

veyor general of the state requiring him to survey or cause to be surveyed for the trustees of [the] Pittsburg Academy such and so many tracts of land with such number of acres in each warrant as shall be applied for at each and every time of application in such places not already appropriated by acts of general assembly of the state to particular uses nor before located or surveyed by or for private persons, as shall in the whole amount to the said quantity of five thousand acres and the usual allowance and no more and that the surveyor-general shall receive and enter all such warrants in his office and issue copies thereof directed to his deputies in the different districts and counties within this state and the said deputies shall execute the same and make returns thereof and thereupon such proceedings shall be had and patents or grants of confirmation for the same shall be granted and issued to the trustees of the said academy in the same manner and form and having the like effect as the like proceedings and patents have been and are conducted and located in case of private persons making application for and taking up lands under the laws of the state in such case made and provided.

[Section III.] (Section IV. P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all and every the tract and tracts of land hereby directed to be surveyed for the use of the said school shall be done at the charge of the state and the supreme executive council are hereby authorized and empowered to draw orders on the treasurer of this state to pay and defray all the charges arising thereon.

Passed September 10, 1787. Recorded L. B. No. 3, p. 321, etc.

CHAPTER MCCCIII.

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE GERMAN LUTHERN CONGREGATION
IN THE BOROUGH OF READING IN THE COUNTY OF BERKS.

(Section I. P. L.) Whereas the members of the German Lutheran congregation in the borough of Reading in the county of Berks, have at a very considerable expense erected one church

and one school house in said borough and divers of the members of the said congregation have prayed that some persons amongst them may be incorporated for the community that they may receive and hold grants of lands and chattels thereby to enable said congregation to erect and repair public buildings for the worship of God, for school houses and for the maintenance of the ministry and that the same as trustees, elders and deacons may plead and be impleaded in any suit touching the premises and to have perpetual succession:

And whereas it is just and right and also agreeable to the constitution of this commonwealth that the prayer of said petition be granted.

[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 Henry Hahn, the elder, Michael Krause and Christian Merkel, trustees, Jacob Zoll, John Strohecker and Michael Bush, elders, Matthias Babb, Henry Spengler, Christopher Rightmeyer, Jacob Leitheuser, John Shoemaker and Henry Hahn, the younger, Deacons of said [German] Lutheran Congregation above mentioned in the county aforesaid and their successors duly elected and nominated in their place and stead, 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, Elders and Deacons of the German Luthern Congregation in the Borough of Reading in the County of Berks."

[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 to purchase, take, hold and enjoy any messuages or tenements, houses, buildings, lands, rents, annuities or any other hereditaments in fee simple and forever or for term of life or lives or in any other manner so as the same exceed not at any time the clear yearly value or income of five hundred pounds lawful money of Pennsylvania to be taken and esteemed exclusive of the moneys arising from the letting of the pews and the contributions belonging to said

church and also exclusive from the moneys arising from the opening of the ground or burials, and further that the said corporation may take and receive any sum or sums of money or any manner or portion of goods and chattels that shall be given or bequeathed to them by any person or persons, bodies politic or corporate capable to make a bequest or gift thereof and also that the said corporation and their successors shall and may give grant, demise or otherwise dispose of all or any of the messuages or tenements, houses, buildings, lands, rents, annuities or any other hereditaments as to them shall seem meet (excepting the site of the house of public worship, burial ground or grounds, parsonage houses, school house or houses) for repairing or rebuilding the house of public worship, parsonage house or school house aforementioned and not otherwise.

[Section III.] (Section IV. P. L.) Provided always and be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That in making sale or disposition of any part or parcel of the real estate of the said corporation, the consent and concurrence of the major part of the regular members of said congregation who shall have been enrolled as stated worshippers with said church for not less than the space of one year shall be had and obtained.

[Section IV.] (Section V. P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all and every such lands, tenements, hereditaments, money, goods and chattels, which at any time before or after the passing of this act have been or shall be devised, given or granted to the church above named in the said town (now borough) of Reading or to any person or persons in trust for them, shall be and remain in the peaceable and quiet possession of the corporation according to the true intent and meaning of such devise or devises, gift or gifts, grant or grants.

[Section V.] (Section VI. P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said corporation and their successors by the name of "The Trustees, Elders and Deacons of the German Lutheran Congregation in the Borough of Reading in the County of Berks" shall be able and capable in law to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded in any court or courts, before any judge or judges, justice or justices in all and all manner of suits, complaints, causes, matters and demands of what-

soever kind, nature and form they may be in as full and effectual a manner as any other person or persons, bodies politic and corporate in this commonwealth may or can do.

