

SECTION 2. That said road shall not pass within fifty feet of any building on said line of road, without the consent of the owner or owners thereof, and shall not interfere with any water rights or privileges upon said Stafford Meadow brook. Restriction.

SECTION 3. That in case of disagreement between the property holders on said line of road, and said Scrantons and Platt, the mode of assessing damages and all proceedings in regard thereto, shall be the same, in all respects, as is provided for in sections second and third of an act of assembly, entitled "An Act to authorize the Bloomsburg railroad and iron company to construct a railroad from the North Branch canal to their iron works on Fishing creek," passed the fourteenth day of April, one thousand eight hundred and forty-five. Assessment of damages.

WILLIAM F. PACKER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

WM. WILLIAMSON,
Speaker of the Senate.

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

FRS. R. SHUNK.

No. 275.

AN ACT

To provide for the erection of a house for the employment and support of the poor, in a district composed of the townships of Brown, Armagh, Union and Meno, in the county of Mifflin.

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 Brown, Armagh, Union and Meno townships, in the county of Mifflin, be and are hereby erected into a district, for the purpose of supporting the poor in said townships; and that John Peachy, William Thompson, William Wilson and James Brisben, be and are hereby appointed commissioners, whose duty it shall be, or a majority of them, on or before the tenth day of November, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and forty-eight, to determine upon and purchase such real estate as they shall deem necessary for the accommodation of the poor of said district; and it shall be lawful for said commissioners, or a majority of them, to take conveyances therefor, in the name and for the use of the corporation mentioned in the third section of this act; and they shall certify their proceedings therein, under their hands and seals, to the clerk of the court of quarter sessions of Mifflin county, to be filed in his office; and at the next township election, the qualified electors of said townships shall elect three reputable citizens of the said district, to be directors of the poor and of the house of employment for the said district, for the ensuing year; and one of the judges of the

Erected into a district for the support of the poor.

Purchase and hold real estate.

Elect directors of the poor.

election of each township shall, on the first Monday after the said election, meet at the house now occupied by Samuel W. Stewart, in Readsville, and after having cast up the number of votes given within said district, for directors of the poor and of the house of employment for said district, and so having ascertained the three persons having the highest number of votes, shall certify under their hands and seals, the names of the persons so elected directors, to the clerk of the court of quarter sessions of the said county, who shall file the said certificate in his office, and forthwith give notice, in writing, to said directors, of their being elected; and the said directors shall meet at the house now occupied by Samuel W. Stewart, in Readsville, in the said district, on the second Monday of April, ensuing their election, and divide themselves by lot, into three classes, the place of the first to be vacated at the expiration of the first year, of the second, at the expiration of the second year, of the third, at the expiration of the third year, so that those who shall be chosen after the first election, and in the mode above described, may serve for three years, and one-third may be chosen annually.

Classification.

Oath of office.

Penalty for refusing or neglecting to serve.

SECTION 2. Every director elected in the manner aforesaid, or appointed as is directed by the eleventh section of this act, shall within ten days after he is notified of such election or appointment, and before he enters upon the duties of the said office, take an oath or affirmation, which any justice of the peace of the said county is hereby authorized to administer, that he will discharge the duties of the office of director of the poor for the said district, truly, faithfully and impartially, to the best of his knowledge and ability; and in case of neglect or refusal to take the said oath or affirmation within the time aforesaid, he shall forfeit and pay the sum of ten dollars for the use of the poor of the said district; which fine shall be recovered by the directors for the time being, as debts are or shall be by law recoverable; and the directors, qualified as aforesaid, are hereby authorized to administer an oath or affirmation, in any case when it shall be necessary, in relation to the duties of the office.

Corporate body.

Style.

Privileges, powers and duties.

SECTION 3. The said directors shall forever hereafter, in name and in fact, be one body politic and corporate in law, to all intents and purposes whatsoever, relative to the poor of the said townships of Brown, Armagh, Union and Meno, and shall have perpetual succession, and may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, by the name, style and title of the directors of the poor and of the house of employment for the district composed of the townships of Brown, Armagh, Union and Meno, in the county of Mifflin, and by that name shall and may receive, take and hold any lands, tenements and hereditaments, not exceeding the yearly value of five thousand dollars, and any goods and chattels whatsoever, of the gift, alienation or bequest of any person or persons whatsoever; to purchase, take and hold any lands and tenements within said district, in fee simple or otherwise, and erect suitable buildings, for the reception, use and accommodation of the poor of said district; to provide all things necessary for the lodging, maintenance and employment of said poor; to appoint a treasurer annually, who shall give bond, with full and sufficient security, for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office, and at the expiration thereof, for the payment and delivery over to his successor in office, of all moneys, notes, bonds, books, accounts and other papers, to the said corporation belonging, which shall then be remaining in his hands, custody and possession; and the said directors shall have power to employ, and at pleasure remove a steward or stewards, matron or matrons, physician or physicians, surgeon or surgeons, and all other attendants that may be neces-

