

Report. submit to the Secretary of War a full and detailed report of their proceedings and actions, and of such plans, with estimates of the cost thereof, for the purposes aforesaid, to be by him transmitted to Congress: *Provided*, That the commission shall report in full upon the practicability, feasibility, and probable cost of the various plans known as the jetty system, the levee system, and the outlet system, as well as upon such others as they deem necessary.

Proviso.

Immediate works. SEC. 5. The said commission may, prior to the completion of all the surveys and examinations contemplated by this act, prepare, and submit to the Secretary of War plans, specifications, and estimates of costs for such immediate works as, in the judgment of said commission, may constitute a part of the general system of works herein contemplated, to be by him transmitted to Congress.

Secretary. SEC. 6. The Secretary of War may detail from the Engineer Corps of the Army of the United States an officer to act as secretary of said commission.

Appropriation. SEC. 7. The Secretary of War is hereby authorized to expend the sum of one hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the payment of the salaries herein provided for, and of the necessary expenses incurred in the completion of such surveys as may now be in progress, and of such additional surveys, examinations, and investigations as may be deemed necessary, reporting the plans and estimates, and the plans, specifications, and estimates contemplated by this act, as herein provided for; and said sum is hereby appropriated for said purposes out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Approved, June 28, 1879.

June 30, 1879. CHAP. 50.—An act to authorize the construction of a railroad bridge across the Wabash River.

Railway bridge across Wabash River. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the Bloomfield Railroad Company, organized under the laws of the State of Indiana, and the Quincy, Payson and Southeastern Railroad Company, a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Illinois, or either of them, is hereby granted the right to construct an iron or wooden bridge, for railroad purposes, or for railroad and highway purposes, and as a public highway, either with a draw or continuous span, as it may determine, across the Wabash River, at any point said corporation may select, at or within six miles of the town of Merom, in Sullivan County, State of Indiana: *Provided*, That the bridge to be constructed under the authority hereby granted shall not interfere with the free navigation of said stream beyond what is necessary in order to carry into full effect the rights and privileges hereby granted, and shall be built at right angles with the current of the stream where said bridge may be erected, and that a span of at least one hundred and seventy feet over the main channel of said stream shall be left between the piers of said structure: *And provided further*, That if said bridge shall be built with a draw of not less than one hundred feet in width, and said draw is kept in repair for the passage of boats at all times, the detention of passing said bridge shall not be construed as interfering with the navigation of the stream: *And it is further provided*, That said bridge shall be, and be considered, a legal structure, and shall be a post-road for the transmission of the United States mails: *And provided further*, That in case said bridge is built with a continuous span, the bridge shall be built at such height as not to interfere with the navigation of said river by steamboats.

Navigation protected.

Draw.

Post-road.

Height.

Supervision of construction, etc.

SEC. 2. That any bridge authorized to be constructed under this act shall be built and located under and subject to such regulations for the security of navigation of said river as the Secretary of War shall prescribe; and to secure that object the said company or companies, corporation or corporations, or either of them, shall submit to the Secretary of War, for his examination and approval, a design and drawing of the bridge, and a map of the location, giving for the space of one mile above and one mile below the proposed location, the topography of the banks of the river, the shore-lines at high and low water, the direction and strength of the currents at all stages, and the soundings, accurately showing the bed of the stream, the location of any other bridge or bridges, and shall furnish such other information as may be required

for a full and satisfactory understanding of the subject; and until the said plan and location of the bridge are approved by the Secretary of War, the bridge shall not be built. And the Secretary of War shall determine the proper length of the spans of said bridge, and the height thereof above high-water mark, and as to the plan of the bridge in all respects; and if it shall be found at any time that such bridge unnecessarily or materially obstructs navigation, he shall require the necessary changes to be made therein, in the interest of such navigation, at the expense of said company or companies; and said company or companies shall maintain, at its or their own expense, from sunset until sunrise, such lights or other signals on said bridge as the Light-House Board shall prescribe.

Approved, June 30, 1879.

