

C H A P.  
XXIX.To qualify as  
Trustees for  
the Poor, by  
taking the  
Oaths to the  
Government,  
and Oath of  
Office.Mode of Qua-  
lification.Invested with  
Power and  
Authority, as  
a Body Politic,and to use a  
common Seal  
in their Busi-  
ness, &c. -and to make  
Laws, &c. for  
the better Re-  
lief of the  
Poor, and  
punishing Va-  
grants, &c.

Provido.

*Hanson; Thomas M'Pherfon, and Henry Smith Hawkins.* The which Persons, so nominated, appointed, authorized, and named, for the several and respective Counties, as aforesaid, or the major Part of them, in case of the Death or Absence of any, are hereby required, with all convenient Speed, to meet at such Places, within their Counties, as to them shall seem meet, to qualify themselves for the Office of Trustees for the Poor of their several and respective Counties, which they are to do, by taking the several Oaths appointed by Law to be taken to the Government, signing the Oath of Abjuration, and repeating and signing the Test, and also 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 a Trustee for the Poor, for — County, according to the best of my Skill and Knowledge, and an Act of Assembly, entitled, An Act for the Relief of the Poor, within the several Counties therein mentioned.* So help me GOD. The which Oaths are to be administered by any of the Four Persons last named, for the County, to the Person first named, or, in his Absence, to any One of the Three Persons first named, that shall be there present, the which Person being sworn, as aforesaid, shall administer the Oaths aforesaid, 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 and act as a Trustee, when elected and chosen, pursuant to the Directions of this Act: And the aforesaid Persons, or the major of them, being sworn, as aforesaid, shall be constituted and qualified, as Trustees for 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 for the Poor, in all, and every Cause, Complaint, and Action, real, personal, or mixt, of whatsoever Kind or Nature it shall be, in any of the Courts of Judicature, within this Province; 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 Maintainance of the Poor, in any of the Counties aforesaid; 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, lawful Capacity, 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 One Thousand Pounds, of any Person, or Persons, whatsoever; and are hereby impowered and authorized, to use one common Seal, in their Business, relating to the said Corporation, and the same, at their Pleasure, to change and alter; and, that the said Persons, so incorporated, the longest Livers and Successors of them, shall be the true, sole, and undoubted Trustees, in perpetual Succession, for ever, to be continued in Way and Manner 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 other Offenders, and for the good Government of the said Alms, and Work-House, in their respective Counties, as to them, and their Successors, shall, from Time to Time, seem most fit and requisite; all which shall be observed by the Overseer of such Alms, and Work-House, and by all Poor, Beggars, Vagrants, Vagabonds, and other Offenders, in such Alms, and Work-House, under the Penalties therein contained: *Provided always,* That the said Rules, Laws, and Orders, be no wise contrary to the Laws of this Province.

V. And,