

CHAP. 104.—An act authorizing claimants to the Rancho de Napa, in Napa County, California, to prove up their title.

June 20, 1884.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the claimants to the lands situated in Napa County, California, known as the Rancho de Napa, who deraign title through the original Mexican grantee of said rancho, and whose claims or those of their predecessors in title have not been hitherto passed upon by proper authority, are hereby permitted and authorized to present their claim to said lands to the district court of the United States for the district of California within one year next after the passage of this act, and not afterward, for examination; and if upon the hearing of said case it shall appear to said court that the claim of the original grantee was good and valid under Mexican laws relating to such cases, and that the claimants are entitled to have such confirmation, the said court shall by decree confirm said claim: *Provided,* That no lands shall be confirmed to said claimants to which there are any valid claims existing under the pre-emption, homestead, or other laws of the United States at the date of the passage of this act; nor shall any decree of confirmation affect any valid adverse right of any other person or persons, or give to the confirmees, or any of them, any claim upon the United States for compensation for any land such confirmees may lose by pre-emption, homestead, or other claims or rights as aforesaid: *Provided further,* That said claimants, before filing their claim, shall execute releases to any person who may have or hold any portion of said lands, under valid claims under the pre-emption, homestead, or other laws of the United States, at the date of the passage of this act, to the portions of said lands so held respectively; and before rendering a decree of confirmation the said court shall ascertain that said releases have been duly executed.

Rancho de Napa, Napa County, California, claimants to land of, allowed one year to present claims, etc.

Proviso.
Landsexempted.

Proviso.
Releases to persons holding valid claims.

Right of appeal to Supreme Court, U. S., etc.

9 Stat., 631.

Patent to issue; conditions.

SEC. 2. That the United States and any party in interest are hereby granted the right of appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States, within six months next after any decree shall be entered, in the manner allowed in other cases of appeal; and the said court in the examination of the claims presented by any person under this act shall be governed, so far as applicable, by the provisions of the act passed March third, anno Domini eighteen hundred and fifty-one, entitled "An act to ascertain and settle private land-claims in the State of California".

SEC. 3. That the United States surveyor-general for California is hereby directed, upon the filing in his office by said claimants of a certified copy of a final decree of confirmation under the provisions of this act, to cause said claim to be surveyed as other claims of like nature are now surveyed under existing laws; and upon the approval of said survey by the proper authority a patent shall issue to said claimants in the usual form.

Approved, June 20, 1884.

CHAP. 105.—An act to authorize the construction of a highway bridge across that part of the waters of Lake Champlain lying between the towns of North Hero and Alburgh, in the State of Vermont.

June 20, 1884.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the proper authorities of the towns of North Hero and Alburgh, in the county of Grand Isle, in the State of Vermont, be, and they are hereby, authorized to construct, maintain, and use a highway bridge at some convenient point across that part of the waters of Lake Champlain which divide the aforesaid towns.

Highway bridge across Lake Champlain, Grand Isle County, Vermont.

SEC. 2. That the structure authorized by the preceding section shall be built and located under and subject to such regulations for the security of navigation of such waters as the Secretary of War shall pre-

Construction. Security of navigation.

Maintenance and
management.
22 Stat., 423.

scribe, and shall be provided with such suitable and convenient draw as the said Secretary shall deem needful for the proper purposes of navigation of width not less than that of the Samville Valley Extension Railroad Company's draw in their bridge across Missisquoy Bay; and the maintenance and management of said structure shall be subject to such of the provisions of section six of chapter fifty-two of the acts of the second session of the Forty-seventh Congress as the Secretary of War may, from time to time, deem needful; and the authority to erect and continue said bridge shall be subject to revocation and modification by law whenever the public good shall, in the judgment of Congress, so require, without any expense or charge to the United States.

Act amended,
etc.

SEC. 3. That the right to alter, amend, or repeal this act is hereby expressly reserved.

Approved, June 20, 1884.

June 20, 1884.

CHAP. 106.—An act to change the times of holding the district and circuit courts of the United States in the northern district of Georgia

Terms of courts
northern district
of Georgia.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That hereafter the regular terms of the district and circuit courts of the United States in the northern district of Georgia now held on the first and second Mondays of September respectively shall each be held on the first Monday in October in each year.

Approved, June 20, 1884.

June 20, 1884.

CHAP. 107.—An act to authorize the National Academy of Sciences to receive and hold trust funds for the promotion of science, and for other purposes.

National Acad-
emy of Sciences
authorized to re-
ceive and hold
trust funds, etc.
12 Stat., 806.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the National Academy of Sciences, incorporated by the act of Congress approved March third, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, and its several supplements, be, and the same is hereby, authorized and empowered to receive bequests and donations, and hold the same in trust, to be applied by the said academy in aid of scientific investigations and according to the will of the donors.

Approved, June 20, 1884.

June 21, 1884.

CHAP. 117.—An act to extend an act approved August eighth, eighteen hundred and eighty-two, to encourage and promote telegraphic communication between America and Europe.

Telegraph cable,
act authorizing
laying, amended.
22 Stat., 372.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the time to commence laying the cable as provided in the act approved August eighth, eighteen hundred and eighty-two, to encourage and promote telegraphic communication between America and Europe, be, and the same is hereby, extended until the eighth day of August, eighteen hundred and eighty-six.

Approved, June 21, 1884.

June 23, 1884.

CHAP. 118.—An act to authorize the construction of a bridge across the Missouri River at the city of Leavenworth, Kansas.

Bridge over the
Missouri River at
Leavenworth,
Kans.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That it shall be lawful for the Leavenworth Bridge Company, a corporation organized for that purpose under the general corporation laws of the State of Kansas, or its assigns,