

promptly, upon reasonable signal, except when trains are passing over the said bridge, for the passage of the boats whose construction shall not be such as to admit of their passage under the draw of said bridge when closed; but in no case shall unnecessary delay occur in opening the said draw after the passage of trains; and the said company or corporation shall maintain, at its own expense, from sunset to sunrise, such lights or other signals on said bridge as the Light-House Board shall prescribe.

Lights.

Other companies may use.

Compensation.

SEC. 4. That all railroad companies desiring the use of said bridge shall have and be entitled to equal rights and privileges relative to the passage of railway trains over the same, and over the approaches thereto, upon payment of a reasonable compensation for such use; and in case the owner or owners of said bridge and the several railroad companies, or any one of them desiring such use, shall fail to agree upon the sum or sums to be paid, and upon rules and conditions to which each shall conform in using said bridge, all matters at issue between them shall be decided by the Secretary of War upon a hearing of the allegations and proofs of the parties.

Secretary of War to approve location, etc.

SEC. 5. 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 corporation shall submit to the Secretary of War, for his examination and approval, a design and drawings 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 should any change be made in the plan of said bridge during the progress of construction, such change shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of War; and if said bridge is not commenced within one year and completed within three years from the passage of this act, the rights and privileges hereby granted shall be null and void.

Commencement and completion.

Amendment.

SEC. 6. That the right to alter, amend, or repeal this act is hereby expressly reserved, and the right to require any changes in said structure or its entire removal, at the expense of the owners thereof, whenever Congress shall decide that the public interest requires it, is also expressly reserved.

Approved, February 18, 1888.

February 18, 1888.

CHAP. 15.—An act to amend section four thousand eight hundred and eighty-three of the Revised Statutes to enable the Assistant Secretary of the Interior to sign patents.

Signing patents.
R. S., sec. 4883, p.
945, amended.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section four thousand eight hundred and eighty-three of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended by inserting after the words "Secretary of the Interior," where they occur therein, the following words: "or under his direction by one of the Assistant Secretaries of the Interior," so that the said section as amended will read as follows:

Assistant Secretaries of Interior may sign patents.

"SECTION 4883. All patents shall be issued in the name of the United States of America, under the seal of the Patent Office, and shall be signed by the Secretary of the Interior or under his direction by one of the Assistant Secretaries of the Interior, and counter-signed by

the Commissioner of Patents, and they shall be recorded, together with the specifications, in the Patent Office, in books to be kept for that purpose."

Approved, February 18, 1888.

CHAP. 16.—An act to relinquish the interest of the United States in certain lands in Kansas.

February 20, 1888.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all the interest of the United States in and to the south-west fractional quarter of section thirty-one, township sixteen, range sixteen east of the sixth principal meridian, Osage County, Kansas, is hereby relinquished to those persons, their grantees and their successors in interest, who purchased from Samuel C. Gilliland, who entered the same on the seventh day of June, eighteen hundred and seventy, but which entry was thereafter canceled.

Public lands.
Right of United States to certain, in Kansas relinquished.

Approved, February 20, 1888.

CHAP. 17.—An act to carry into effect the International Convention of the fourteenth of March, eighteen hundred and eighty-four, for the protection of submarine cables.

February 29, 1888.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That any person who shall willfully and wrongfully break or injure, or to attempt to break or injure, or who shall in any manner procure, counsel, aid, abet, or be accessory to such breaking or injury, or attempt to break or injure, a submarine cable, in such manner as to interrupt or embarrass, in whole or in part, telegraphic communication, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction thereof, shall be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, or to a fine not exceeding five thousand dollars, or to both fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the court.

Protection of submarine cables.
Punishment for injuries intentionally done.
Vol. 24, p. 989.

SEC. 2. That any person who by culpable negligence shall break or injure a submarine cable in such manner as to interrupt or embarrass, in whole or in part, telegraphic communication, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction thereof, shall be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months, or to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, or to both fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the court.

Penalty for culpable neglect.

SEC. 3. That the provisions of the foregoing sections shall not apply to a person who breaks or injures a cable in an effort to save the life or limb of himself or of any other person, or to save his own or any other vessel: *Provided,* That he takes reasonable precautions to avoid such breaking or injury.

Saving life, etc.

SEC. 4. That the master of any vessel which, while engaged in laying or repairing submarine cables, shall fail to observe the rules concerning signals that have been or shall hereafter be adopted by the parties to the convention with a view to preventing collisions at sea; or the master of any vessel that, perceiving, or being able to perceive the said signals displayed upon a telegraph ship engaged in repairing a cable, shall not withdraw to or keep at a distance of at least one nautical mile; or the master of any vessel that seeing or being able to see buoys intended to mark the position of a cable when being laid or when out of order or broken, shall not keep at a distance of at least a quarter of a nautical mile, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof, shall be liable to imprison-

Observance of signals.