provided, that the stock and transfer books shall at all times, during business hours, be open to the inspection of stockholders.

Sec. 5. That all Acts or parts of Acts inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed.

Sec. 6. That Congress reserves the power to alter, amend, or repeal this Act.

Approved, June 5, 1900.

CHAP. 779.—An Act To amend an Act granting to the Muscle Shoals Power Company right to erect and construct canal and power stations at Muscle Shoals, Alabama.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section two of an Act entitled "An Act granting to the Muscle Shoals Power Company right to erect and construct canal and power stations at Muscle Shoals, Alabama," approved March third, eighteen hundred and eighty-nine, be, and the same is hereby, amended so as to read as follows:

"Sec. 2. That unless the work herein authorized be commenced within two years, and completed within four years from the date hereof, the privileges hereby granted shall cease and be determined."

Approved, June 6, 1900.

CHAP. 780.—An Act To create a commission to make settlement and adjustment with the Sioux City and Pacific Railroad Company of its indebtedness to the Government of the United States.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Attorney-General of the United States are hereby authorized and empowered to make settlement and adjustment of the Sioux City and Pacific Railroad Company's indebtedness to the Government of the United States; and to that end may receive and determine upon any proposition or propositions from said Sioux City and Pacific Railroad Company or from any other person or persons, corporation or corporations, and may sell or assign the mortgage given by said company to the United States and do any and all things proper and necessary to effect such settlement and adjustment and secure to the United States the largest sum possible in the payment of said indebtedness up to the full amount thereof:

"Provided, That they deem the same for the best interests of the Government; and when such settlement is approved by the President it shall become operative, and the Attorney-General shall make the necessary acquittances to said railroad company."

Approved, June 6, 1900.

CHAP. 781.—An Act Establishing terms of the United States circuit court at Newbern and Elizabeth City, North Carolina.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That terms of the circuit court of the United States for the eastern judicial district of North Carolina shall be held at Newbern and Elizabeth City, in said district, at the times now fixed by law for holding the terms of the district court of the United States at said places, Newbern and Elizabeth City.

Sec. 2. That this Act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved, June 6, 1900.