

be directed at any time by Congress, shall be made at the cost and expense of the owners thereof.

Repeal of law authorizing bridge over the Ohio river at Paducah.

SEC. 8. That joint resolution number ten, approved April seventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-nine, authorizing the construction of a bridge over the Ohio river at Paducah, be, and the same hereby is, repealed.

Vol. xvi. p. 53. Standard steam pressure for tow and freight boats on the Mississippi river and tributaries.

SEC. 9. That the provisions of an act entitled "An act to provide for the better security of life on vessels propelled in whole or in part by steam," &c., approved February twenty-eighth, eighteen hundred and seventy-one, so far as they relate to the limitation of steam pressure of steamboats used exclusively for towing and carrying freight on the Mississippi river and its tributaries, are hereby so far modified as to substitute for such boats one hundred and fifty pounds of steam pressure in place of one hundred and ten pounds, as provided in said act for the standard pressure upon standard boilers of forty-two inches diameter, and of plates of one-quarter of an inch in thickness; and such boats may, on the written permit of the supervising inspector of the district in which such boats shall carry on their business for a period of twelve months from and after the passage of this act, be permitted to carry steam above the standard pressure of one hundred and ten pounds, but not exceeding the standard pressure of one hundred and fifty pounds to the square inch.

1871, ch. 100, § 11, clause 3. Vol. xvi. p. 445.

APPROVED, December 17, 1872.

Dec. 17, 1872.

CHAP. V. — *An Act to fix the Salary of the Members of the Board of Health of the District of Columbia.*

Salary of members of board of health in the District of Columbia.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the members of the board of health of the District of Columbia shall be paid a salary of two thousand dollars each, annually, and the salary of the persons now constituting said board shall be paid from the date of their appointments, respectively.

APPROVED, December 17, 1872.

Dec. 19, 1872.

CHAP. VIII. — *An Act to authorize the Secretary of the Navy to transport in a Government Vessel, free of Duty, a Monument designed by Admiral Porter to be erected in the Grounds of the Naval Academy at Annapolis, in Memory of the Officers, Seamen, and Marines of the Navy who fell in Defence of the Union.*

Monument in memory of the officers, &c., of the navy, to be brought from Rome in a public vessel and admitted free of duty.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized and directed to admit, free of duty, the monument designed by Admiral Porter, and now being executed in Rome by Franklin Simmons, the American sculptor, to the memory of the officers, seamen, and marines of the navy who fell in defence of the Union. And the Secretary of the Navy is hereby authorized to have the said monument conveyed to the United States in a public vessel, and landed at Annapolis, Maryland, where it is to be erected in the Naval Academy grounds.

APPROVED, December 19, 1872.

Dec. 24, 1872.

CHAP. XII. — *An Act authorizing the Construction of Railroad-bridges across the Mobile River and other navigable Streams tributary to Mobile Bay, in Accordance with the Acts of the Legislature of the State of Alabama, and to establish them as Post-roads.*

Drawbridges may be erected over the Mobile river, &c.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the consent of Congress be, and the same is hereby, given to the Mobile and Montgomery Railroad Company to erect one or more drawbridges over the Mobile river and other navigable streams tributary to Mobile bay, in accordance with the acts of the legislature of Alabama incorporating said company:

*Provided*, That the said drawbridges shall be so constructed as not to interfere with the free or to materially or substantially obstruct the free navigation of said streams, beyond what is necessary in order to carry into effect the rights and privileges hereby granted; and in case of any litigation arising from any obstruction, or alleged obstruction, to the free navigation of said river, the cause may be tried before the district court of the United States of the State of Alabama in which any portion of said obstruction or bridges touches: *And provided also*, That said drawbridges shall be opened promptly, upon reasonable signal, for the passage of boats, and in no case shall unnecessary delay occur in opening the said draw during or after the passage of trains.

Drawbridges, how to be constructed;

litigation,

to be opened promptly:

SEC. 2. That any bridge constructed under this act, and according to its limitations, shall be a lawful structure, and shall be known and recognized as a post-route, upon which, also, no higher charge shall be made for the transmission over the same of the mails, the troops, and the munitions of war of the United States than the rate per mile paid for their transportation over the railroads or public highways leading to said bridges.

to be lawful structures and post-routes; charges.

SEC. 3. That all railway companies desiring to use said bridges shall have and be entitled to equal rights and privileges in the passage of the same, and in the use of the machinery and fixtures thereof, and of all the approaches thereto, under and upon such terms and conditions as shall be prescribed by the Secretary of War, upon hearing the allegations and proofs of the parties in case they shall not agree.

All railroad companies to have equal rights to use the bridges.

SEC. 4. That the right to alter or amend this act so as to prevent or remove all material obstructions to the navigation of said river by the construction of bridges is hereby expressly reserved; and that any bridge or bridges constructed under this act shall be built under and subject to such regulations for the security of the navigation of said river as the Secretary of War shall prescribe; and the said bridges shall be, at all times, so kept and managed as to offer reasonable and proper means for the passage of vessels through and under them; and the said bridges shall be changed, 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 bridges shall be subject to revocation by law whenever the public good shall, in the judgment of Congress, so require.

This act may be altered, &c.

Bridges how to be built, managed, changed, &c.

APPROVED, December 24, 1872.

CHAP. XIII. — *An Act for the Reduction of Officers and Expenses of the internal Revenue.*

Dec. 24, 1872.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That on the first day of July, eighteen hundred and seventy-three, or at such time prior thereto, in the districts respectively, as the commissioner of internal revenue may find practicable, the offices of assessor and assistant assessor of internal revenue shall cease to exist; thereupon all duties imposed by law on assessors and assistant assessors, except as hereinafter otherwise provided, be, and the same are hereby, transferred to and imposed upon collectors of internal revenue, to be performed by them or their deputies; and that all returns and reports required by law to be made to the said assessors and assistant assessors shall be made to the said collectors, or to their deputies; and that each of said assessors shall, prior to the date aforesaid, and at the time set therefor by the commissioner of internal revenue, transfer to such revenue officer as may be designated by the commissioner of internal revenue for that purpose all books, papers, and other property belonging to the government in his possession, or in that of any of his assistant assessors, and shall file with his final account an inventory thereof in detail, with the receipt of said revenue officer there-

Offices of assessor and assistant assessor of internal revenue to cease on or before July 1, 1873:

collectors, &c., to perform their duties: transfer of books and papers.