

the fourth day of July one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six by any of the citizens of this state to any of the subjects of Great Britain.

Passed December 23, 1784. Recorded L. B. No. 2, p. 387, etc.

CHAPTER MCXXIV.

AN ACT FOR INCORPORATING THE PRESBYTERIAN CONGREGATION OF PEQUEA, IN THE TOWNSHIP OF SALISBURY AND COUNTY OF LANCASTER.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas the Presbyterian congregation of Pequea in the county of Lancaster have prayed that their said congregation may be incorporated and by law enabled as a body corporate and politic to receive and hold such charitable donations and bequests as have been or that hereafter may be made to their society and vested with such powers and privileges as are enjoyed by other religious societies who are incorporated in this state: And whereas this house is disposed to exercise the powers vested in the legislature of the commonwealth for the encouragement of pious and charitable purposes:

[Section I.] (Section II, P. L.) Be it therefore enacted and it is hereby enacted by the Representatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met and by the authority of the same, That Isaac McCalmont, Amos Slaymaker, James Armor, Thomas Slemmons, Andrew Caldwell, Robert Byers, David Jenkins, Thomas Patton and the Reverend Robert Smith, and their successors duly elected and appointed in such manner as herein after is directed be and they are hereby made and constituted a corporation and body politic in law and in fact to have continuance forever by the name, style and title of "The Trustees of the Presbyterian Congregation of Pequea in Saulsbury township and county of Lancaster."

[Section II.] (Section III, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said corporation and their

successors by the name, style and title aforesaid shall forever hereafter be persons able and capable in law as well to take, receive and hold all and all manner of lands, tenements, rents, annuities, franchises and other hereditaments which at any time or times heretofore have been granted, bargained, sold, enfeoffed, released, devised or otherwise conveyed to the said Presbyterian congregation of Pequea in the township and county aforesaid or to the religious society or congregation worshipping therein now under the pastoral care of the Reverend Robert Smith or to any person or persons to their use or in trust for them and the same lands, tenements, rents, annuities, liberties, franchises and other hereditaments are hereby vested and established in the said corporation and their successors forever according to the original use and intent for which such devices, [gifts] and grants were respectively made, and the said corporation and their successors are hereby declared to be seized and possessed of such estate and estates therein as in and by the respective grants, bargains, sales, enfeoffments, releases, devises, or other conveyances thereof is or are declared, limited or expressed, as also that the said corporation and their successors aforesaid at all times hereafter shall be capable and able to purchase, have, receive, take, hold and enjoy in fee simple or of lesser estate or estates any lands, tenements, rents, annuities, liberties, franchises and other hereditaments by the gift, grant, bargain, sale, alienation, enfeoffment, release, confirmation or devise of any person or persons, bodies politic and corporate, capable and able to make the same. And further that the said corporation may take and receive any sum or sums of money and any portion of goods and chattels that have been or hereafter shall be given or bequeathed to them by any person or persons, bodies politic and corporate able and capable to make a bequest or gift thereof such money, goods and chattels to be laid out and disposed of for the use and benefit of the aforesaid congregation agreeably to the intention of the donor.

[Section III.] (Section IV, P. L.) Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the rents, profits and interest of the said real and personal estate of the aforesaid corpora-

tion and congregation shall by the said trustees and their successors from time to time be applied and laid out by them for the maintenance and support of the Gospel Ministry in the said congregation, for repairing and maintaining their house of public worship, lots of land, burial ground, and such other pious and charitable uses as shall be thought proper by a majority of the trustees and other regular members of the said congregation on due notice met to give their free vote in such case.

[Section IV.] (Section V, P. L.) Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That when and as often as it may become necessary to rebuild, enlarge or otherwise alter the house of public worship belonging to the said congregation and corporation or to erect any new building or to make any new purchase for the use of the said congregation then and in such case it may be lawful for the aforesaid trustees and their successors to make sale of such part or parcel of the real or personal estate of the said corporation as a majority of the trustees and of the regular members of the said congregation shall by their votes direct, the money arising from such sale to be laid out and applied agreeably to the vote of a majority met as aforesaid.

[Section V.] (Section VI, P. L.) Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said trustees and their successors shall not by deed nor any otherwise grant, alien, convey, or otherwise dispose of any part or parcel of the estate, real or personal in the said corporation vested or to be vested or charge or encumber the same to any person or persons whatsoever except in the manner and for the purposes herein before mentioned.

[Section VI.] (Section VII, P. L.) Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said trustees their successors or a majority of them may from time to time meet as often as they shall think necessary for the benefit of the said corporation either on their own adjournment or on public notice from the pulpit the preceding Sabbath immediately after divine service and before the congregation is dismissed or on regular notice in writing left at the house of each of the trustees and that

the said trustees or a majority of them being so met be authorized and empowered and they are hereby authorized and empowered to elect and appoint from among themselves a president and also to elect and appoint from among themselves or other members of the said congregation a treasurer and secretary and to remove, change or continue all or either of them at their pleasure as shall seem to be most for the benefit of the said corporation.

(Section VIII, P. L.) Provided nevertheless, That the meeting or meetings of the said corporation be not called without the concurrence of two or more trustees or of three or more respectable members of said congregation with the president or without the particular business and reasons of the meeting being specified with the notification.

[Section VII.] (Section IX, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said trustees or a majority of them met as is herein before directed shall be authorized and empowered and they are hereby authorized and empowered to make rules, by-laws and ordinances and to do everything needful for the government and support of the secular affairs of the said corporation and congregation. Provided that the said by-laws, rules and ordinances or any of them be not repugnant to the laws of this commonwealth and also that all their laws and proceedings be fairly and regularly entered in a book to be kept for that purpose.

