

[1835, 81; 1892, 437.]

AN ACT TO CONSOLIDATE PARK STREET CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY AND PARK STREET CHURCH AFFILIATED THEREWITH. Chap. 252

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter eighty-one of the acts of the year eighteen hundred and thirty-five is hereby amended by striking out section one and inserting in place thereof the following: — *Section 1.* The proprietors of pews in Park Street Meeting-house in the city of Boston, and their successors, and the members of Park Street Church in good and regular standing, and such persons as shall hereafter become members of the corporation after the manner prescribed in its by-laws, are hereby made a corporation by the name of Park Street Church, with all the powers and privileges and subject to all the duties and liabilities by law incident to incorporated religious societies.

1835, 81, § 1,
amended.

Park Street
Congregational
Society and
Park Street
Church, etc.,
consolidated.

SECTION 2. Said chapter eighty-one is hereby further amended by striking out section two and inserting in place thereof the following: — *Section 2.* Said corporation shall have power to take or purchase and hold the said meeting-house, and to purchase or receive by gift or devise other estate, real or personal, for the use of said corporation, and the ministry thereof, and to sell, mortgage, or otherwise dispose of the same as it may see fit: *provided*, that the income thereof, exclusive of its meeting-house and land under and adjoining the same, or such property as shall be substituted therefor, shall not at any time exceed the sum of fifty thousand dollars annually.

1835, 81, § 2,
amended.

Real and
personal estate.

Proviso.

SECTION 3. Said chapter eighty-one is hereby further amended by striking out section three and inserting in place thereof the following: — *Section 3.* Said corporation shall have power to assess upon the pews in said house, which now are or hereafter may be held on a condition or subject to a liability to pay assessments thereon for the support of public worship in said house, such sum as it shall vote to raise for the support of public worship in said house and for other parochial charges of said corporation, according to the valuation thereof heretofore made, or which may be hereafter agreed upon by said corporation; and all such assessments may be collected in the manner

1835, 81, § 3,
amended.

Assessments
upon pews.

provided by chapter one hundred and eighty-nine of the acts of the year eighteen hundred and seventeen.

1835, §1,
amended.

Management,
etc.

SECTION 4. Said chapter eighty-one is hereby further amended by adding after section three the following new sections:— *Section 4.* The management and administration of all the real property of the corporation and of such personal property as shall be set aside by it, in trust, or be bequeathed to it in trust, shall be vested in a board of nine trustees, each of whom, except as is hereinafter provided, shall serve for six years, and require for his election a three quarters vote of the members of the corporation present and voting. At the time when the aforesaid board is constituted, three trustees shall be elected for a term of two years, three trustees for a term of four years, and three trustees for the established term of six years. The trustees shall serve without recompense, and shall have the title of Trustees of Park Street Church, and no contract, debt, gift, grant, pledge, or obligation which affects the property committed to their charge shall be valid or binding against them or the corporation, except in cases where it appears of record that they have delegated their powers, unless authorized by a majority vote of the full board. But no sale or mortgage of the realty owned by the corporation, or alterations costing over fifty thousand dollars in the Park Street Church meeting-house now situated at the corner of Park and Tremont streets in Boston, or wherever such meeting-house of the corporation shall hereafter be situated, shall be valid without a two thirds vote of a majority of the members of the corporation at a meeting duly called, in approval or confirmation.

Trustees, how
elected, etc.

Sale or mort-
gage of realty,
validity of.

Disposition
of income.

It shall be the duty of the said trustees to pay over to the treasurer or to such persons as the corporation shall indicate, all income upon the property of the corporation in the hands of the trustees, which in their opinion is not needed to meet the charges against the said property or to provide for its care, maintenance and protection, unless provision be made under a special trust, by vote of the corporation or otherwise, for the accumulation thereof; and nothing hereinbefore contained shall require the said trustees to look after the further disbursement thereof.

Prudential
committee
to have cer-
tain control of
finances, etc.

The management and administration of such property of the corporation as is not directly vested in the trustees, shall, subject to the supervision of the corporation, rest in a prudential committee which shall have the control of the

ordinary finances and business transactions of the corporation, and which may, on request, act for the board of trustees in particular matters affecting the care, preservation and improvement of the meeting-house belonging to the corporation.

All expenditures of money to meet the expenses of worship and the carrying on of the work of the corporation, and all financial contracts in connection therewith, shall be authorized or approved by the said prudential committee; but nothing herein contained shall affect the disbursements of the trustees or of committees entrusted by the corporation with the management of funds raised or set apart by the corporation for the purposes of fellowship, worship, charity, or other similar and specific uses.

Powers,
duties, etc.,
of prudential
committee.

SECTION 5. All conveyances heretofore made to, and all personal property belonging to, the Park Street Congregational Society are hereby confirmed to and vested in the corporation herein designated as Park Street Church. And all personal property belonging to and all conveyances made to or in favor of Park Street Church are hereby vested in and confirmed to said corporation. And said corporation shall take title to the same discharged by operation of law from any trust in favor of either of the two organizations hereby merged, considered as separate entities or of the individual members thereof.

Conveyances,
etc., how
vested.

Membership in the corporation shall terminate in accordance with the rules and regulations of its by-laws.

Membership,
how termi-
nated.

SECTION 6. The corporation hereby established shall be deemed to constitute the same ecclesiastical and legal entity which was founded by William Thurston, John E. Tyler, Caleb Bingham, Daniel Baxter, Josiah Bumstead, Joseph W. Jenkins and others in the year eighteen hundred and nine.

Corporation
to constitute
the same entity
as founded
in 1809.

SECTION 7. This act shall take effect upon its acceptance by the votes of the Park Street Church and the Park Street Congregational Society and upon a notification of such votes given to the commissioner of corporations, within ninety days after the passage of this act.

Act to be
submitted to
voters, etc.

Approved April 13, 1916.

[Accepted by the Park Street Church April 28, 1916, and by the Park Street Congregational Society May 5, 1916. Notification filed with commissioner of corporations, May 10, 1916.]