

township of the Northern Liberties and county of Philadelphia, containing fifty-eight acres and thirty-five perches which was purchased by the said Charles Thompson, and was held by him under a title derived from the commonwealth, until the eviction aforesaid.

Approved April 10, 1807. Recorded in L. B. No. 11, p. 100.

CHAPTER MMDCCCLXIII.

AN ACT DECLARING THE MIDDLE OF THE RIVER MONONGAHELA, THE DIVISION LINE BETWEEN THE COUNTIES ADJOINING THE SAME.

Section I. (Section I, P. L.) 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 middle of the river Monongahela shall be, and is hereby declared the division line between the counties adjoining the same: Provided nevertheless, that when an offense may be committed on said river, and it may be doubtful on which side of said line the offense was committed, the offender or offenders may be prosecuted in either of the counties adjoining said river, [in] which he, she or they may be found.

Approved April 10, 1807. Recorded in L. B. 11, p. 100.

CHAPTER MMDCCCLXIV.

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ERECTION OF A POOR HOUSE, FOR THE BETTER RELIEF AND EMPLOYMENT OF THE POOR IN THE TOWNSHIPS OF OXFORD AND LOWER DUBLIN, IN THE COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA.

Section I. (Section I, P. L.) 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 there shall be a poor house erected in the townships of Oxford and Lower Dublin, in the county of Philadelphia, for the more convenient and comfortable accommodation and employment of the poor, settled in either of the townships aforesaid, where they shall be supported at the common expense of the same, without regard to residence or settlement in either of the particular townships.

Section II. (Section II, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That there shall be eight citizens and inhabitants of the said townships: that is to say, four out of each township, appointed as hereinafter mentioned, for directors of the poor, and of the house of employment of said district, who shall forever thereafter in name and in fact, be one body politic and corporate in law, to all intents and purposes whatsoever relating to the poor of said townships; and shall have perpetual succession, and may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, by the name, style and title, of "The Directors of the Poor, and of the House of Employment for the Townships of Oxford and Lower Dublin, of Philadelphia County;" and by that name shall and may receive, take, hold and possess, any lands, tenements and hereditaments whatsoever, not exceeding the yearly value of five thousand dollars, and any real estate, goods and chattels whatsoever of the gift, alienation or bequest of any person or persons whomsoever, and purchase, take and hold any lands and tenements in fee simple or otherwise, within the said townships, and erect suitable buildings thereon for the reception, use and accommodation of the poor of their respective townships, and provide all things necessary for the boarding, lodging, maintenance and employment of the said poor; they shall appoint a treasurer annually, who shall give bond with sufficient security for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office and that at the expiration thereof, he will well and truly pay and deliver over to his successor in office, all monies, bonds, notes, books, accounts and other papers to the said corporation belonging, which shall then be remaining in his hands,

custody and possession; shall employ and at pleasure remove, a steward or stewards, matron or matrons, physician or physicians, surgeon or surgeons, and all other necessary attendants for the said poor respectively, they shall have the same power to bind out as apprentices, such poor children as shall come under their notice, as the overseers of the poor with the approbation of any two justices of the peace now possess, so that such apprenticeship may expire, if males at or before the age of twenty-one years, if females at or before the age of eighteen years; and shall appoint a collector or collectors of such tax or taxes as they, with the approbation of four justices of the peace, two of whom shall reside in each township, may judge it expedient to levy and raise within the said townships as hereinafter mentioned, which collector or collectors shall be subject to the same penalties, and entitled to the same compensation as are by law directed for the collectors of county taxes, and to exercise and enjoy all such powers now vested in the overseers of the poor, as are not herein granted or supplied; and the said directors shall be empowered to use one common seal, in all business relating to the said corporation, and the same at their pleasure to alter and renew.

Section III. (Section III, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the electors of the said townships qualified to vote for members of the house of representatives shall meet at the house of Christopher Snyder, sign of the wheat sheaf, on the last Saturday in April, one thousand eight hundred and seven, of which time and place it shall be the duty of the overseers of the poor of said townships, to give public notice, and after appointing one citizen from each of said townships to preside as judges of the election, shall elect by ballot, four citizens and inhabitants of each of said townships, to serve as directors of the poor, and of the house of employment of the said townships; whose duty it shall be to determine and fix upon the place on which the said building shall be erected, and prosecute the same as soon as convenient; and the said directors shall meet and divide them-

selves by lot into two classes, paying regard to keeping up an equal representation in the two townships, the office of the first class to expire at the appointment of directors in the year one thousand eight hundred and eight; as hereinafter directed, and the office of the second class to expire in like manner, in the year one thousand eight hundred and nine, so that one half of the number of directors may be appointed annually, in the mode hereinafter prescribed.

