

[No. 69.]

AN ACT

Incorporating the First Methodist Episcopal Church, in the city of Lancaster.

WHEREAS the members of the First Methodist Episcopal congregation, in the city of Lancaster, have prayed for an act of incorporation for the better management of their affairs. Preamble.

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 said corporation shall be called and known by the name, style and title, of "The First Methodist Episcopal church of the city of Lancaster," and by the same name shall have perpetual succession, and be able to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded in all courts of law and elsewhere, and shall be able and capable in law and equity, to take, hold, and receive to them and their successors, for the use of the said congregation, lands, tenements, goods and chattels, of whatsoever kind, nature or quality, real, personal or mixed, which is now, or shall or may be at any time hereafter become the property of the said congregation, or be held for their use by gifts, grants, bargain, sale, conveyance, devise, bequest or otherwise, from any person or persons whomsoever capable of making the same, and the same to grant, bargain, sell, mortgage, improve or dispose of, for the use of the said congregation: *Provided,* That the yearly value or income of the said estates shall not exceed the sum of three thousand dollars, and shall not be appropriated to any other than benevolent or religious uses. Powers and franchises, Proviso.

SECTION 2. The business of the said congregation shall be conducted by nine trustees, who shall choose from their number a president and secretary, and may appoint a treasurer, and such other officers as the said trustees may from time to time deem necessary for the better government of the said congregation, and until others are or shall be elected as is hereafter provided, the following named persons shall be trustees, viz: Philip Benedict, Bonom Samson, George B. Kerfoot, Robert W. Burrowes, David Paul Brown, Nathaniel S. Pinkerton, Levi J. Rhoads, James B. Moore, and Charles Hartley, to continue in office until the first Monday in March, Trustees.

- Election of. one thousand eight hundred and forty-one, on which day the male members of the said congregation shall elect nine persons to serve as trustees; three of whom shall serve three years, three two years, and three one year, the term of service to be designated by the electors on their ballots, and their places respectively shall be supplied at the annual election, to be held for that purpose on the first Monday of March, by the
- Proviso. election of three persons to serve for three years: *Provided*, That in case of vacancy by death or otherwise, the remaining trustees shall appoint a person to supply the same until the next election, and any male member of the said congregation of one year full standing, and at least twenty-one years of age, shall be entitled to vote at the elections of said congregation: *And provided further*, That no person shall be eligible as a trustee unless he is a citizen of this commonwealth, a communicant member of the church of at least two years full standing, and at least twenty-three years of age.
- 2d Proviso. *SECTION 3.* The said trustees, and their successors, shall have full power to enact and enforce all such by-laws and ordinances as they shall think proper for the regulation and transaction of the business of the said congregation; and to make, have and use a common seal, and the same to break, alter and renew at pleasure; to change the time and place of holding their annual elections as the same may be found convenient, and if the congregation neglect on the day of annual meeting to hold their election, the trustees may appoint any subsequent time at which such election shall be held: *Provided*, That in all cases notice of such elections, and the time and place where they will be held, shall be publicly given on the Sabbath day immediately after divine service, at least one week before the time of holding the same: *And provided further*, That the said by-laws and ordinances, and all the acts of said corporation framed, enacted and promulgated by the same, shall be in conformity to the rules and principles of the general Methodist Episcopal church of the United States, as the same is now established and existing, and not inconsistent with the constitution and laws of the United States, or of this state.
- By-laws.
- Seal.
- Notice of election.
- 2d Proviso.

WM. HOPKINS,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

W. T. ROGERS,

Speaker of the Senate.

APPROVED—The eighteenth day of March, eighteen hundred and forty.

DAVID R. PORTER.