

C. H. A. P.  
XVIII.

*committed to me, as a Trustee for the Poor for Saint Mary's County, according to the best of my Skill and Knowledge, and an Act of Assembly, entitled, An Act for the Relief of the Poor in Saint Mary's County. So help me GOD. The which Oath is 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 Part 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 for Saint Mary's County, 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 the said County; 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 Sterling, of any Person or Persons whatsoever; 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, 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 said County, 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.*

Proviso.

V. *Provided always, That the said Rules, Laws, and Orders, be no wise contrary to the Laws of this Province.*

In Case of  
Death, or  
Refusal to  
act; remain-  
ing Trustees

VI. *And, to perpetuate the Succession of the aforesaid Number of Five Trustees for the Poor in the said County, Be it enacted, That as often as any one of the said Trustees for the Poor shall die, remove himself out of the County, refuse to qualify himself by taking the Oath aforesaid*

aforesaid

Trustees in-  
vested with  
Power and  
Authority as  
a Body poli-  
tic, &c.