

Sixty-Sixth Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 138.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND NINETY-THREE.

AN ACT relating to the property of Extinct or Disbanded Congregational Churches or Societies.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows:

SECTION 1. The Congregational Church Building 2 Society, a corporation duly organized and existing by and 3 under the laws of the state of New York, to promote the 4 erection of Congregational houses of worship and parson-5 ages and other kindred objects, shall be and become 6 vested with the property and effects of any extinct or dis-7 banded Congregational church, parish or society within 8 this State, in trust to apply the same to the maintenance 9 or erection of such houses of worship and parsonages 10 within this State, after paying the debts, if any, of such

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11 disbanded church parish or society, and for these pur-12 poses may sell and convert such property into money; 13 provided, however, that in the sale and disposition of real 14 and personal estate so devolving on the said Congregational Church Building Society, its trustees and manag-15 ing board shall be deemed, in respect to the right and 16 17 power of possession, control, disposal and conveyance, the legal successors of such extinct corporation; and in 18 the case of the sale of real property it may apply to any 19 court of record within the judicial district or county 20 where such real estate is situated, for the judicial order 21 22 required for the sale of real estate of religious corporations, and for leave to sell such land and premises so 23 24 devolving on them.

SECT. 2. The said Congregational Church Building 2 Society, in order to determine when any such church, 3 parish or society is extinct, is hereby empowered to call 4 a council of Congregational churches in the vicinage, of 5 not less than five churches, and the findings of such council together with the decree of the court, shall be 6 7 their authority for procedure; and the said Congregational Church Building Society shall elect as a commis-8 9 sioner a resident of the State of Maine, who shall be their legal representative in all matters involved in the above 10 11 named transactions. Before the sale of any property by 12 the said society under order of the court, notice of said 13 sale shall be published at least two weeks before the date 14 of sale in a paper of wide circulation in the vicinity of the15 church.

SECT. 3. This act shall take effect when approved.

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In House of Representatives, } February 16, 1893.

Reported by Mr. HIGGINS of Limerick, from Committee on Judiciary, and ordered printed under joint rules.

W. S. COTTON, Clerk.