sary for the said poor, respectively; to bind out apprentices, so that such apprenticeship may expire, if males, at or before the age of twenty-one years; if females, at or before the age of eighteen years: *Provided*, That no child shall be bound out for a longer time than until he arrives at the age of eighteen years, unless he be bound out to a trade other than a farmer: *And provided*, In all cases the person to whom they are bound, be required to give the child at least three months' schooling in each year: *Provided also*, That no child shall be bound without the limits of the state; and the said directors shall exercise and enjoy all such other powers now vested in the overseers of the poor, as are not herein granted or supplied; and the said directors are hereby empowered to use one common seal in all business relating to the said corporation, and the same at their pleasure to alter and renew.

SECTION 4. That said directors, as soon as may be after their election and organization as aforesaid, shall make an estimate of the probable expense of purchasing the lands and buildings, of erecting the necessary building or buildings and furnishing the same, and maintaining the poor within the said district for one year; whereupon the directors of the district shall and they are hereby authorized and required, to levy and assess a tax or taxes on the taxable inhabitants of said district from time to time, for such sum or sums of money as may be necessary for the purposes aforesaid, regulating the same according to the duplicates levied and assessed on said district for county purposes; and are hereby authorized to procure, on loan or credit of the taxes herein directed to be levied, payable in instalments, with interest, out of the taxes thus raised and collected, such sum or sums of money as may be necessary for the purposes aforesaid.

Estimate of expenses, &c.

Levy a tax.

Borrow money.

SECTION 5. It shall be the duty of the said directors, on or before the first day of November in each and every year, to make an estimate of the probable expense of the poor and poor house for one year; and it shall be the duty of said directors to assess and cause to be collected the amount of said estimate, which shall be paid by the collectors into the hands of the treasurer; and all moneys drawn from the treasury, shall be by orders on said treasurer, signed by the directors; and the said directors shall, at least once in every year, render an account of all moneys by them received and expended, to the auditors appointed to audit and settle the county accounts, subject to the same penalties, rules and regulations as are by law directed relating to the accounts of the county commissioners; and shall, at least once in every year, lay before the court of quarter sessions and grand jury of said county, a list of the number, ages and sex of the persons maintained and employed in the said house of employment, or supported or assisted by them elsewhere, and of the children by them bound out to apprenticeship as aforesaid, with the names of their masters, mistresses and their trade, occupation or calling; and shall at all times, when thereunto required, submit to the inspection and free examination of such visitors as shall from time to time be appointed by the court of quarter sessions of the said county, all their books and accounts, together with the rents, interests and moneys payable and receivable by the said corporation; and also an account of all sales, purchases, donations, devises and bequests as shall have been made by or to them.

Annual settlement of accounts.

To be settled by the auditors.

Report to court.

SECTION 6. As soon as the said buildings shall have been erected or purchased, and all necessary accommodations provided therein, notice shall be sent, signed by any two of the said directors, to the overseers of the several townships of the district, requiring them forthwith to bring the poor of their respective townships to said house of employment; which order the overseers are hereby enjoined and required to

When the poor shall be received.

comply with, or otherwise to forfeit the costs of all future maintenance, except in cases where by sickness, or any other sufficient cause, any poor person cannot be removed; in which case the said overseers shall represent the same to the nearest justice of the peace, who, being satisfied of the truth thereof, shall certify the same to the said directors, and at the same time issue an order, under his hand and seal, to the said overseers, directing them to maintain such poor until such times as he or she may be in a situation to be removed, and then to convey the said pauper and deliver him or her to the steward or keeper of the said house of employment, together with the said order; and the charge and expense of such temporary relief and of such removal, shall be paid by the said directors, at a reasonable allowance.

Provide for the poor.