Section IV. (Section IV, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the electors of the said townships qualified to vote for members of the house of representatives, shall at the general election to be held in the year one thousand eight hundred and eight, elect two citizens and inhabitants of each of the townships; and the judges of election for said townships shall certify under their hands and seals the names of the directors so chosen, to the clerk of the court of quarter sessions of the county, who shall file the said certificate in his office, and forthwith give notice in writing to the said directors of their being elected, who shall succeed to the office of director of the poor of the said house of employment, and shall continue in office for the term of two years thence next ensuing.

Section V. (Section V, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That every director appointed in manner aforesaid, or as is directed by the fourteenth section of this act, shall within ten days after he is notified of such appointment, and before he enters on the duties of the said office, take an oath or affirmation, which any justice of the peace of the said district is hereby authorized to administer, that he will discharge the office of director of the poor for the said district, truly, faithfully and impartially to the best of his knowledge and ability; and in case of neglect or refusal to take the said oath or affirmation within the time aforesaid, he shall forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding ten dollars, for the use of the institution, which fine shall be levied and recovered by the directors for the time being, as debts of equal amount are or shall be by law recoverable.

Section VI. (Section VI, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the above named directors as soon as may be after the passing of this act, and their being organized as aforesaid, shall make an estimate of the probable expense of purchasing the lands, erecting the necessary buildings and furnishing the same, for defraying the expenses whereof, they are hereby authorized to procure on loan, on the credit of the institution, and of the taxes hereby directed to be levied within the said townships, any sum of money not exceeding five thousand dollars, for refunding of which in installments with interest, and for all other necessary expenses and disbursements in completing and prosecuting the institution and supporting the poor, the directors for the time being are hereby authorized to levy a tax or taxes, to be rated according to the county assessments, in an equal proportion in each township, but not to exceed one cent in the dollar in any one year.

Section VII. (Section VII, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for the directors aforesaid, or a majority of them, having first obtained the approbation of four justices of the peace, two of whom shall reside in each township, to make and lay a rate or assessment not exceeding seventy-five cents in every hundred dollars upon the value of all the real and personal estates within the said townships; and in laying the rates or assessments as aforesaid, they shall be guided by the county assessment, on the said townships, made or to be made on other occasions, and shall enter such rates fairly in a book, of which a duplicate signed by the said directors or a majority of them, shall be delivered to the justices aforesaid, who shall allow the same if they find it just and reasonable, without fee or reward; and any inhabitant of the said townships shall be permitted to inspect the rates at all reasonable times without fee or reward; and the directors shall give copies on demand of any citizen or citizens, inhabitants of the said townships, being paid for the same at the rate of four cents for every twenty-four names; and if any director shall

refuse the inspection, or to grant copies as aforesaid, for every such offense he shall forfeit the sum of three dollars for the use of the institution, to be recovered as debts of a like amount are by law recoverable.

Section VIII. (Section VIII, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said directors shall at least once in every year, render an account of the monies by them received and expended, to auditors appointed by the said townships to audit and settle the same, subject to the same penalties, rules and regulations as are by law directed respecting the accounts of the county commissioners; and shall also once a year publish a list of the number, ages and sexes of the persons maintained and employed in the said house of employment, or supported or assisted by them elsewhere, and of the children by them bound out to apprenticeships as aforesaid, with the names of the masters or mistresses, and their trade, occupation or calling; and shall at all times when thereunto required, submit to the free inspection and examination of such visitors as may from time to time be appointed by the court of quarter sessions of the said county, all their books and accounts, together with the rents, interests and monies payable and receivable by the said corporation with an account of all sales, purchases, donations, devises and bequests as shall have been made by or to them.

Section IX. (Section IX, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the electors of each of the said townships shall, on the third Friday in March in each and every year, between the hours of three and six o'clock in the afternoon, elect by ballot one reputable citizen as an auditor, to settle and adjust the accounts of the directors and treasurer; and the said auditors shall publish a statement thereof by two or more written or printed advertisements, set up in some of the most public places in each of the said townships.

