

Railway, etc., bridge. to unite and connect the railroad built or to be built by it in the said State of New York with any railroad or bridge that may be constructed by any person or corporation in the said Dominion of Canada. Said bridge shall be constructed to provide for the passage of railway trains and, at the option of the said corporation, may be used for the passage of vehicles, animals, and foot passengers upon such reasonable rates of toll as may be fixed and from time to time revised by the Secretary of War of the United States. Said bridge when completed shall be deemed and taken to be a lawful structure, and shall be recognized and known as a post route for the United States mails: *Provided*, That before the construction of the said bridge shall be begun all proper and requisite authority therefor shall be obtained from the government of the Dominion of Canada.

Lawful structure and post route.
Proviso.
 Consent of Canada.
 Secretary of War to approve plans, etc.

SEC. 2. That the bridge herein provided for shall be subject in its location, plan, and construction to the supervision of the Secretary of War of the United States, to whom the plans and specifications relative thereto shall be submitted for approval; and until the said location and plan of construction of said bridge hereby authorized to be constructed are approved by the Secretary of War, the said bridge shall not be commenced or built; and no change shall be made in the plan of such bridge during the progress of construction or after completion thereof unless by the consent and with the approval of the Secretary of War first obtained. The said bridge shall be so located and constructed as not to obstruct the navigation of the main channel of the river. The said company shall submit to the Secretary of War, for his examination and approval, drawings of the said bridge and piers, together with a map of the location, showing for the space of at least one mile below and one mile above the proposed location the topography of the banks of the river, the shore lines at high and low water, the location of the channel, together with the direction and strength of the current at ordinary high and low stages, and the soundings of the river bed, and shall furnish such further information as may be required by the Secretary of War for a full understanding of the subject. The corporation owning or operating the said bridge shall maintain at its own expense, from sunset to sunrise, such lights or other signals thereupon as the United States Light-House Board may require.

Unobstructed navigation.

Lights.

Use by other companies.

Terms.

Commencement and completion.

Amendment, etc.
 Removal.

SEC. 3. That all railway companies desiring to use the said bridge 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 the approaches thereto, under and upon such terms as may be from time to time agreed upon between such railway companies and the persons or corporation owning or operating the said bridge, and in case they shall not agree upon the same, then upon such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the district court of the United States for the northern district of New York, after hearing the allegations and proofs of the parties in due form presented.

SEC. 4. That this Act shall be null and void if actual construction of the bridge herein authorized be not commenced within one year and completed within three years from the date of approval hereof.

SEC. 5. That the right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is hereby expressly reserved; and the right to require the entire removal of the bridge constructed under the provisions of this Act, at the expense of the owners thereof, whenever Congress shall decide that the public interests require it, is also expressly reserved.

Approved, March 2, 1897.

March 2, 1897.

CHAP. 358.—An Act To prevent the importation of impure and unwholesome tea.

Tea.
 Importation of impure and unwholesome, prohibited.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That from and after May first, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven, it shall be unlawful for any person or persons or corporation to import or bring into the United States any

merchandise as tea which is inferior in purity, quality, and fitness for consumption to the standards provided in section three of this Act, and the importation of all such merchandise is hereby prohibited.

SEC. 2. That immediately after the passage of this Act, and on or before February fifteenth of each year thereafter, the Secretary of the Treasury shall appoint a board, to consist of seven members, each of whom shall be an expert in teas, and who shall prepare and submit to him standard samples of tea; that the persons so appointed shall be at all times subject to removal by the said Secretary, and shall serve for the term of one year; that vacancies in the said board occurring by removal, death, resignation, or any other cause shall be forthwith filled by the Secretary of the Treasury by appointment, such appointee to hold for the unexpired term; that said board shall appoint a presiding officer, who shall be the medium of all communications to or from such board; that each member of said board shall receive as compensation the sum of fifty dollars per annum, which, together with all necessary expenses while engaged upon the duty herein provided, shall be paid out of the appropriation for "expenses of collecting the revenue from customs."

Board of experts.

Filling vacancies.

Compensation.

