

No. 288.

AN ACT

To establish an asylum for the insane poor of this commonwealth, to be called
 "The Pennsylvania State Lunatic Hospital and Union Asylum for the In-
 sane."

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,* That
 Purchase of site. Jacob M. Haldeman, Luther Reily, Hugh Campbell, Charles B. Trego
 and Joseph Konigmacher, be and they are hereby appointed commis-
 sioners to select and purchase a tract of land of not less than one hun-
 dred acres, situated within ten miles of Harrisburg, which said tract of
 land shall not cost more than ten thousand dollars; shall have a never
 failing supply of water on the premises, and be conveniently situated
 Proviso. for receiving supplies of fuel: *Provided,* That the said commissioners
 shall receive no compensation for their services, other than their neces-
 sary expenses: *And provided also,* That if any person or persons shall
 Proviso. make a gift of such a tract, the said commissioners are hereby autho-
 rized to receive a deed for the same, in trust for the Pennsylvania State
 Appropriation. Lunatic Hospital, and the sum of fifteen thousand dollars is hereby
 appropriated for the purpose of erecting and constructing the hereinafter
 described building and buildings: *Provided,* That the said fifteen thou-
 sand dollars shall not be paid until the conveyance of the aforesaid tract
 of land shall have been made as provided for in this section: *Provided*
also, That the sum hereby appropriated shall be retained by the state
 treasurer out of the amount of relief notes, to be cancelled on the thirty-
 first of July, one thousand eight hundred and forty-five.

SECTION 2. At any time after said site shall be obtained by the said
 commissioners, not exceeding three months, they shall contract for the
 erection of said asylum, on the most approved plan, on such terms as
 are just and prudent: *Provided,* That said hospital buildings shall be
 constructed in the most approved manner, of brick or unhewn stone;
 the foundations to be substantial and of rough mason work; the base-
 ments above ground of hammered stone; water-table, window and door
 sills, window and door caps, and door steps of the same material; par-
 tition walls to be of brick, and to contain flues for ventilators, furnace
 flues for heating, and also water pipes if necessary; the roof to be of
 slate or tin plate fire proof.

SECTION 3. Said commissioners shall, on or before the first day of
 January, one thousand eight hundred and forty-six, and on the first
 day of January annually thereafter, until the buildings are completed,
 respectively, render to the proper accounting officers of the common-
 wealth, an exact account of all the contracts, expenses and liabilities
 which they shall have incurred, or authorized in the execution of their
 commissions, with vouchers for the same; and in case of their failure
 so to do, their authority to draw on the state treasurer for such sum or
 sums of money as shall hereafter be specified shall cease; and said
 commissioners shall so build, finish and furnish said asylum, that the
 whole cost of said buildings and furniture, with suitable apparatus
 for heating the rooms, for cooking, and for furnishing water for all

the uses of the establishment, to accommodate two hundred and fifty patients, and the necessary attendants, shall not exceed fifty thousand dollars: *And provided also*, That the commissioners appointed by this Commissioners to act, before entering upon their duties, shall give bond with such security as may be required by the executive for the faithful and proper application of the funds placed in their hands and performance of their duties. *give bond.*

SECTION 4. The treasurer is hereby directed to pay to the said com- Warrants on missioners, on the warrant of the governor, out of any moneys in the treasury. treasury not otherwise appropriated, such sum or sums of money as they may require for building said asylum, together with the necessary out-buildings, and the complete finishing and furnishing of the same, not exceeding in the whole the said sum of fifteen thousand dollars, at such times as they may be wanted, the expenditure thereof to be accounted for to the auditor general of the commonwealth.

SECTION 5. The governor shall nominate, and by and with the advice Trustees. and consent of the senate, appoint nine persons to be trustees of the said institution, who shall be a body politic and corporate, by the name and style of the "Trustees of the Pennsylvania State Lunatic Hospital and Union Asylum for the Insane," and shall manage and direct the concerns Incorporated. of the institution, and make all necessary by-laws and regulations not inconsistent with the constitution and laws of the commonwealth; and shall have power to receive, hold, dispose of, and convey all real and Powers. personal property conveyed to them by gift, devise or otherwise, for the use of the said institution, and shall serve without compensation; of those first appointed three shall serve for one year, three for two years, three for three years, and at the expiration of the respective periods the vacancies to be filled by appointments for three years; and should any Vacancies. vacancy occur by death, resignation or otherwise, of any trustee, such vacancy shall be filled by appointment for the unexpired time of such trustee. The said trustees shall have charge of the general interests of the institution; they shall appoint the superintendent, who shall be a Superintendent. skilful physician, subject to removal or re-election no oftener than in periods of ten years, except by infidelity to the trust reposed in him or for incompetency—said physician shall always reside in the asylum, he shall be a married man, and his family shall reside with him; the trustees, by and with the consent of the governor, shall make such by-laws By-laws. and regulations for the government of the asylum as shall be necessary; they shall appoint a treasurer, who shall give bonds to the common- Treasurer. wealth for the faithful discharge of his duties; they shall determine his compensation for services; also the salaries of the other officers and Salaries. assistants, who may be necessary for the just and economical administration of the affairs of said hospital.

SECTION 6. The superintending physician shall appoint and exercise Powers of super- entire control over all subordinate officers and assistants in the institu- intendent. tion, and shall have entire direction of the duties of the same.

