

vote at said elections but a regular male member of the Methodist Episcopal church of one year's standing.

SECTION 4. The said trustees and their successors shall have full power to enact and enforce such by-laws and ordinances as they shall think proper for the regulation and transaction of the business of the said corporation; and to make, have and use a common seal, and the same to break, alter and renew at their pleasure; to change the time and place of holding the annual election, as the same may be found convenient; and if the qualified voters neglect on the day of the annual meeting to hold their election, the trustees may appoint any subsequent time, on which the election shall be held: *Provided*, That notice of such time and place shall be publicly given on the Lord's day, at least one week before the time of holding such election; and also, that the said by-laws and ordinances be framed, enacted and promulgated, and all the acts of said corporation shall be in conformity with the rules and principles of the general Methodist Episcopal church in the United States, existing and established at the time the enactment thereof, and not inconsistent with the constitution and laws of this state or of the United States.

J. S. M'CALMONT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

V. BEST,
Speaker of the Senate.

APPROVED—The sixth day of April, one thousand eight hundred and fifty.

WM. F. JOHNSTON.

No. 294.

A N A C T

To limit the indebtedness, and to provide for the gradual extinguishment of the debt of the city of Pittsburg, and for the improvement of the streets, lanes and alleys of said city.

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 it shall be the duty of the select and common councils of the city of Pittsburg, within thirty days after the passage of this act, to meet and adopt such measures as shall be necessary for creating, establishing and providing for a sinking fund, and the safe and proper management of the same, for the gradual and certain extinguishment of the debt of the said city; that the said councils be and are hereby authorized to pass, ordain and establish such and so many laws, ordinances, resolutions and regulations as may from time to time be expedient for carrying fully into effect the duty in this act enjoined, and the authority and power hereby granted.

Certain specific sources of revenue to be set apart for said fund.

SECTION 2. That the said select and common councils shall be and are hereby required, on or before the second Monday in February, Anno Domini, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, to designate and set apart some certain and specific objects or sources of revenue, or on which taxes are or may be assessed and levied for corporation purposes, or from which revenue is or may be derived for the purpose of forming and establishing a sinking fund for the gradual and certain extinguishment of the existing funded debt of said city; and when so designated and set apart, the said objects or sources of revenue and the revenue to be derived from the same, shall not be appropriated or applied to any other purpose whatever than to the sinking fund, nor shall the same ever be diverted at any time to any other object or purpose, until the said debt shall be fully paid and discharged; the said councils shall from time to time, as they may deem expedient, add to the sinking fund other revenue to be derived from other objects or sources from which any revenue now is or may be hereafter derived.

Revenue to be assigned annually.

SECTION 3. That the said select and common councils shall within sixty days after the passage of this act, and annually thereafter, in the month of February, by ordinance assign and appropriate the revenue of the said city derivable from all sources, (excepting such portions thereof as shall have been specifically designated and set apart under the authority of the second section of this act, and excepting also a tax not exceeding three mills on each dollar of valuation hereinafter authorized,) to be applied and used for the following objects and purposes: *Provided*, That in the application and use of the said revenue (if any deficiency should arise,) preference shall be given to such objects and purposes according to the order named:

Object and purposes.

- I. For the payment of the interest of the funded debt of said city.
- II. For the payment of the salaries of city officers.
- III. For the payment of the ordinary current expenses of the city, exclusive of the cost of grading, paving, et cetera, of public streets and alleys hereinafter specifically provided for.
- IV. For the defrayment of the cost of such extraordinary improvements, erections and purchases as may from time to time become necessary for the convenience and prosperity of the public: *Provided*, That the expenditures authorized by such ordinance of appropriation in any one year, shall not exceed the revenue of such year limited as above, and if such revenue shall exceed the expenditures ordered, such excess shall be paid over to the sinking fund herein authorized to be created.

Increase of indebtedness prohibited.

SECTION 4. That it shall not be lawful for the said councils, either directly or indirectly, or by bonds, certificates of loans or of indebtedness, or by virtue of any contract, or by any other means or device whatsoever, to increase the indebtedness of the said city in a sum, which, added to the existing debt, shall taken together exceed one million and one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, exclusive of the subscription of two hundred thousand dollars to the Pennsylvania and Ohio railroad company; but when any portion or portions of the present debt of the city for which bonds or certificates of loans of not less than fifty dollars have been issued shall fall due, it shall be lawful for the said councils to negotiate and grant a renewal of the same, or to effect new loans: *Provided*, That the proceeds of such new loans shall be strictly appropriated to the extinguishment of such portions of debt falling due, and to no other purpose whatsoever: *And provided also*, That it shall not be lawful at any time after the present year, to increase the debt of said city beyond the minimum amount to which it shall have been at any time reduced, under the provisions of the second and third sections of this act.

SECTION 5. That it shall not be lawful for the said councils to issue, or authorize to be issued, any bonds, certificates of loan or of indebtedness, nor any other device as evidence of any indebtedness for or on account of any contract or engagement, or undertaking hereinafter entered into under the authority of said councils, for grading, paving, re-paving or repairing any streets, lanes or alleys in said city, or for sewerage of the same; and to enable the said councils to raise a fund for carrying on the necessary improvements in said city, it is hereby further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the said councils be and are hereby authorized to levy on all property now liable to be assessed and taxed, or that may hereafter be assessed for corporation purposes, an additional tax not exceeding three mills on the dollar on the assessed valuation of such property as an improvement tax, and to be specifically appropriated for the grading, paving, re-paving or repairing any streets, lanes or alleys opened, or which may be opened in said city for public use, and for constructing and repairing sewers, and for no other purpose or purposes whatsoever; and it shall not be lawful to levy any other tax or appropriate out of any other fund or source of revenue, any sum for the improvements and purposes herein mentioned, nor shall said councils hereafter appropriate for said improvements and purposes herein mentioned, any sum exceeding the amount herein authorized to be assessed or levied: *Provided*, That from and after the next triennial assessment, the tax authorized by this section shall not exceed two mills on the assessed valuation of such property.

Councils not to issue any bonds, certificates of loans, &c.

SECTION 6. That so much of any act heretofore passed authorizing the levying an additional tax of one mill on each dollar of assessed valuation, for the purpose of redeeming certain certificates of loan issued by said city, be and the same is hereby repealed; and so much of any act or acts of assembly as is hereby altered or supplied, is hereby repealed.

Repeal.

J. S. M'CALMONT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

V. BEST,
Speaker of the Senate.

APPROVED—The sixth day of April, one thousand eight hundred and fifty,

WM. F. JOHNSTON.