

4. The said trustees shall, under the penalty of twenty-five dollars each, accept said office, and shall meet on the second Monday of April then next ensuing at the alms-house of said county, except prevented by sickness or other unavoidable accident, and in such case as soon thereafter as the disability shall be removed, and qualify as trustees, by taking the following oath, to wit: "I, A. B., do swear that I will duly and faithfully discharge the duties and trusts committed to me as trustee of the poor for Kent county, to the best of my skill and knowledge, so help me God;" which oath may be administered by any one of the three trustees to the others, any one of whom, being sworn, shall administer the same to him.

5. No member of the General Assembly, clergyman, attorney, or practising physician, shall be obliged to accept or be liable to the penalty aforesaid for refusing to accept the office of trustee of the poor; and no justice of the peace, or sheriff, or any one who hath not the qualification to be a member of the General Assembly, shall be eligible as a trustee; and no person shall be compellable to serve in less than three years after he has served or paid the penalty for not serving.

6. The county commissioners shall fill any vacancy occasioned by non-acceptance, death, resignation, removal out of the county, or other disqualification of any of the said trustees, at their next meeting thereafter.

7. The trustees so appointed and qualified, and their successors, are a corporation, with power to sue and be sued, by the name of "The Trustees of the Poor of Kent County," and by that name they may take, hold, possess and enjoy any gift, donation or present which may be given, devised or bequeathed by any person to them, for the support and maintenance of the poor in said county; and may purchase and hold any lands, tenements and hereditaments, not exceeding the yearly value of fifteen hundred dollars.

8. They may use one common seal, and the same if necessary may change and alter.

9. They may make and establish such rules for the relief, regulation and labor of the poor, and for the good government of the alms-house in said county, as to them shall from time to time appear most fit and requisite; *Provided*, they be not contrary to law.