SECTION 7. The said trustees, and their successors in office, shall Of donations. have power to take and hold in trust, for the use and benefit of said asylum, any grant or devise of land, and any donation or bequest of money, or other personal property to be applied to the maintenance of insane persons, in or to the general use of the asylum.

SECTION 8. The admission of insane patients from the several coun- Admission of pa- ties of the commonwealth, shall be in the ratio of their insane popula- tions: *Provided*, That each county shall be entitled to send at least one insane patient. *tients.*

Charges.

SECTION 9. Indigent persons and paupers shall be charged for medical attendance, board and nursing, while residents in the hospital, no more than the actual cost; paying patients, whose friends can pay their expenses, and who are not chargeable upon townships or counties, shall pay according to the terms directed by the trustees.

Insane criminals
admissible.

SECTION 10. The courts of this commonwealth shall have power to commit to said asylum any person, who having been charged with an offence punishable by imprisonment or death, who shall have been found to have been insane, in the manner now provided by law, at the time the offence was committed, and who still continues insane; and the expenses of said persons, if in indigent circumstances, shall be paid by the county to which he or she may belong by residence.

Legal settlement.

SECTION 11. That it shall be the duty of the court, in all cases where they shall commit any person to the asylum, to certify to the trustees the legal settlement of such person, if he or she have any legal settlement in this commonwealth; and if such person shall have no such settlement, then to certify the place of residence of such person at the time of offence committed, on application made, and the poor district so certified to be the place of settlement or residence of such person, shall be chargeable with the expenses of his or her care and maintenance, and removal to and from said asylum: *Provided*, That the settlement or residence of any such person shall not be so certified, until after due notice shall have been given to the constituted authority having charge of poor in the district to be charged thereby.

Proviso.

Insane paupers.

SECTION 12. The several constituted authorities having care and charge of the poor in the respective counties, districts and townships of this commonwealth, shall have authority to send to the asylum such insane paupers under their charge as they may deem proper subjects; and they shall be severally chargeable with the expenses of the care, and maintenance, and removal to and from the asylum, of such paupers.

Charges, how
collected.

SECTION 13. If the guardian, directors, or overseers of the poor, to whom any patient who shall be in the asylum is chargeable, shall neglect or refuse, upon demand made, to pay to the trustees the expenses of the care, maintenance and removal of such patient, and also, in the event of death, of the funeral expenses of such patient, the said trustees are hereby authorized and empowered to collect the same as debts of a like nature are now collected.

Power of courts
to commit the in-
sane thereto.

SECTION 14. That if any person shall apply to any court of record within this commonwealth, having jurisdiction of offences which are punishable by imprisonment for the term of ninety days or longer, for the commitment to said asylum any insane person within the county in which such court has jurisdiction, it shall be the duty of said court to inquire into the fact of insanity in the manner provided by law; and if such court shall be satisfied that such person is, by reason of insanity, unsafe to be at large, or is suffering any unnecessary duress or hardship, such court shall, on the application aforesaid, commit such insane person to said asylum.

Preferences.

SECTION 15. In order of admission, the indigent insane of this commonwealth shall always have precedence of the rich; and while the finances of the state do not permit ample provisions for all cases of insanity, recent cases shall have preference over those of long standing.

Visitors.

SECTION 16. The governor, judges of the several courts of record in the commonwealth, and the members of the legislature, shall be ex officio visitors of the institution.

SECTION 17. That the commissioners appointed by the first section Committee of this act, are hereby authorized and required to appoint a committee subscriptions. of five, in every city and county of this commonwealth, to solicit and receive private subscriptions for this laudable and benevolent object, and from time to time pay the same over to the state treasurer; and the state treasurer is hereby directed to pay to the commissioners aforesaid all such sum or sums of money thus received, to aid in the erection of said asylum.

FINDLEY PATTERSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
WILLIAM P. WILCOX,
Speaker of the Senate.

APPROVED—The fourteenth day of April, one thousand eight hundred and forty-five.

FRS. R. SHUNK.

No. 289.

A N A C T

Authorizing the secretary of the commonwealth to distribute copies of the standard of weights and measures, and for the appointment of sealers.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,* That the original standards of weights and measures furnished by the United States, and now in the office of the secretary of the commonwealth, shall remain in the case provided for that purpose, which shall only be opened under the direction of the governor or the said secretary, for the sole purpose of comparing such standards with the copies hereinafter described, unless by a joint resolution of the two houses of the legislature, or on the call of either house, or by permission of the governor, for scientific purposes. Disposition of standards.

SECTION 2. Copies of such original standards, for general use, to be made of such materials as the governor and the said secretary shall direct, shall be transmitted by them, on application therefor to the county commissioners of each county in this commonwealth, at the expense of the several counties to which the same are sent, and not otherwise. Counties, how furnished.

SECTION 3. The said secretary shall cause to be impressed on each of the copies of such original standards the letters Pa., and such other additional device as he shall direct for the particular county, which device shall be recorded in the secretary's office, and a copy thereof transmitted to the respective county commissioners. Devices.

SECTION 4. It shall be the duty of the county commissioners receiving such standards as aforesaid, and their successors in office, in every five years, and oftener if they shall have reason to believe it necessary, to cause such standards so received by them, or their predecessors in Duty of county commissioners.