[Section VI.] (Section VII. P. L.) And 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 devise or devises and inscriptions as they shall think proper and the same to break, alter or renew at their pleasure.

[Section VII.] (Section VIII. P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said trustees, elders and deacons and their successors or a majority of them with the concurrence of their pastor or minister for the time being, be authorized and empowered from time to time to make rules, by-laws and ordinances and to do everything needful for the government and support of the secular affairs of said church. Provided always, That the said rules, by-laws and ordinances be consonant to the usages and customs of said church and not repugnant to the laws of this commonwealth.

[Section VIII.] (Section IX. P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said corporation shall consist of thirteen members, namely, the parson or minister for the time being, three trustees, three elders and six deacons, called and known by the name of the "Trustees [Elders] and Deacons of the German Lutheran Congregation in the Borough of Reading in the County of Berks," and who shall be chosen by a majority of such members of said congregation as have a right to vote therein according to the enrollment as stated worshippers as aforementioned.

[Section IX.] (Section X. P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said Henry Hahn, the elder, Michael Krause and Christian Merkel, the present trustee, Jacob Zoll, John Strohecker and Michael Bush, the present elders, Matthias Babb, Henry Spengler, Christopher Rightmeyer, Jacob Lietheuser, John Shoemaker and Henry Hahn, the younger, the present deacons, hereby incorporated, shall be and continue as aforesaid until they be removed in manner following, that is to say, one-third part in number of each of them

shall cease and discontinue and their appointments 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-eight, upon which day a new election shall be had and held for so many others in their stead and place by a majority met and qualified agreeable to the purport, true intent and meaning of this act to vote and elect as aforesaid. And on the first Monday in the month of April in the year following the second third part in number of each of the said trustees, elders and deacons herein named shall in like manner cease and discontinue and their appointment determine and a new election to be had and held of so many others in their place and stead and in like manner on the first Monday in the month of April in the year then next following the last third part of each of the said trustees, elders and deacons shall in like manner cease and discontinue and their appointments determine and a new election of said appointments to be had and held in manner aforesaid on the first Monday in the month of April in each and every year forever so that no person or persons shall be or continue a trustee, elder or deacon of said church for any longer time than three years together if not re-elected.

[Section X.] (Section XI. P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That in case of death or a removal of the parson or minister of said congregation, and until another parson or minister shall be duly appointed and approved for said congregation agreeable to former customs, methods and usage, they, the said trustees, elders and deacons, shall have the same powers and authorities as are herein vested in the whole corporation, or in case of death, refusal or removal of one or more of the trustees, elders or deacons, the said corporation shall at any time whenever the same shall happen, have power to elect, appoint and choose any other trustee or trustees, elder or elders, deacon or deacons, as the case may be and the person or persons so nominated and appointed to continue in said office for and during the time the person or persons he or they were elected for should or could have remained and continued and no longer.

[Section XI.] (Section XII. P. L.) Provided always, That the

persons belonging to the said church who are in and by this act authorized and empowered to elect shall and may be at liberty to re-elect one or more of the said trustees, elders or deacons whose time shall have expired on the day of the annual election whenever and so often as they shall think fit.

Passed September 10, 1787. Recorded L. B. No. 3, p. 322, etc.

CHAPTER MCCCIV.

AN ACT [FOR] GRANTING UNTO GEORGE WALL, JUNIOR, THE SOLE AND EXCLUSIVE PRIVILEGE OF MAKING AND VENDING A MATHEMATICAL INSTRUMENT BY HIM INVENTED FOR THE TERM OF TWENTY-ONE YEARS.

(Section I. P. L.) Whereas George Wall, Junior, of the county of Bucks hath represented to this house by his petition that he hath invented and constructed a mathematical instrument which is adapted to the measurement of angles both horizontal and vertical, and also giving the instrumental solution of all cases in plain trigonometry, and that the said instrument will be of great utility in many arts, especially in surveying, on account of its size and portability and answering many more purposes than any other instrument is designed to do, and to the said petition is annexed the certificates of sundry persons of competent judgment who have given their opinions that the said instrument may be considered a valuable invention and that it will be more extensively useful than any extant:

And whereas it is esteemed consistent with the honor of this state to reward the inventors of useful improvements.

[Section I.] (Section II. P. L.) Be it 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 from and after the publication of this act the said George Wall, his executors, administrators and assigns, shall have the sole and exclusive privilege of constructing, making and vending said instrument called Wall's