

and make any and all such inquiries as may be necessary to ascertain the condition of the said associations, and their ability to fulfil all the engagements made by them, and whether they have complied with the provisions of law applicable to their transactions: *provided*, that said commissioners shall examine all loan fund associations in this Commonwealth, as soon, after this act goes into operation, as may be.

Proviso.

Duties, etc., of commissioners.

SECT. 2. The said commissioners shall have the same powers and perform the same duties in examining the affairs of loan fund associations as they now or hereafter may have in examining insurance companies; and they shall receive the same compensation for services as is provided in the act relating to insurance companies, passed March thirty-first, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five.

Compensation.

SECT. 3. This act shall take effect from and after its passage. [*Approved by the Governor, April 27, 1855.*]

Chap. 237

An Act concerning Woodlawn Cemetery and deeds of lots therein.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows :

Woodlawn Cemetery declared a corporation.

SECT. 1. The Woodlawn Cemetery, as now established and as organized at a meeting held on the thirty-first day of August, eighteen hundred and fifty, and on other days by adjournment therefrom, is hereby declared to be a corporation and body politic, and entitled to all the rights, benefits and provisions, of the one hundred and fourteenth chapter of the acts of this Commonwealth, approved on the seventeenth day of March, in the year eighteen hundred and forty-one, and subject to the provisions contained in the by-laws of such corporation.

Rights, etc.

Trustees, etc., chosen annually.

SECT. 2. The trustees and officers of the said corporation shall usually be chosen or appointed annually, but they shall severally continue in power until removed or others shall have been chosen or appointed in their place; and the said corporation shall not be deprived of any of its corporate rights by reason of any mistake or omission in regard to its meetings, or any unintentional neglect of any officer thereof, nor shall any deed of any lot in the cemetery of such corporation be deemed invalid for any such cause, provided the same shall have been made in good faith, and sealed with the corporate seal and recorded in the books of the corporation.

Deeds of lots not deemed invalid.

SECT. 3. The clerk of the said corporation may be styled the secretary thereof, and he shall keep proper books of record, wherein shall be carefully recorded all deeds of burial lots made by the corporation; for which record the secretary shall be entitled to receive such reasonable compensation as the trustees may determine; and it shall not be necessary to record such deeds in any other registry.

Secretary to record all deeds.

Compensation.

SECT. 4. The provisions of the seventh section of the act aforesaid, approved March seventeenth, eighteen hundred and forty-one, shall apply to all the shares, property and effects of said corporation, so long as its real estate shall remain dedicated to the uses and purposes of a cemetery or burial-place for the dead.

Act of 1841 shall apply, etc.

SECT. 5. This act shall take effect from and after its passage, upon being accepted by said corporation at a meeting to be called for the purpose. [*Approved by the Governor, April 27, 1855.*]

When to take effect.

An Act to Exempt from Levy on Execution the Homestead of a Householder. *Chap. 238*

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows :

SECT. 1. In addition to the property now exempt, by law, from sale or levy on execution, there shall be exempted, to the value of eight hundred dollars, the homestead farm or the lot and buildings thereon, occupied as a residence and owned by the debtor, or any such buildings owned by the debtor and so occupied, on land not his own, but of which he shall be in rightful possession, by lease or otherwise, he being a householder and having a family; and no release or waiver of such exemption shall be valid in law, unless by deed, for good consideration acknowledged and recorded as in the case of conveyances of real estate: *provided, however,* that no person shall hold, exempted as above, such property to a larger amount than eight hundred dollars, including the rights of exemption, which may have been acquired under the provisions of the three hundred and fortieth chapter of the acts of the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one.

Farm, etc., to the value of \$800, exempted from attachment.

Proviso.

SECT. 2. Such exemption shall continue after the death of such householder, for the benefit of the widow and children of the deceased party, some one of them continuing to occupy such homestead until the youngest child be twenty-one years of age, and until the death of the widow.

Exemption to continue for benefit of widow and children.