SEC. 3. That the Secretary of the Treasury, upon the recommendation of the said board, shall fix and establish uniform standards of purity, quality, and fitness for consumption of all kinds of teas imported into the United States, and shall procure and deposit in the custom-houses of the ports of New York, Chicago, San Francisco, and such other ports as he may determine, duplicate samples of such standards; that said Secretary shall procure a sufficient number of other duplicate samples of such standards to supply the importers and dealers in tea at all ports desiring the same at cost. All teas, or merchandise described as tea, of inferior purity, quality, and fitness for consumption to such standards shall be deemed within the prohibition of the first section hereof.

Standards of purity to be fixed by board.

Duplicate samples at custom-houses.

SEC. 4. That on making entry at the custom-house of all teas, or merchandise described as tea, imported into the United States, the importer or consignee shall give a bond to the collector of the port that such merchandise shall not be removed from the warehouse until released by the collector, after it shall have been duly examined with reference to its purity, quality, and fitness for consumption; that for the purpose of such examination samples of each line in every invoice of tea shall be submitted by the importer or consignee to the examiner, together with the sworn statement of such importer or consignee that such samples represent the true quality of each and every part of the invoice and accord with the specifications therein contained; or in the discretion of the Secretary of the Treasury, such samples shall be obtained by the examiner and compared by him with the standards established by this Act; and in cases where said tea, or merchandise described as tea, is entered at ports where there is no qualified examiner as provided in section seven, the consignee or importer shall in the manner aforesaid furnish under oath a sample of each line of tea to the collector or other revenue officer to whom is committed the collection of duties, and said officer shall also draw or cause to be drawn samples of each line in every invoice and shall forward the same to a duly qualified examiner as provided in section seven: *Provided, however,* That the bond above required shall also be conditioned for the payment of all custom-house charges which may attach to such merchandise prior to its being released or destroyed (as the case may be) under the provisions of this Act.

Bond of importer of teas.

Examination.

Importations at ports having no examiner.

Proriso.
Conditions of bond.

SEC. 5. That if, after an examination as provided in section four, the tea is found by the examiner to be equal in purity, quality, and fitness for consumption to the standards hereinbefore provided, and no reexamination shall be demanded by the collector as provided in section six, a permit shall at once be granted to the importer or consignee declaring the tea free from the control of the customs authorities; but if on examination such tea, or merchandise described as tea, is found,

Permit for delivery of pure teas.

Retention of inferior qualities.

in the opinion of the examiner, to be inferior in purity, quality, and fitness for consumption to the said standards the importer or consignee shall be immediately notified, and the tea, or merchandise described as tea, shall not be released by the custom-house, unless on a reexamination called for by the importer or consignee the finding of the examiner shall be found to be erroneous: *Provided*, That should a portion of the invoice be passed by the examiner, a permit shall be granted for that portion and the remainder held for further examination, as provided in section six.

Proviso.
Partial delivery.

Appeals to general appraisers.

SEC. 6. That in case the collector, importer, or consignee shall protest against the finding of the examiner, the matter in dispute shall be referred for decision to a board of three United States general appraisers, to be designated by the Secretary of the Treasury, and if such board shall, after due examination, find the tea in question to be equal in purity, quality, and fitness for consumption to the proper standards, a permit shall be issued by the collector for its release and delivery to the importer; but if upon such final reexamination by such board the tea shall be found to be inferior in purity, quality, and fitness for consumption to the said standards, the importer or consignee shall give a bond, with security satisfactory to the collector, to export said tea, or merchandise described as tea, out of the limits of the United States within a period of six months after such final reexamination; and if the same shall not have been exported within the time specified, the collector, at the expiration of that time, shall cause the same to be destroyed.

Inferior tea to be exported.

Destruction of tea remaining.

Examiners.

SEC. 7. That the examination herein provided for shall be made by a duly qualified examiner at a port where standard samples are established, and where the merchandise is entered at ports where there is no qualified examiner, the examination shall be made at that one of said ports which is nearest the port of entry, and that for this purpose samples of the merchandise, obtained in the manner prescribed by section four of this Act, shall be forwarded to the proper port by the collector or chief officer at the port of entry; that in all cases of examination or reexamination of teas, or merchandise described as tea, by examiners or boards of United States general appraisers under the provisions of this Act, the purity, quality, and fitness for consumption of the same shall be tested according to the usages and customs of the tea trade, including the testing of an infusion of the same in boiling water, and, if necessary, chemical analysis.

Tests.

Reexamination by general appraisers.