SECTION 7. The said directors shall from time to time receive, provide for and employ, according to the true intent and meaning of this act, all such poor and indigent persons as shall be entitled to relief, or shall have gained a legal settlement in the said district, and shall be sent there by an order or warrant for that purpose, under the hands and seals of any two justices of the peace, directed to any constable of the said county of Mifflin, or to the overseers of the proper township, in any other county in this commonwealth; and the said directors are hereby authorized, when they shall deem it proper and convenient to do so, to permit any person or persons to be maintained elsewhere: *Provided*, The expense of their maintenance does not in any case exceed that for which they could be maintained at the poor house of the said district.

Proviso.

Quorum.
Powers of board.

SECTION 8. The said directors, or any two of them, who shall be a quorum in all cases to do business, shall have full power to appoint collectors, treasurer, and also to make and ordain such ordinances, rules, regulations and by-laws, as they shall think proper, convenient and necessary for the government and support of the poor and house of employment aforesaid, and of the revenues thereunto belonging, and of all persons as shall come under their cognizance: *Provided*, The same be not repugnant to this law or the constitution, or any of the laws of this state, or of the United States: *And provided also*, That the same shall not have any force or effect, until they shall have been submitted to the court of common pleas for the time being of the county of Mifflin, and shall have received the approbation of the same.

Proviso.

Proviso.

Monthly meetings.

SECTION 9. A quorum of the said directors shall, and they are hereby enjoined and required to meet at the said house of employment, at least once in every month, and visit the apartments, and see that the poor are comfortably supported and hear all complaints; and redress, or cause to be redressed, all grievances that may happen by the neglect or misconduct of any person or persons in their employment, or otherwise.

Compensation.

SECTION 10. The said directors shall, each of them, receive for their services one dollar per day, for the time necessarily spent in attending on the duties of their office.

Vacancies, how supplied.

SECTION 11. In case any vacancy by death, resignation or otherwise of any of the said directors, the remaining directors shall fill such vacancy by the appointment of a citizen of the district, under the same penalty as is provided by the third section of this act, to serve until the next general election, when another director shall be elected as if no such vacancy had happened.

Effect of claims.

SECTION 12. All claims and demands existing at the time of this act being carried into effect, shall have full force and effect, as if this act had not passed; and when the same may have been duly adjusted and settled, all moneys remaining in the hands of the overseers, as well as

the uncollected taxes levied for the support of the poor in the several townships in the district, shall be paid over to the said directors, to be by them applied, as other moneys received by them, to support the poor.

SECTION 13. As soon as the poor of the district shall have been removed to the house of employment of the said district, and the outstanding taxes collected and paid over to the said trustees of the district, and the office of overseer of the poor within the said district, shall from henceforth be abolished. Office of overseer abolished.

SECTION 14. The powers conferred, and the duties imposed on the overseers of the poor in and by an act to empower the overseers and guardians of the poor of the several townships within this commonwealth, to recover certain fines, penalties and forfeitures, and for other purposes, are hereby conferred and imposed on the supervisors of the highways in said district; and that the justices of the peace within the said district, are hereby required to pay to the said supervisors, to be by them applied to the repair of the highways, the aforesaid fines, forfeitures and penalties within the time, and in the manner prescribed by the said act for the payment thereof in other counties, to the overseers of the poor, and give notice of the receipt thereof to the said supervisors, within the time and the manner aforesaid; and that for any neglect or refusal to perform any of the duties enjoined on them by the said act, the said justice of the peace in the said district shall be subject to all fines, penalties and forfeitures to which the justices in other counties are by the said act subject or liable. Powers and duties conferred.

SECTION 15. The directors of the said district are hereby authorized and empowered to pay to the persons who are appointed commissioners by the first section of this act, the expenses incurred by them in the performance of their duty, a reasonable compensation for their services during the term they are employed in erecting any building or buildings aforesaid. Compensation of commissioners.

SECTION 16. So much of the laws of this commonwealth relating to the poor, as are by this act altered or supplied, be and the same are hereby repealed, so far as they affect said district. Repeal.

SECTION 17. That the sheriff of the said county shall, in due time, notify the said commissioners of their appointment, and when and where they shall meet for entering upon the duties assigned them by this act; which place of meeting shall be at the house now occupied by Samuel W. Stewart, in Readsville. Sheriff to notify commissioners.

WILLIAM F. PACKER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

WM. WILLIAMSON,
Speaker of the Senate.

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

FRS. R. SHUNK.