

No. 183.

A SUPPLEMENT

To an act to incorporate the borough of West Philadelphia, approved the seventeenth of February, Anno Domini, one thousand eight hundred and forty-four.

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 boundaries of the borough of West Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia, be and they are hereby changed; and from and after the passage of this act, the limits and boundaries of said borough shall be and they are hereby declared to be as follows, to wit: beginning on the west side of the Schuylkill river at the mouth of Sweet Briar creek; thence south-westwardly along the several courses of the said creek, through Eagle farm, to the falls of Schuylkill road; thence southwardly along the centre of said road to Morrison street; thence westwardly along the centre of said Morrison street, by lands of George Hutton and others, (late Peters'), and Owen Jones, to and across the Philadelphia and Lancaster turnpike to the south side thereof; thence north-westwardly along the south side of said turnpike to ground belonging to the Roman Catholic congregation; thence south-westwardly at right angles with said turnpike, by the said ground to an angle therein; thence by the same westwardly to the centre of Mill creek; and thence south-eastwardly along the centre of said creek by the several courses thereof, to the north side of the Haverford road; thence eastwardly along the north side of said road, to a point opposite the eastern wall of the Pennsylvania hospital for the insane; thence southwardly along said eastern wall by the several courses thereof to the southern line thereof; thence due south to Mill creek; thence southwardly along the centre of said creek by the several courses thereof, to the north side of the Philadelphia and Baltimore turnpike; thence eastwardly along the north side of said turnpike, to the western line of Hamilton village; (about four hundred feet west of Till street); thence southwardly along said western line to the north side of the Darby road; thence north-eastwardly along the north-westwardly line of said road, to a point opposite to the line dividing the properties of John Hare Powell and the Philadelphia alms-house; thence southwardly along said line to the river Schuylkill; and thence northwardly along the west side of said river by the several courses thereof, at low water line, to the mouth of Sweet Briar creek aforesaid, the place of beginning; and all that district included within the said limits and boundaries, is hereby constituted and formed into a borough and a body corporate, to be styled "The borough of West Philadelphia."

Boundaries of
West Philadel-
phia changed.

Boundaries.

SECTION 2. That all the rights, privileges, powers and immunities heretofore enjoyed and exercised by the borough of West Philadelphia, Rights and pow- are hereby extended to all that portion of the township of Blockley, in ers. the county of Philadelphia, added and annexed by this act to the borough of West Philadelphia, as aforesaid; and all acts of assembly heretofore passed referring or relating to the borough of West Philadelphia, are hereby continued in full force and effect, except as hereinafter mentioned; and the said acts are hereby extended and confirmed to the borough of West Philadelphia, as enlarged by this act.

Divided into
three wards.

SECTION 3. That the said borough as described in the preceding section, be and the same is hereby divided into three wards; the First ward shall be comprised within the following limits: beginning at the Schuylkill river at the north-east line of the Philadelphia or Blockley alms-house estate; thence along the same to Woodland street; thence along Woodland street to Park; thence to Washington street; thence along Washington street to Mary street; thence along Mary to Green street; thence to the east line of Crean's estate; thence along the said line to the Lancaster turnpike; thence along said turnpike to the line between the late John Britton's estate and Bearing's estate; and thence along the said line to the river Schuylkill; and thence along the same to the place of beginning; the Second or Hamilton ward shall comprise all the said borough which is south and west of the above described First ward, and south of the Lancaster turnpike; the Third or Mantua ward shall comprise all the said borough lying north and east of said First ward, and north-east of the Lancaster turnpike road.

Election of coun-
cilmembers.