CHAP. 55.—An act to authorize the Secretary of War to release certain lands of the United States to the people of the State of New York. June 30, 1879.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War be authorized and empowered, in his discretion, to release to the people of the State of New York, their successors and assigns, a right of way, not exceeding six rods in width, upon and across the land owned and possessed by the United States, in the town of Plattsburgh, Clinton County, New York, for railroad purposes, and also a lot or piece of land in the northeast corner of said land, owned by the United States, at said Plattsburgh, for depot and other railroad purposes, not to exceed, however, two acres, together with the right to occupy the shore of Lake Champlain opposite said premises for the purpose of discharging, receiving, and storing ore and other freights, subject to such restrictions as the Secretary of War may think necessary to protect the interests of the United States; the said right of way and premises to be used exclusively for the purpose of constructing and operating the railroad authorized to be built by an act of the legislature of the State of New York, entitled "An act authorizing the construction and management of a railroad from Lake Champlain to Dannemora prison," passed April nineteenth, eighteen hundred and seventy-eight.

SEC. 2. That the Secretary of War be authorized and empowered, in his discretion, to lay out and continue Hamilton street, in the said town of Plattsburgh, across the said lands of the United States, to the lot or piece of land which the Secretary of War may release to the people of the State of New York by the first section of this act, and to dedicate the same to the public use as a public highway; and to grant, sell, and convey the small tract and parcel of said reservation, situated north of said Hamilton street extended, for such price and sum as may be fair and reasonable.

Approved, June 30, 1879.

CHAP. 57.—An act providing for filling vacancies in the office of Chief of Engineers, United States Army. June 30, 1879.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That so much of the act of June tenth, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, chapter four hundred and twenty-six, volume seventeen, page three hundred and eighty-two, Statutes at Large, as prohibits promotion in the Corps of Engineers above the rank of colonel, and all other acts prohibiting said promotion, be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

Approved, June 30, 1879.

[No. 11.] Joint resolution relating to a bridge across the Detroit River at or near Detroit, Michigan. June 20, 1879.

Whereas recent progress in the art has shown the practicability of constructing bridges having spans of five hundred feet, or possibly more: Therefore,

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War is hereby authorized and required to convene a board of officers of the Corps of

Lights and signals.

Plattsburgh, N. Y. Release of certain land in, to State of New York.

Purpose and use.

Public highway.

Sale of part of reservation.

Military service.

Promotions in Engineer Corps.

Bridge or tunnel at Detroit.

Board of Engineers of the Army, whose duty it shall be to inquire into and report whether, for railroad purposes, the river Detroit can be bridged or tunnelled, at the city of Detroit, or within one mile above or below said city, in such manner as to accommodate the large trade and commerce crossing the river at that point, and without material or undue injury to the navigation of said river; a good and sufficient tug being always kept by the bridge owners to assist any craft when required.

Approved, June 20, 1879.

June 27, 1879. [No. 16.] Joint resolution authorizing the completion of the foundation of the Washington Monument.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the joint commission for the construction of the Washington Monument, created by the act of August second, eighteen hundred and seventy-six, be, and is hereby, authorized to expend, for the completion of the foundation of the monument now in progress, so much of the appropriation made by the said act as may be necessary for that purpose, not exceeding sixty-four thousand dollars above the sum now authorized.

Approved, June 27, 1879.

June 28, 1879. [No. 18.] Joint resolution donating granite blocks to Mower Post Grand Army of the Republic of New Orleans, Louisiana.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War be and he is hereby authorized and directed to donate to Mower Post Grand Army of the Republic at New Orleans certain blocks of granite now lying at Fort Livingston, Louisiana, and which are of no use to the government, for the purpose of completing a monument to the union dead at the Chalmette National Cemetery near New Orleans.

Approved, June 28, 1879.

June 28, 1879. [No. 19.] Joint resolution authorizing a survey of the Mississippi River near Lake Concordia, Louisiana, and Cowpen Bend, Mississippi.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War be and he is hereby authorized and directed to order a survey and recommendations thereon of the Mississippi River near Lake Concordia, Louisiana, and of Cowpen Bend, Mississippi, looking to the protection of the harbors of Natchez and Vidalia by restraining the river from cutting into Lake Concordia, and of the Charenton Canal in St. Mary's Parish, Louisiana, out of moneys already appropriated for surveys and examinations by act of Congress of March third, eighteen hundred and seventy-nine.

Approved, June 28, 1879.

APPENDIXES

TO THE

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OF ENGINEERS.