[Section VIII.] (Section X, P. L.) Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said corporation and their successors shall have full power and authority to make, have and use one common seal with such device and inscription as they shall think fit and proper, and the same to break, alter and renew at their pleasure.

[Section IX.] (Section XI, P. L.) Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said corporation and their successors by the name of "The Trustees of the Presbyterian Congregation of Pequea in the township of Salisbury and county of Lancaster," shall be able and capable in law to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded in any court or before any judge or justice in all and all manner of suits, complaints, pleas,

matters and demands of whatsoever kind, nature or form they may be and all and every matter and thing therein to do in as full and effectual a manner as any other person or persons, bodies politic or corporate within this commonwealth may or can do.

[Section X.] (Section XII, P. L.) Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said corporation shall always [consist] of nine members (except as is herein after provided) called and known by the name of "The Trustees of the Presbyterian Congregation of Pequea in the township of Salisbury, and the county of Lancaster," and the said members shall at all times hereafter be chosen by ballot by a majority of such members (met together) of the said congregation as shall have been enrolled as stated worshippers with the said congregation for at least the space of one year and shall have paid one year's pew rent or other annual sum of money not less than ten shillings for the use and benefit of the said corporation and congregation and shall not at any time of voting be more than one-half year behind or in arrears for the same: Provided always, that the pastor or minister of the said congregation for the time being shall be entitled to vote equally with any member of the said congregation and also that all and every person or persons qualified to vote and elect as aforesaid shall and may be also capable of being elected a trustee as aforesaid.

[Section XI.] (Section XIII, P. L.) Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said Isaac McCalmont, Amos Slaymaker, James Armor, Thomas Slemons, Andrew Caldwell, Robert Byers, David Jenkins, Thomas Patton and the Reverend Robert Smith, the first and present trustees hereby incorporated shall be and continue trustees aforesaid until they be removed in manner following, That is to say, one-third part in number of the trustees aforesaid, being the third part herein first named and appointed, shall cease and discontinue and their appointment determine on the first Monday in the month of April which will be in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-six, and the second third part herein named shall cease and discontinue and their appointment de-

termine on the first Monday in April which will be in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven and in like manner the last third part herein named shall cease and determine on the first Monday in April which will be in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight on which days in each of the aforementioned years respectively new elections shall be held of other trustees instead and in place of those whose appointments shall have ceased and terminated, which manner of discontinuance, determination and new appointment or election shall be continued on the first Monday in April every year hereafter forever so that no person shall be or continue a trustee longer than three years together without being re-elected which may be done whenever and as often as the members of said congregation qualified to vote as aforesaid shall think fit.

(Section XIV, P. L.) Provided always nevertheless, That whenever any circumstance or concurrence of circumstances shall happen to prevent the holding an election at the periods aforementioned for trustees instead and in place of those whose appointments shall have ceased and terminated, also whenever any vacancy shall happen by the death, refusal to serve or other removal of any one or more of the trustees of the said corporation and election shall be held as soon as conveniently can be done in [the] manner before directed for other trustees in the stead and in place of those whose appointments shall have ceased and terminated or for supplying such vacancies that may happen as aforesaid and that the remaining trustees have power to call a meeting of the electors of the congregation for such purposes.

[Section XII.] (Section XV, P. L.) Provided always and it is hereby enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the clear yearly value, interest or income of the lands, tenements, rents, annuities, or other hereditaments and real estate of the said corporation shall not exceed the sum of five hundred pounds gold or silver money at the present current value thereof in the commonwealth of Pennsylvania exclusive of pew rent and other free contributions belonging to the aforesaid congregation, which said money shall be received by the said trustees and

disposed of by them for the purposes and in manner herein before described and directed.

Passed February 5, 1785. Recorded L. B. No. 2, p. 393, etc. See the Acts of Assembly passed March 10, 1787, Chapter 1272; September 29, 1787, Chapter 1325; November 22, 1788, Chapter 1382.

CHAPTER MCXXV.

AN ACT TO GRANT TO ARTHUR DONALDSON, HIS EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS AND ASSIGNS, THE EXCLUSIVE RIGHT OF MAKING AND USING IN THE RIVER DELAWARE A MACHINE CALLED HIPPOPOTAMOS BY HIM INVENTED, FOR THE CLEANSING OF DOCKS AND RAISING SAND, GRAVEL, DIRT AND OTHER THINGS FROM THE BED OF THE RIVER.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas the docks in the port of Philadelphia have for many years past been filling up by means of dirt and rubbish washed thereinto by the land floods and deposited in times of freshets to the great injury of the commerce of the port and a remedy for the inconvenience has been long wished for but not being found the owners of the quays and wharves have been obliged to carry out piers to a great distance into the river in order to make docks to preserve shipping from the ice in winter whereby the channel of the Delaware opposite the city may be in danger of being diverted to the Jersey shore. And whereas Arthur Donaldson of the city of Philadelphia, shipwright, did in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-four invent and construct at a great expense a machine called by him hippopotamos which he submitted to the inspection of a committee appointed by the general assembly of the late province of Pennsylvania appointed for that purpose, which committee reported that they had viewed the same and observed its operations and effects when applied to use and were of opinion that it would well answer the purpose of cleaning docks and removing beds of gravel, etc., and the inventor of that very useful machine ought to be recommended to the particular notice of the next assembly for