

No 171.

AN ACT

To incorporate the Somerset Female Academy.

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 aforesaid,* That there shall be, and is hereby established, in the borough of Somerset, in the county of Somerset, a female seminary or public school, for the education of female youth, in the English and other languages, and in the useful arts, sciences and literature, by the name, style and title of the "Somerset female academy," the said academy to be under the management, direction and government of a board of trustees, not exceeding nine in number, five of whom shall be a quorum for the transaction of business: the trustees are the following named persons: Charles Ogle, Chauncey Forward, George Mowry, George Chorpeneing, John L. Snyder, A. B. Fleming, Joseph Cummins, Isaac Anheney, S. W. Pearson, which said trustees and their successors, to be elected as hereinafter mentioned from among the holders of stock in said seminary, shall be, and they are hereby erected, established and declared to be a body politic and corporate, with perpetual succession, and with all the incidents of a corporation in deed and in law, to all intents and purposes, whatsoever, by the name, style, and title of "the trustees of the Somerset female academy," by which name and title the said trustees and their successors, shall be able and capable at law and in equity, to take to themselves and their successors for the use of said seminary, any estate in any messuages, lands, tenements, hereditaments, goods, chattels, moneys or other effects, by gift, grant, bargain, sale, conveyance, assurance, will, devise or bequest of any person or persons whatsoever. *Provided,* The same does not exceed in the whole, the yearly value of three thousand dollars, and the same messuages, lands, tenements, hereditaments and estates, real and personal, to grant, bargain, sell, convey, assure, demise, and to farm let, and place out on interest, or otherwise dispose of or invest, for the use of the stockholders in said seminary, in such manner as to them, or at least a quorum of them, shall seem most beneficial to the institution, and to receive the rents, issues, profits, income and interest of the same, and to apply the same

Seminary established es-

Name and style

Trustees

Privileges and franchises

Proviso

Income limited.

to the proper use of said seminary, and by the same name to sue, prosecute and defend, implead and be impleaded, in any courts of law or equity, and in all manner of suits and actions whatsoever, and generally by and in the same name, to do and transact all and every, the business touching or concerning the premises, or which shall be incidentally necessary thereto, as fully and effectually as any natural person or body politic, or corporate, have power to manage their own concerns.

SECTION 2. The said trustees shall cause to be made for their use one common seal, with such devices and inscriptions thereon, as they shall think proper, and by and with all deeds, certificates and acts of the said corporation, shall pass and be authenticated, and the same seal at their pleasure, may break and alter, and devise a new one.

SECTION 3. There shall be a meeting of said trustees held once in every year, at least, in the borough of Somerset, at such time as the said trustees, or a quorum of them, shall appoint, of which meeting due and timely notice shall be given; and if less than a quorum attend at such meeting, those present shall have the power to adjourn to another day; said trustees shall have the power of making and enacting ordinances for the government of said seminary, of electing trustees in the place and stead of those who shall resign, or die, of electing and appointing the teachers of the said seminary, of agreeing with them for their salaries, or stipends, and of removing them for misconduct, breaches of the ordinances of the institution, or other cause which shall be deemed sufficient; of appointing committing committees, of their own body, to carry into execution all and every, the resolutions of the board; of appointing a president, secretary, treasurer, and other officers, whom they may find necessary for managing the corporation; of providing for the punishment of all violations of the rules, regulations or ordinances of the seminary or other misconduct, committed by the pupils or other persons thereat; and generally at any annual, adjourned or extra meeting, shall determine all matters and things (although, the same are not herein, particularly mentioned) which shall occasionally arise and be incidentally necessary to be determined by said trustees. *Provided*, That no ordinances or regulations shall be of any force, which is repugnant to the constitution and laws of the United States, or of this commonwealth.

SECTION 4. That the teachers of said seminary, or a majority of them, shall have the power of enforcing the rules and regulations adopted by the trustees for the government of the pupils, and to grant and confirm, by the order and direction of a quorum of the board of trustees, such degrees in the arts, sciences or other branches thereof, to such pupils of the seminary and others who, by their proficiency in learning or

Seal

Notice

Of vacancies, and election of trustees

General powers of trustees

Proviso

Power and duties of teachers

other distinction, they think shall be entitled to them as have usually been granted in other similar seminaries, or which the said trustees, or a quorum thereof, shall think right and proper, and to grant to such graduates certificates under their common seal.

Who may be elected trustees, &c. SECTION 5. Persons of every religious denomination, shall be capable of being elected trustees, nor shall any person, either as principal, teacher, tutor, or pupil, be refused admittance into said seminary, or denied any of the privileges, immunities or advantages thereof, for or on account of his or her sentiments in matters of religion.

Of grants, devises, &c. Proviso SECTION 6. No misnomer of the said corporation shall defeat or annul any gift, grant, devise or bequest, to or from said corporation. *Provided*, That the intent of the parties shall sufficiently appear upon the face of the gift, grant, will, or other writing, whereby any estate or interest was intended to pass to or from said corporation.

Somerset Female academy, extension thereto, of provisions of act, relative to education SECTION 7. That all the provisions of the fourth section of an act entitled, "a supplement to an act to consolidate and amend the several acts relative to a general system of education by common schools," passed the thirteenth of June, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-six, approved the twelfth day of April, eighteen hundred and thirty-eight, be extended to "the Somerset female academy."

WM. HOPKINS,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

CHARLES B. PENROSE,

Speaker of the Senate.

APPROVED—The twenty-fifth day of June, eighteen hundred and thirty-nine.

DAVID R. PORTER.