

No. 612.

AN ACT

To incorporate the Western Clinical Infirmary.

WHEREAS, A large proportion of the operatives residing in the Preamble.
city of Philadelphia, are employed in manufactories located in
its western districts :

And whereas, Such persons as a class are most exposed to aggravated injury and least able to obtain the necessary means of relief, it is desirable and humane that an institution for the dispensation of medical and surgical advice and treatment, properly disposed and constituted should be established in their midst ;

And whereas, In such institutions in which the sick are aggregated under one jurisdiction, great facilities are afforded for the study of diseases, it is right and a duty that such a plan or plans should be adopted as may best appropriate such means of knowledge to the development of truths appertaining to medical science, and ultimately promote the well-being of mankind : for the better prosecution of this charitable design it is thought judicious that the medical treatment in the institution, be conducted on the principle of specialities, each physician of the faculty devoting himself to the consideration and treatment of a special class of diseases, that he may thereby become more thoroughly acquainted with their peculiarities and better able to suggest those means applicable for their relief ; therefore,

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 all persons each of whom shall have contributed the sum of fifty dollars or more, for the purpose of establishing an infirmary for the medical and surgical treatment of the sick and infirm, but deserving poor, and all who may thereafter contribute like sum or more, be and they are hereby created and erected into a body politic and corporate in deed and in law by the name, style and title of the Western Clinical Infirmary, and by that name and title shall have perpetual succession, may sue or be sued, plead or be impleaded, and shall be able and capable in law and in equity to receive, take and hold by purchase, gift, devise or bequest for the use of the said infirmary, lands, tenements and hereditaments, and estate real and personal whatsoever or wheresoever, to an amount not exceeding the yearly value of ten thousand dollars, the same to grant, bargain or sell, transfer, assign, mortgage and convey in such manner as the said corporation shall deem proper, and to receive and make all deeds, transfers, contracts, conveyances, covenants and assurances whatsoever, and to make, have and use a common seal, and the said seal to change and renew at pleasure, and generally to do any other act or thing necessary to carry into effect the provisions of this act, and to promote the objects and designs of the said corporation.

SECTION 2. That Job R. Tyson, A. G. Waterman, Jesper Harding, Thomas Drake, J. V. Williamson, John McClure, Reverend J. H. Fowles, C. Leland, Reverend M. G. Clark, W. M. Swain,

Corporation.

Style.

Privileges.

Board of Managers.

F. H. Dreer, E. W. Clark, W. H. French, John Farnum, James W. Brown, constitute the first board of managers of the said infirmary; their term of office being, for five, one year; for other five, two years; and for other five, three years, as shall hereafter be determined among themselves, the official term commencing with the date of the act; and for the further and perpetual sustaining of the board of managers, it shall be the duty of the contributors or as many as may see fit, to assemble at some convenient place in the city on the last Monday in March, of the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five, and annually thereafter on the same day of the year, then and there to elect by ballot for the term of three years five suitable persons from among their number, to act as managers in the place of those whose term of office shall have expired at that time.

Medical board.

SECTION 3. That Joseph Klapp, M. D., James L. Tyson, M. D., O. H. Partridge, M. D., George R. Morehouse, M. D., D. D. Clark, M. D., J. F. Gayley, M. D., together with such others as may hereafter be appointed, constitute the first medical board of this corporation, and that they continue in office until they or each of them resign, or are displaced by the board of managers, at the request in writing, of a majority of the faculty; vacancies occurring in this board, shall be filled by such persons as the board of managers shall elect by ballot, from nominations presented in writing by the majority of the faculty, such new members to possess all the privileges of the medical board instituted by this act.

By-laws and orders.

SECTION 4. That the said contributors met shall have the power to make such laws, rules and orders as may appear necessary or expedient for the well-being of the said infirmary, for the regulation of the election of officers, their duties and privileges, their number and term of office, not hereinbefore stated, and generally for the well ordering all other things concerning the government, estate, goods, lands, revenues, as, also, the business and affairs of the said corporation; all which laws, rules or ordinances they may amend, alter or repeal at their pleasure: *Provided*, That such laws and ordinances be not repugnant to the laws of the United States or of this Commonwealth.

Proviso.

E. B. CHASE,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

M. M'CASLIN,

Speaker of the Senate.

APPROVED—The eighth day of May, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four.

WM. BIGLER