

Trustees
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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 aforementioned 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 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 counties, 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, 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 maintenance 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 empowered 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,