issue between them shall be decided by the Secretary of War upon a
hearing of the allegations and proofs of the parties.

SEC. 5. 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 hereof.

Approved, July 1, 1898.

CHAP. 548.—An Act Extending the time for the construction of a bridge across
the Missouri River at Yankton, South Dakota.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United
States of America in Congress assembled, That section six of the Act of
June twenty-second, eighteen hundred and ninety-two, entitled "An
Act to authorize the construction of a bridge across the Missouri River
at the city of Yankton, South Dakota," and the Act of May twenty-eighth,
eighteen hundred and ninety-four, amendatory thereof, are
hereby amended so as to read as follows:

"SEC. 6. That this Act shall be null and void if the bridge herein
authorized is not completed within two years from the twenty-second
day of June, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight."

Approved, July 1, 1898.

CHAP. 563.—An Act To relieve owners of mining claims who enlist in the military
or naval service of the United States for duty in the war with Spain from perform-
ing assessment work during such term of service.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United
States of America in Congress assembled, That the provisions of section
twenty-three hundred and twenty-four of the Revised Statutes of the
United States, which require that on each claim located after the tenth
day of May, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, and until patent has
been issued therefor, not less than one hundred dollars' worth of labor
shall be performed or improvements made during each year, shall not
apply to claims or parts of claims owned by persons who may enlist in
the volunteer army or navy of the United States for service in a war
between this country and Spain, so that no mining claim or any part
thereof owned by such person which has been regularly located and
recorded shall be subject to forfeiture for nonperformance of the annual
assessments until six months after such owner is mustered out of the
service, or, if he should not survive the war, then six months after his
death in the service.

SEC. 2. That those desiring to take advantage of this Act shall file,
or cause to be filed, a notice in the clerk's office where the location cer-
tificate of said mine is recorded before the expiration of the assessment
year, giving notice of his enlistment and of his desire to hold said claim
under this Act.

SEC. 3. That if any such enlisted soldier or sailor has a coowner or
coowners in any mining claim, and who are not in the Army or Navy,
and such coowner or coowners fail to do such a proportion of one hun-
dred dollars' worth of work per annum as the interest of such non-
enlisted person or persons bears to the whole claim, then such interest
shall be open to relocation by any other qualified person or persons by
their doing the necessary work thereon and filing an affidavit of labor
showing the forfeiture and that the relocators had done the annual
work required of such nonenlisted persons and succeeded them in right
under this Act, which work may be done at any time after the expira-
tion of the assessment year and before the former owners resume work
thereon. The work and affidavit aforesaid shall operate as a transfer of
said forfeited interest from the former owners to said relocators.

Approved, July 2, 1898.