

Trustees
appointed;
&c.

counties, according to the best of my skill and knowledge ; so help me God ;' the which oaths are to be administered by any of the six persons last named for the county to the person first named, or in his absence to any one of the five persons first named that shall be there present, the which person being sworn as aforesaid, shall administer the oaths afore-mentioned to all the rest, and so successively, the person first named that shall be present shall always administer the said oaths to any that have been absent, or that shall hereafter be elected and chosen pursuant to the directions of this act to supply the place of any that shall be dead, or removed out of the county, or of any who shall refuse or neglect to qualify, or be rendered incapable of acting as a trustee, when elected and chosen pursuant to the directions of this act ; and the aforesaid persons, or the majority of them, being sworn as aforesaid, shall be constituted and qualified as trustees of the poor of their said county, and as such are hereby invested with full power and authority, as a body politic, to plead and be impleaded, to sue and be sued, to defend and be defended, to answer and be answered, by the name of the trustees of the poor of Dorchester and Somerset counties, in all and every cause, complaint and actions, real, personal or mixed, of whatever kind or nature it shall be, in any court of judicature within this state, and by that name they and any of them, and their successors, shall and they are hereby enabled to take, hold, possess and enjoy, any gift, donation or present, which shall or may hereafter be given, devised or bequeathed, by any person or persons whatsoever, to them, or any of them, for or towards the support and maintenance of the poor in either the said counties ; and they, or any of them, may receive by way of subscription, any sum or sums of money which shall or may be given for the better and more speedy promoting the benefit and good by this act intended ; and that they have full power, authority and ability, to purchase, take, hold, receive, enjoy and have, to them and their successors for ever, any lands, tenements and hereditaments, not exceeding the yearly value of five hundred pounds current money, and are hereby empowered and authorized to use one common seal in their business relating to the said corporation, and the same, if necessary, to change and alter ; and that the said persons so incorporated, or the longest livers and successors of them, shall be the true and undoubted trustees, in perpetual succession, for ever, to be continued in way and name hereafter specified, with full and absolute power, liberty and authority, in the making and ordaining such laws, orders and rules, for the better relieving, regulating and setting the poor to work, and punishing vagrants, beggars, vagabonds and offenders, and for the good government of the said alms and