structure may, in whole or in part, exist, and proper proceedings to
this end may be instituted under the direction of the Attorney-General
of the United States at the request of the Secretary of War; and in
case of any litigation arising from any obstruction or alleged obstruc-
tion to navigation created by the construction of any bridge under this
Act, the cause or question arising may be tried before the circuit court
of the United States in any district which any portion of said obstruc-
tion or bridge touches.

Sec. 6. That the authority hereby granted shall cease and be null
and void unless the actual construction of the bridge authorized in this
Act be commenced within one year and completed within three years
from the date of the passage of this Act.

Sec. 7. That the right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is hereby
expressly reserved as to any and all bridges which may be built in
accordance with the provisions of this Act, and the United States shall
incur no liability for the alteration, amendment, or repeal thereof to
the owner or owners or any persons interested in any bridge which shall
have been constructed in accordance with its provisions.

Sec. 8. That the word “persons” as used in this Act shall be con-
strued to import both the singular and the plural, as the case demands,
and shall include municipalities, quasi municipal corporations, cor-
porations, companies, and associations.

Approved, February 24, 1906.

CHAP. 507.—An Act To allow the entry and clearance of vessels at San Luis
Obispo, Port Harford, and Monterey, California.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United
States of America in Congress assembled, That the collector of customs
at San Francisco is hereby authorized to depute an officer of the cus-
toms from his collection district to proceed to San Luis Obispo, Port
Harford, or Monterey in his district for the purpose of receiving at
those places the entries of vessels arriving there in ballast and of clear-
ing them with cargoes of petroleum and its products only in the same
manner as if they had proceeded to San Francisco before entry.

Approved, February 24, 1906.

CHAP. 508.—An Act To provide for the purchase of certain coal claims in the
island of Batan in the Philippine Islands.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United
States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War
be, and he is hereby, authorized to purchase the coal claims owned by
Messrs. Munoz and Villanueva, lying on the island of Batan, Philip-
pine Islands, and upon which the War Department now holds an
option; and to provide for the purchase of said claims the sum of fifty
thousand dollars is hereby appropriated out of any money in the
Treasury not otherwise appropriated; and the above sum is made
immediately available in order that purchase may be made before the
said option expires, to wit, before March first, nineteen hundred and
six.

Approved, February 26, 1906.