SEC. 8. That in cases of reexamination of teas, or merchandise described as teas, by a board of United States general appraisers in pursuance of the provisions hereof, samples of the tea, or merchandise described as tea, in dispute, for transmission to such board for its decision, shall be put up and sealed by the examiner in the presence of the importer or consignee if he so desires, and transmitted to such board, together with a copy of the finding of the examiner, setting forth the cause of condemnation and the claim or ground of the protest of the importer relating to the same, such samples, and the papers therewith, to be distinguished by such mark that the same may be identified; that the decision of such board shall be in writing, signed by them, and transmitted, together with the record and samples, within three days after the rendition thereof, to the collector, who shall forthwith furnish the examiner and the importer or consignee with a copy of said decision or finding. The board of United States general appraisers herein provided for shall be authorized to obtain the advice, when necessary, of persons skilled in the examination of teas, who shall each receive for his services in any particular case a compensation not exceeding five dollars.

Advice of experts.

Reimported rejected teas forfeited.

SEC. 9. That no imported teas which have been rejected by a customs examiner or by a board of United States general appraisers, and exported under the provisions of this Act, shall be reimported into the United States under the penalty of forfeiture for a violation of this prohibition.

SEC. 10. That the Secretary of the Treasury shall have the power to enforce the provisions of this Act by appropriate regulations.

Regulations.

SEC. 11. That teas actually on shipboard for shipment to the United States at the time of the passage of this Act shall not be subject to the prohibition hereof, but the provisions of the Act entitled "An Act to prevent the importation of adulterated and spurious teas," approved March second, eighteen hundred and eighty-three, shall be applicable thereto.

Teas on shipboard subject to former law.

Vol. 22, p. 451.

SEC. 12. That the Act entitled "An Act to prevent the importation of adulterated and spurious teas," approved March second, eighteen hundred and eighty-three, is hereby repealed, such repeal to take effect on the date on which this Act goes into effect.

Former act repealed. Vol. 22, p. 451.

Approved, March 2, 1897.

CHAP. 359.—An Act To provide for the removal of the Interstate National Bank of Kansas City, from Kansas City, Kansas, to Kansas City, Missouri.

March 2, 1897.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Interstate National Bank of Kansas City, located in Kansas City, county of Wyandotte, and State of Kansas, is hereby authorized to change its location to the city of Kansas City, county of Jackson and State of Missouri, by complying with the following provisions: Whenever the stockholders representing three-fourths of the capital stock of said bank, at a meeting called for that purpose, determine to make such change, the president and cashier shall execute a certificate under the corporate seal of the bank expressing such determination, and shall cause the same to be recorded in the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, and thereupon such change of location shall be effected, and the operations of discount and deposit and other business of said bank shall be carried on in the city of Kansas City, county of Jackson and State of Missouri.

Interstate National Bank may move from Kansas City, Kans., to Kansas City, Mo.

SEC. 2. That nothing in this Act contained shall be so construed as in any manner to release the said bank from any liability or effect in any action or proceeding in law in which the said bank may be a party or interested. And when such change shall have been determined upon, as aforesaid, notice thereof, and of such change, shall be published in two newspapers of general circulation in the city of Kansas City, Kansas, not less than four weeks.

Liabilities not affected.

SEC. 3. That all the debts, demands, liabilities, rights, privileges, and powers, of the Interstate National Bank of Kansas City, now located in Kansas City, in the county of Wyandotte and State of Kansas, shall devolve upon the Interstate National Bank of Kansas City, of the city of Kansas City, county of Jackson and State of Missouri, whenever such change of location is effected.

Transfer of rights, etc.

Approved, March 2, 1897.

CHAP. 360.—An Act To amend section four of an Act entitled "An Act to define the jurisdiction of the police court of the District of Columbia."

March 2, 1897.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section four of the Act entitled "An Act to define the jurisdiction of the police court of the District of Columbia," approved March third, eighteen hundred and ninety-one, be, and the same hereby is, so amended as to read as follows:

Police court D. C. Vol. 26, p. 849. R. S. D. C., sec. 1049, p. 122.

"SEC. 4. That in all cases tried before said court the judgment of the court shall be final, except as hereinafter provided. If, upon the trial of any such cause, an exception be taken by or on behalf of the

Judgments final. Exceptions.