

And whereas it is just and proper that due encouragement be given to such as shall exert themselves in apprehending such malefactors:

[Section I.] (Section II, P. L.) Be it enacted and is it 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 the supreme executive council be and they are hereby authorized and empowered to draw an order on the treasurer of this state for the sum of fifty pounds in favor of the person or persons who was or were concerned in apprehending the said George Sinclaire, as aforesaid. And in case it shall appear to the executive council that other person or persons than the said David Linton were assisting in the taking the said malefactor so as justly to be entitled to a part or parts of the said sum herein granted, then the executive council are hereby authorized, empowered and directed to distribute the said sum to and among the said David Linton and his associates in such shares and proportions as to the executive council shall seem proper.

Passed October 4, 1788. Recorded L. B. No. 3, p. 487.

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## CHAPTER MCCCLXXX.

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AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE MEMBERS OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF GERMAN ROMAN CATHOLICS OF THE CHURCH CALLED THE HOLY TRINITY IN THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas the members of the German religious society of Roman Catholics belonging to the church called the Holy Trinity and residing within the city of Philadelphia and the vicinity thereof have represented that they have at a considerable expense, purchased a lot of ground at the north-west corner of Spruce and Sixth streets in the said city, and nearly completed a house or church for the public worship of Almighty God, called the Holy Trinity, and have prayed to be incorporated and by law enabled to receive such donations

and bequests as have or hereafter may be made to their said society as well as to manage the temporalities of their said church as other religious societies within this commonwealth may or can do, and it being just and reasonable as well as conformable to the spirit of the constitution that the prayer of their petition be granted:

Therefore:

[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 the German subscribers and others being or who shall hereafter become members of the said religious society of German Roman Catholics now or hereafter worshipping at the said church called the Holy Trinity, are and from and immediately after the passing of this act shall be and they are hereby erected into and declared to be one body politic and corporate in deed and in law, by the name, style and title of "The Trustees of the German Religious society of Roman Catholics of the Holy Trinity Church in the city of Philadelphia," and that they the said trustees and their successors to be elected as hereinafter mentioned by the name aforesaid shall have perpetual succession and shall be able and capable in law to purchase, take, have, hold, receive and enjoy to them and their successors in fee simple or for any lesser estate, any lands, tenements, rents, hereditaments or real estate, whose yearly value in the whole shall not exceed the sum of five hundred pounds, by grant, gift, bargain and sale, will, devise or otherwise and also to purchase, take, hold, possess and enjoy any moneys, goods, chattels or personal [estate] whatsoever, by gift, grant, will legacy or bequest and the same lands, tenements, rents, hereditaments and real and person estate excepting always the said church called the Holy Trinity and the lot of ground and appurtenances thereto belonging or therewith now used or occupied, to give, grant, demise or otherwise dispose of as to them shall seem meet for the use of the said religious society and also that the said trustees by the name aforesaid shall be able and capable in law to sue and be

sued, implead and be impleaded, answer and be answered unto, defend and be defended, in any suits or actions, and in all or any of the courts or jurisdictions whatsoever. And that it shall and may be lawful for the said trustees by the name aforesaid, to devise, make, have and use one common seal, to authenticate all and every the acts, deeds and instruments touching their business and the same at pleasure to break, alter and renew and generally that the said trustees by the name aforesaid shall have, hold and enjoy all and singular the rights, privileges, liberties and franchises incident and belonging to a private and religious corporation and body politic as fully and effectually as any other private or religious corporation or body politic within this state has right to have, hold and enjoy the same.

[Section II.] (Section III, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the first trustees of the said corporation shall be and consist of the following persons, viz., the eldest pastor of the said church for the time being, George Ernest Lechler, Senior, James Oellers, Christopher Shorty, Senior, Henry Horne, Adam Premir, Anthony Hooky, Jacob Threin and Charles Bauman, all members of said corporation and subscribers towards the building of said [church].

And the future trustees of the said corporation shall be and consist of the eldest pastor of the said church for the time being, duly appointed, and of eight lay members of the congregation, worshipping in and contributors to the said church to be appointed and elected in the manner hereinafter mentioned.

[Section III.] (Section IV, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all and every the members of the said church having subscribed to the building of the same or who shall hereafter contribute any sum of money not less than ten shillings annually, towards the support of the said church, shall meet on Monday immediately after Whit-Sunday which will be in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety and so on in every year forever thereafter at such place in the said city as shall be appointed by the said trustees, whereof notice shall be given in the said church at

the beginning of Divine Worship on Whit-Sunday in the morning and then and there shall choose by ballot the said eight lay trustees in manner aforesaid by a majority of those members qualified to vote as aforesaid who shall so meet between the hours of one and three of the clock in the afternoon of every such day and the [trustees so chosen shall be and continue] trustees of the said corporation until the next election and on the Sunday next after every such election the trustees so elected shall be published in the said church and their names entered in the books of the said corporation for that purpose to be kept and the said eldest pastor for the time being so appointed and members so chosen trustees as aforesaid shall be and continue trustees of the said corporation until the close of the next election at which time and place they shall be prepared with and render a just and true account of all the moneys by them received and expended for the use and benefit of the said corporation and congregation the preceding year which accounts shall be signed by the eldest pastor aforesaid for the time being as well as the other trustees.

[Section IV.] (Section V, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all and every the person and persons in whom any estate real or personal whatsoever is or shall be at the time of passing this act, vested for the use of the regular members of the said congregation of German Roman Catholics hereafter worshipping at the said church called the Holy Trinity of or for any estate or interest whatsoever, shall and they are hereby enjoined and required upon the reasonable requests and proper costs and charges of the said trustees by good and sufficient conveyances and assurances in the law to convey and assure, assign, transfer and set over to the said trustees by the name aforesaid and to their successors and assigns forever, all and every the messuages, lots, lands, tenements, rents, hereditaments and estate, real and personal whatsoever, whereof he or they are or shall be seized or possessed as aforesaid, to have and to hold the same to the said trustees, their successors and assigns, to and for the use of the society of German Roman Catholics, now or hereafter wor-

shipping at the said Church called the Holy Trinity, forever. Provided nevertheless, That nothing in this act shall extend to any property whatsoever which now belongs to the congregation of the religious society of Roman Catholics worshipping in the church of Saint Mary's or of the clergymen officiating in the said church of Saint Mary's. And provided, That nothing in this act shall extend to the lot of ground bought of James Eddy and now used as a burial ground for the Germans.

[Section V.] (Section VI, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said trustees and their successors from time to time as occasion shall require to meet together for the purpose of transacting the business of the society under their care, of the time and place of which meetings due notice shall be given to all the said trustees at least one day before, at which meeting the eldest pastor aforesaid being present shall be president and if five of the said trustees shall attend they shall form a quorum or board and shall have power by a majority of votes present to make, ordain and establish such rules, orders and regulations for the management of the temporal business, the government of their schools and disposing of the estate of the said corporation, as to them shall seem proper. Provided, That such rules, orders and regulations shall be reasonable in themselves and not repugnant to the constitution and laws of this state. And provided also, That in the disposal or alienation of the estate of the said congregation and corporation the consent and concurrence of the major part of the regular members of the said church qualified to vote as aforesaid shall be first had and obtained.

Passed October 40, 1788. Recorded L. B. No. 3, p. 437.