during the construction or after the completion of the bridge, until the proposed change shall have been submitted to the Secretary of War and received his approval; and the said bridge shall be at all times so kept and managed as to offer reasonable and proper means for the passage of vessels under said bridge; and if at any time the navigation of said river shall in any manner be obstructed or impaired by the bridge authorized by this Act to be constructed, the Secretary of War shall have authority, and it shall be his duty, to require said company to alter and change said bridge at its own expense in such manner as may be proper to secure free and complete navigation without impediment.

SEC. 3. That any bridge built under this Act and subject to its limitations shall be a lawful structure and shall be recognized and known as a post route, upon which also no higher charge shall be made for the transmission over the same of the mail, the troops and munitions of war of the United States than the rate per mile paid for the transportation over the public highways leading to said bridge, and it shall enjoy the rights and privileges of other post roads of the United States; and equal privileges in the use of said bridge shall be granted to all telegraph and telephone companies, and the United States shall have the right of way across said bridge and its approaches for said postal-telegraph purposes.

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

SEC. 5. That the right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is hereby expressly reserved.

Approved, March 2, 1899.