

June 23, 1874.

CHAP. 460.—An act to provide for the improvement of the Oostenaula River, in the State of Georgia.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the sum of ten thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby, appropriated out of the money in the treasury of the United States, for the improvement of the Oostenaula River, in the State of Georgia.

Approved, June 23, 1874.

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CHAP. 461.—An act to protect lines of telegraph constructed or used by the United States from malicious injury and obstruction.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That any person or persons who shall wilfully or maliciously injure or destroy any of the works or property or material of any telegraphic line constructed and owned, or in process of construction, by the United States, or that may be hereafter constructed and owned or occupied and controlled by the United States, or who shall wilfully or maliciously interfere in any way with the working or use of any such telegraphic line, or who shall wilfully or maliciously obstruct, hinder, or delay the transmission of any communication over any such telegraphic line, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction thereof in any district court of the United States having jurisdiction of the same, shall be punished by a fine of not less than one hundred nor more than one thousand dollars, or with imprisonment for a term not exceeding three years, or with both, in the discretion of the court.

Approved, June 23, 1874.

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CHAP. 462.—An act to provide for the stamping of unstamped instruments, documents or papers.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all instruments, documents, and papers heretofore made, signed or issued, and subject to a stamp-duty or tax under any law heretofore existing and remaining unstamped, may be stamped by any person having an interest therein, or, where the original is lost, a copy thereof, at any time prior to the first of January, eighteen hundred and seventy-six. And said instruments, documents, and papers and any record thereof, shall be as valid, to all intents and purposes as if stamped when made, signed or issued, but no right acquired in good faith shall in any manner be affected by such stamping as aforesaid. *Provided,* That to render such stamping valid, the person desiring to stamp the same shall appear with the instrument, document, or paper, or copy thereof, before some judge or clerk of a court of record, and before him affix the proper stamp; and the said judge or clerk shall indorse on such writing or copy a certificate, under his hand, when made by said judge, and under his hand and seal, when made by said clerk, setting forth the date at which, and the place where, the stamp was so affixed, the name of the person presenting said writing or copy, the fact that it was thus affixed, and that the stamp was duly cancelled in his presence.

Repealing clause.

SEC. 2. That all laws or parts of laws in conflict with the above, are hereby repealed.

Approved, June 23, 1874.