

Secretary of War shall have authority, and it shall be his duty, to require the said bridge company to alter and change the said bridge, at its own expense, in such manner as may be proper to secure the reasonably free and unobstructed navigation of said river. —alterations.

SEC. 4. That said company shall be permitted to charge and take such rates of toll for crossing said bridge as may be reasonable, subject to the approval of the Secretary of War. Toll.

SEC. 5. That the draw provided for the bridge herein authorized to be constructed shall be opened promptly upon reasonable signal for the passing of boats, and 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. Draw. Lights.

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 on or before the first day of September, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and be completed by the thirty-first day of December, eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, the rights and privileges hereby granted shall cease and be determined. Telegraph and telephone companies. Commencement and completion.

SEC. 7. 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. Rights of railroads. Disagreements with owner of bridge.

SEC. 8. That the said company may associate or join with themselves in the construction, maintenance, and operation of said bridge the Illinois Central Railroad Company, or any other railway company duly incorporated under the laws of the State of Mississippi. Cooperation of other railroads in operating, etc., bridge.

Approved, April 29, 1898.

CHAP. 228.—An Act To amend an Act entitled "An Act to authorize the construction of a bridge across the Yazoo River at or near the city of Greenwood, in Leflore County, in the State of Mississippi."

April 29, 1898.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Act entitled "An Act to authorize the construction of a bridge across the Yazoo River at or near the city of Greenwood, in Leflore County, in the State of Mississippi," approved March third, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven, be, and the same is, so amended that the actual construction of the bridge therein authorized to be constructed shall be commenced within one year after the date of the approval of this Act, and shall be completed within three years after said date; and the provisions of the Act hereby amended shall remain in full force and effect, to all intents and purposes, just as though the construction of said bridge had been commenced and the same had been completed within the dates prescribed in said Act.

Yazoo River, Mississippi. Time extended for bridging. Vol. 29, p. 628.

Approved, April 29, 1898.

CHAP. 229.—An Act To approve a compromise and settlement between the United States and the State of Arkansas.

April 29, 1898.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the compromise and settlement effected February twenty-third, eighteen hundred and ninety-five, between the United States and the State of Arkansas by John G.

Compromise with the State of Arkansas as to certain bonds, land grants, etc., approved.

Carlisle, Secretary of the Treasury, and Hoke Smith, Secretary of the Interior, on behalf of the United States, and James P. Clarke, governor of Arkansas, on behalf of that State, which was made under and by virtue of the authority conferred by an Act of Congress approved August fourth, eighteen hundred and ninety-four, entitled "An Act to authorize a compromise and settlement with the State of Arkansas," and the act of the general assembly of Arkansas, approved April eighth, eighteen hundred and eighty-nine, authorizing the governor to act for that State, be, and the same is hereby, approved and given the full force and effect of law upon the declarations and conditions hereinafter provided.

Vol. 28, p. 229.

Balance to be paid
the United States by
the State of Arkansas.

SEC. 2. That the amount of six hundred and sixty-two thousand nine hundred and seventy-one dollars and thirty-five cents, with which the State is credited in said compromise and settlement for one hundred and thirty-two thousand five hundred and ninety-four and twenty-seven one-hundredths acres of indemnity land, at the price of five dollars an acre, be, and the same is hereby, reduced to the amount of three hundred and thirty-one thousand four hundred and eighty-five dollars and sixty-three cents, the value of said indemnity land at two dollars and fifty cents an acre, the double minimum price of Government land; and the State of Arkansas is hereby credited with the sum of three hundred and thirty-one thousand four hundred and eighty-five dollars and sixty-eight cents for two hundred and sixty-five thousand one hundred and eighty-eight and fifty-four one-hundredths acres of additional selected unadjusted swamp land, at one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, the minimum price of Government land, leaving the balance to be paid by the State of Arkansas to the United States under said compromise and settlement one hundred and sixty thousand five hundred and seventy-two dollars.

Title of purchasers
from the State of un-
confirmed swamp land
confirmed.

SEC. 3. That the title of all persons who have purchased from the State of Arkansas any unconfirmed swamp land and hold deeds for the same be, and the same is hereby, confirmed and made valid as against any claim or right of the United States, and without the payment by said persons, their heirs or assigns, of any sum whatever to the United States or to the State of Arkansas.

Relinquishment by
State of lands entered
under public land
laws, etc.

SEC. 4. That the State of Arkansas does hereby relinquish and quitclaim to the United States all lands heretofore confirmed, certified, or patented to the State which have been entered under the public land laws; and does hereby cede, relinquish, and quitclaim to the United States all right, title, and interest under the Acts of September twenty-eighth, eighteen hundred and fifty, March second, eighteen hundred and fifty-five, and March third, eighteen hundred and fifty-seven, in and to all lands in the State which have been heretofore granted, confirmed, certified, or patented by the United States under any other Acts, and the title to such lands is hereby confirmed in the grantees, their heirs, successors, or assigns, anything in this Act or any other Act to the contrary notwithstanding: *Provided*, That this Act shall be of no force or effect until the State of Arkansas shall have accepted and approved the conditions, limitations, and provisions herein contained by an act of the general assembly or by an instrument in writing duly executed by the governor under the authority conferred upon him by the legislature of said State, and filed with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of the Interior within one year from the approval of this Act: *Provided further*, That whereas the general assembly of the State of Arkansas did, on the tenth day of March, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven, accept and approve the conditions, limitations, and provisions herein contained before the passage of this Act, making the same effective and conclusive, therefore this Act shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

Vol. 9, p. 519.
Vol. 10, p. 634.
Vol. 11, p. 251.

Provisos.
Act must be ac-
cepted by State.

When to take effect.

Approved, April 29, 1898.