SECTION 4. That the citizens within each of the said wards qualified to vote for members of the general assembly of this state, shall, on the days now provided by law for the election of borough officers, and at such places as are hereinafter designated, elect for each ward, by a majority of votes, four councilmen, whom, before entering upon the duties of their respective offices, shall determine by numbers one and two, to be drawn, which numbers shall designate and determine the number of years each person so elected shall serve; and also, three school directors, whose term of service shall be determined by numbers one, two and three, to be drawn in like manner; and annually thereafter they shall elect for each ward, two councilmen, to serve two years each, and one school director, to serve three years each; and they shall also annually elect one judge of elections, two inspectors, one assessor, one constable, one overseer of the poor, and every third year two assistant assessors; and each ward shall also elect one alderman at the time required by law for electing the same, all of which officers shall be resident of the ward for which he or they shall have been elected; and they shall have the same duties to perform, and rights, powers and immunities that the same officers now have by the laws of the said borough, and of this commonwealth, and be subject to all the laws and liabilities relating thereto; in case of vacancy by death, resignation, removal or otherwise, of a member of the town council, the remaining members of the ward shall fill such vacancy until the next succeeding borough election; the said citizens or voters of the said wards shall at the time for electing borough officers aforesaid, also elect annually, by a majority of votes, one resident citizen and voter of said borough for burgess thereof; and the judges and inspectors of said election shall make out and certify a correct return of the votes polled for burgess, and present the same to a meeting of said judges, to be held on the day succeeding the said election, in the council chamber of the said borough, at seven o'clock in the evening; and the said judges shall add up the returns, and forthwith notify the persons having the highest number of votes, who shall be declared burgess of said borough; and in case of vacancy from any cause, the said town council may elect one of their number to serve as burgess until the next succeeding spring election: *Provided*, That the duties, powers and authorities of the school directors of the present borough of West Philadelphia shall cease and determine upon the organization of the directors elected in pursuance of this act, which organization shall take place at the time now provided by law, at which time the duties as school directors shall commence.

Election of judge,
inspector, assessor,
constables,
&c.

Officers to be
residents of the
ward for which
they were elect-
ed.

SECTION 5. That all the elections for the First and Second wards of the said borough shall be held at the public school house in said borough, at separate windows, to be opened for the purpose, over which shall be designated in large letters, the number of the ward; and the present judge and inspectors of election shall perform the duties of their respective offices in the ward in which they reside; and the present judge shall appoint a judge of election for the ward in which he is not a resident, and each inspector shall appoint an inspector for the ward in which he does not reside; the election for the Third ward shall be held at the public house of John Gheen, in the said ward; and the present judges and inspectors of Blockley township shall in the same manner appoint the judge and inspector for the said ward; all the said appointments shall be made at least eight days before the time for holding the said election, and the persons appointing shall give immediate notice of the same to the persons appointed; and the said appointed officers shall perform the same duties, and be subject to all laws and penalties relating to other election officers in the said county of Philadelphia: *Provided*, That the place for holding the meetings of the assessors and officers for making additional assessments, shall be as follows, to wit: for the First ward, at the place now provided by law for the same; for the Second ward, at the William Penn tavern, and for the Third ward, at the public house of the said John Gheen; and all acts or parts of acts inconsistent with this act, is hereby repealed: *And provided*, That the election required by existing laws to be held for officers in the said borough, on the third Friday of March instant, be and the same is hereby postponed; and the first election for officers under this act shall be held on the first day of May, A. D., one thousand eight hundred and fifty, and the term of the present officers of said borough are hereby extended until superseded by the officers elected on the said first day of May; and the officers so elected shall continue in office for the same period as if elected on the said third Friday of March.

SECTION 6. That no street or streets shall hereafter be opened in the borough of West Philadelphia, unless upon the application of a majority of the owners of property fronting on said street or streets so intended to be opened; said application to be made to the judges of the court of quarter sessions, agreeably to the provisions of the act of June thirteenth, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-six, and the several supplements thereto, relating to roads, &c., in the city and county of Philadelphia; and that no person shall be required to grade, pave, or curb any side walk in front of his land used for farming purposes, unless houses fronting thereon shall have been erected, but that footways of designated width, covered with gravel, shall be laid out and made.

SECTION 7. That all the estate, property and funds, real and personal, of whatever kind or description, held by the guardians for the relief and employment of the poor of the city of Philadelphia, the district of Southwark, and the township of the Northern Liberties and Penn, be and the same hereby are and shall be exempted from all taxation except state and road taxes; and the real estate held by said guardians in the township of Blockley, and county of Philadelphia, shall not be subject to have any public road, street, lane or alley laid out or opened through it, except by and with the consent of the said guardians.

J. S. M'CALMONT,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

V. BEST,

Speaker of the Senate.

APPROVED—The fourteenth day of March, one thousand eight hundred and fifty.

WM. F. JOHNSTON.

Place of holding elections for First and Second wards, &c.

Relative to the opening of streets, &c.

Property held by the guardians for the relief and employment of the poor of the city of Philadelphia, district of Southwark, to be exempted from taxation, except, &c.