

HOUSE.....No. 164.

[Reported by the Committee on Probate and Chancery.]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty-
Seven.

AN ACT

To incorporate the Trustees of the Bixby Donation Farm
for the support of the Gospel in the Congregational
Parish in Topsfield.

*BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
tives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of
the same, as follows :*

1 SECT. 1. That the Congregational Parish in the
2 town of Topsfield, may, within two months from the
3 passage of this act, elect not less than three, nor
4 more than five persons, members of said parish, who,
5 with their successors, shall thereafter be constituted

6 a body corporate, by the name of the Trustees of
7 the Bixby Donation Farm, for the support of the
8 Gospel in the Congregational Parish in Topsfield.

1 SECT. 2. *Be it further enacted*, that said parish
2 shall choose, once in seven years, in the month of
3 March or April, beginning in the year eighteen hun-
4 dred and forty-eight, said board of trustees, who shall
5 hold their offices during said term of seven years,
6 and until others are chosen in their stead ; and all
7 vacancies happening during said term, by death, res-
8 ignation, ceasing to be members of said parish, or
9 otherwise, shall be filled by said parish, at a legal
10 meeting called for that purpose ; and a majority
11 of said trustees shall constitute a quorum for doing
12 business.

1 SECT. 3. *Be it further enacted*, that said trustees
2 shall have the power to take and hold, and they shall
3 take and hold, all that farm and estate devised to the
4 selectmen of the town of Topsfield, by Daniel Bixby,
5 late of said Topsfield, deceased, in and by his last
6 will and testament, and a codicil thereto, for the sup-
7 port of a gospel minister or ministers, in said Tops-
8 field, of the Congregational denomination, subject to
9 all the restrictions and trusts mentioned in said will ;
10 shall apply the income and profits thereof, according
11 to the directions in said will and codicil, and shall
12 hold and administer said estate, in all respects, ac-
13 cording to the terms, provisions and directions of
14 said will and codicil, except that said trustees shall
15 not be accountable to said town of Topsfield, and
16 shall not be required to make any reports of their

17 doings to said town ; but shall be accountable to said
18 parish, and shall make all such reports to said parish
19 annually or oftener, as by the terms of said will were
20 required to be made to said town. In all other par-
21 ticulars, said trustees shall take the place of said
22 selectmen, and shall perform and discharge all the
23 duties, and be subject to all the liabilities of the said
24 selectmen, as provided for in and by said will and
25 codicil.

1 SECT. 4. *Be it further enacted*, that the powers
2 given in and by this act may, at any time, be altered,
3 annulled or repealed, at the pleasure of the Legisla-
4 ture.

