shall be subject to all the obligations and duties to the United States which said Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company was subject under its charter or Act of incorporation, and nothing in this Act shall be held to deprive the United States of any right or remedy they may at any time have had against said Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company; but nothing in this Act shall make such purchasers and their associates or such new corporation liable for any debts or claims or contracts of the old corporation except all debts, demands and liabilities which were due or owing by the old company, which were contracted, accrued, or were incurred or are due or owing for tickets and freight balances, or for wages, work, labor, materials, machinery, fixtures, and supplies of every kind and character, done, performed, or furnished in the repair, equipment, operation, or extension of said road and its branches so purchased, and all liabilities incurred by said old company in the transportation of freight and passengers thereon, including damages for injuries to employees or other persons, and to property, and which debts, demands and liabilities have accrued or upon which suit had been brought or was pending, or judgment rendered, within twelve months prior to the appointment of a receiver or receivers in the foreclosure proceeding or since the appointment of any such receiver, but such liabilities shall not include any liabilities to other railroad companies except for tickets and freight balances: *Provided*, The capital stock of the corporation herein authorized shall be divided into shares each of the par value of one hundred dollars, and shall not exceed the amount of the mortgage debt due and unpaid at the time of the decree of foreclosure: *Provided*, That additional stock and bonds may be issued by the corporation upon the payment into its treasury therefor the full par value thereof in cash. No stock shall be issued until the Secretary of the Interior shall approve its issue and certify that it is issued in conformity to the provisions of this Act. The total stock issued under the provisions of this Act shall not exceed one hundred million dollars. But no stock shall be issued by said corporation, until such issue shall be approved by the Secretary of the Interior as actually representing money, labor or property, estimated at its actual cost value, at the full or par value of said issue of stock: *Provided further*, That nothing herein contained shall be construed as making any additional grant of lands or other franchises to such successor corporation, or as a waiver of any rights of the United States now existing to enforce any forfeiture of lands heretofore granted to the said Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company, or as in any manner affecting the vested rights of any settler or settlers on any of the lands heretofore granted to the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company or of any purchaser or purchasers of said lands from said company: *Provided further*, That as a condition precedent to reorganization the purchasers of the railroad property and their associates shall relinquish in writing and convey to the United States (by a proper deed or instrument to be filed with and approved by the Secretary of the Interior within six months after the passage of this Act and before this Act shall take effect) all claim, right, title, and interest to all lands granted to the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company embraced within both the granted and indemnity limits, which were adjacent to and coterminous with the uncompleted portions of the road on the sixth day of July, eighteen hundred and eighty-six: *And provided further*, That in every case of failure of the title to any lands conveyed or contracted to be sold by said Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company to any bona fide settler and occupant in a tract of six hundred and forty acres or less

Incorporation.

Liability of new company.

Debts, etc.

Proviso.
Capital stock.

Additional issues.

Limitation of rights granted.

Claim to land grant for uncompleted road to be relinquished.

Liability to purchasers of land.

any and all rights of such purchaser or his assigns, in respect of such land, or in respect of the failure of such title, or in respect to the liability of said Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company on any such contract, shall survive and may be enforced against such successor company with the same force and effect and in the same manner as against the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company; and such successor company, upon making compensation for such loss of title or failure to comply with the conditions of any such land contract, shall be subrogated to the rights of such purchaser in respect of the lands for which such compensation shall have been made: *And provided further*, That in case any uncompleted contracts for the purchase of land shall be pending at the time of such foreclosure sale, such new company shall, upon payment to it of any unpaid balance of purchase money for such land at the time provided in such contracts for the sale thereof, convey and release to the holders of such contracts all its title, interest, and estate in and to the land embraced in such contracts.

Completion of land sales.

Incorporation under State laws.

SEC. 2. Where the line of such railway is now located within the limits of any state, or where such line is now located within a territory which may hereafter become a state, such state or such territory, when it shall become a state, shall be empowered to require such corporation to become incorporated within such state or states as may be provided by the laws thereof.

Amendment, etc.

SEC. 3. That Congress shall at all times have the power to alter, amend, or repeal this Act.

Approved, March 3, 1897.

March 3, 1897.

CHAP. 375.—An Act Declaring the Potomac Flats a public park, under the name of the Potomac Park.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the entire area formerly known as the Potomac Flats and now being reclaimed, together with the tidal reservoirs, be, and the same are hereby, made and declared a public park, under the name of the Potomac Park, and to be forever held and used as a park for the recreation and pleasure of the people.

Approved, March 3, 1897.

District of Columbia.
Potomac Park established embracing the Potomac Flats.

March 3, 1897.

CHAP. 376.—An Act To provide for the representation of the United States by commissioners at any international monetary conference hereafter to be called, and to enable the President to otherwise promote an international agreement.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That whenever after March fourth, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven, the President of the United States shall determine that the United States should be represented at any international conference called by the United States or any other country with a view to securing by international agreement a fixity of relative value between gold and silver as money by means of a common ratio between these metals, with free mintage at such ratio, he is hereby authorized to appoint five or more commissioners to such international conference; and for compensation of said commissioners, and for all reasonable expenses connected therewith, to be approved by the Secretary of State, including the proportion to be paid by the United States of the joint expenses of any such conference, the sum of one hundred thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated.

International monetary conference.
Appointment of commissioners authorized.

Compensation, etc.

Appropriation.

Call for conference.

SEC. 2. That the President of the United States is hereby authorized, in the name of the Government of the United States, to call, in his discretion, such international conference, to assemble at such point as may