Section X. (Section X, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That as soon as the said buildings shall be erected and all necessary accommodations provided

therein for the reception of the poor, notices shall be sent, signed by any two of the directors to the overseers of the poor of the said townships, requiring them forthwith to bring the poor of their respective townships, to the said house of employment, which order the said overseers are hereby enjoined and required to comply with, or otherwise to forfeit the cost of all future maintenance; except in cases where by sickness or other sufficient cause, any poor person cannot be removed, in which case the said overseers shall represent the same to one of the justices of the peace, who being satisfied of the truth thereof, shall certify the same to the said directors, and at the same time issue an order under his hand and seal to the said overseers, directing them to maintain such poor until such time as he or she shall be in a situation to be removed, and then to convey the said pauper, and deliver him or her to the steward or keeper of the said house of employment, together with the said order, and the charge and expense of such temporary relief and of such removal, shall be paid by the said directors at a reasonable allowance.

Section XI. (Section XI, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said directors shall from time to time receive, provide for, and employ, according to the true intent and meaning of this act, all such poor and indigent persons as shall be entitled to relief or shall have gained a legal settlement in the said townships, as shall be sent there by an order or warrant for that purpose, under the hands and seals of any two justices of the peace, directed to any constable of the said townships, or to the overseers of the poor of the proper township, in any county in this commonwealth, and to the said directors of the poor and of the house of employment; and the said directors are hereby authorized when they shall deem it proper and convenient so to do, to permit any poor person or persons to be maintained elsewhere.

Section XII. (Section XII, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said directors or any five of them, who shall be a quorum in all cases to do busi-

ness, shall have full power to make and ordain all such by-laws, rules and regulations as they shall think proper, convenient and necessary for the direction, government and support of the poor and house of employment aforesaid, and of the revenues thereunto belonging, and of, or respecting all such persons as shall come under their care or cognizance; Provided, the same be not repugnant to this law or any other of the laws of this state or of the United States.

Section XIII. (Section XIII, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said directors or a quorum of them, shall, and they are hereby enjoined and required to meet at the said house of employment, at least once in every three months, and a committee of four of their number, once every month, and oftener if necessary, and visit the apartments and see that the poor are comfortably supported, provided for, and attended to, and hear all complaints and redress or cause to be redressed, all grievances which may happen by the neglect or misconduct of any person or persons in their employment or otherwise.

Section XIV. (Section XIV, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That in case of any vacancy, by death, resignation, removal, neglect, refusal or otherwise of any of the said directors, the remaining directors shall fill such vacancy by appointing a citizen and inhabitant of the particular township in which such vacancy happened, under the same penalty as is provided for in the fifth section of this act, to serve until the next annual appointment, when another director shall be nominated and appointed in manner aforesaid, to serve for the period which such director was to have served if no such vacancy had happened.

Section XV. (Section XV, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all the monies which shall be remaining in the hands of the overseers of the poor of the said townships, at the time when the poor shall be removed to the house of employment as aforesaid, shall be paid over by the said overseers to the supervisors of the highways of

their respective townships; to be by them applied towards repairing the roads therein; and the office of overseer of the poor within the said townships shall from thenceforth be abolished.

Section XVI. (Section XVI, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That so much of the laws of this commonwealth relating to the poor, as is by this act altered or supplied, be, and the same is hereby repealed.

Section XVII. (Section XVII, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the powers conferred and the duties imposed on the overseers of the poor, in and by an act to empower the overseers and guardians of the poor of the several townships within this commonwealth, to recover certain fines, penalties, and forfeitures, and for other purposes, are hereby conferred and imposed on the supervisors of the highways within the said townships, and that the justices of the peace and sheriff of the county are hereby required and enjoined to pay to the said supervisors, to be by them applied to the repair of the highways the aforesaid fines, penalties and forfeitures, within the time and in the manner prescribed by the said act, for the payment thereof to the overseers of the poor, and to give notice of the receipt thereof to the said supervisors within the time and in the manner aforesaid, and that for any neglect or refusal to perform any of the duties enjoined on them by the said act, the said justices of the peace and sheriff shall be subject to all the fines, penalties and forfeitures, to which the justices of the peace and sheriffs in other parts of the county are by the said act subject and liable.

Approved April 11, 1807. Recorded in L. B. No. 11, p. 101.

CHAPTER MMDCCCLXV.

AN ACT TO RENDER PERPETUAL A CERTAIN ACT RESPECTING THE PHILADELPHIA AND LANCASTER TURNPIKE ROAD.

Section I. (Section I, P. L.) Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted