

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**PRIVATE ACTS**

OF THE

**STATE OF MAINE,**

**PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURE,**

*AT THEIR SESSIONS,*

HELD IN

**JUNE, 1820, AND JANUARY, 1821.**

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Published agreeably to a Resolve of June 28, 1820.

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*PORTLAND :*

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1821.

river owned by John Mahar, in said town of Perry : *Provided*, that said bridge shall always be kept open free at all times for the accommodation of travellers and no toll shall ever be demanded of any person for passing the same.

Penalty for injuring the bridge.

SECT. 2. *Be it further enacted*, That every person who shall cut away or otherwise injure said bridge, shall be liable to pay double damages in any Court proper to try the same, one half to be appropriated to the use of the owners of said bridge, and the other half to the benefit of the person that may prosecute for the same.

[*This Act passed February 27, 1821.*]

## CHAPTER XLVI.

AN ACT to incorporate the Trustees of the Readfield Religious and Charitable Society.

Persons incorporated.

SECT. 1. *BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled*, That Luther Sampson, Charles Kent, John Hubbard, Abraham Morrill, Zachariah Gibson, John Morris, and their successors, be, and they hereby are incorporated into a body politic by the name of the Trustees of the Readfield Religious and Charitable Society; with power to sue and be sued; to have a common seal, and to change the same; and to make any bye-laws for the management of their affairs, not repugnant to the laws of the State.

When vacancies happen.

SECT. 2. *Be it further enacted*, That as often as any one of said trustees, as their successors in that office of trust, shall die, resign, or cease to be a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, or by reason of age, infirmity, removal or otherwise, shall in the judgment of two thirds of the remaining trustees for the time being, be rendered incapable of discharging the duties incumbent on him as a trustee; then the remaining trustees shall as soon as conveniently may be, elect a suitable person to fill such vacancy, who at the time of his election shall be in regular standing in the Methodist Episcopal Church, of the age of twenty-one years, and residing in or near the vicinity of Readfield, who shall by such election become a member of this corporation.

To be filled by other trustees from members of the Methodist church,

And if there be no suitable persons members of the church by the election of other suitable persons.

SECT. 3. *Be it further enacted*, That if it shall hereafter so happen, that suitable persons cannot be found to discharge the duties of trustees belonging to the Church aforesaid residing in or near the vicinity of Readfield, it shall be lawful to elect any suitable persons as trustees who are not members of said church, so as to keep up the number of six trustees forever, exclusive of the additional trustees provided for in the fifth

section of this act ; and a majority of said trustees when legally assembled, shall constitute a quorum for doing business ; they shall annually and oftener if necessary, elect from their own body a President, Secretary and Treasurer, who, shall be sworn to the faithful discharge of their several duties ; and the treasurer shall give bonds to the satisfaction of the trustees.

Trustees to choose a President, &c.

SECT. 4. *Be it further enacted,* That the trustees aforesaid, and their successors in office, be, and they are hereby forever made capable to receive and hold by gift, grant, donation, devise, bequest, or otherwise any estate, real or personal, for religious or charitable uses, until the clear annual income thereof shall amount to three thousand dollars ; and to give, grant, bargain, sell and convey the same, so as best to answer the design of the donor ; and all donations, gifts, grants, or bequests, made to this corporation for specified purposes, shall be appropriated according to the will and design of the donor, and in no other way. And any person who may be interested in the aforesaid gifts, grants, bequests or otherwise, and not receiving the same agreeable to the direction of the donor, be, and the same hereby is made capable in law, to sue for and recover the same, or the value thereof of the trustees for the time being, in any court of competent jurisdiction to try the same ; and for that purpose shall have full access to all the records relating to such case.

Authorised to hold property of the value 3000 dols. per annum.

Gifts to be appropriated according to the will of the donor.

SECT. 5. *Be it further enacted,* That if any one person shall give to this corporation, for purposes aforesaid, the sum of five thousand dollars, in real or personal estate, the same shall have privilege of appointing one additional trustee, to the existing number, and also to direct how and in what way and manner his successors shall be elected and appointed forever ; which shall be as valid as if the way and manner had been pointed out in this act, notwithstanding he or his successors may not belong to the Church aforesaid.

Any person giving 5000 dollars, may appoint an additional trustee,

and direct in what manner his successors shall be appointed.

SECT. 6. *Be it further enacted,* That Luther Sampson, be, and he is hereby authorized to appoint the time and place of holding the first meeting of said trustees, and to notify them thereof accordingly.

First meeting.

SECT. 7. *Be it further enacted,* That the powers granted by this act may be enlarged, restrained or repealed, at the pleasure of the Legislature.

[This Act passed February 28, 1821.]