

CHAPTER 543.

AN ACT to cede and transfer to the Government of the United States, the Confederate Cemetery and its appurtenances located near Point Lookout in St. Mary's County, Maryland.

Whereas, by Act of Assembly of the Session of 1870, Chapter 85, and by Act of Assembly of 1874, Chapter 407, the State of Maryland made provision by several appropriations for the purchase of land not exceeding two acres, located near Point Lookout in St. Mary's County, for use as a cemetery for the interment of the bodies of Confederate Prisoners who died while in prison at Point Lookout, during the war between the States; and by the former of said Acts created a commission for carrying into effect the purposes of said Acts to the extent of the purchase and enclosure of said ground and the proposed interments therein, but by neither of said Acts made provision for the perpetual care thereof; and

Whereas, because of the failure of provision of said Acts for the perpetual care of said cemetery, and of inability otherwise to provide the necessary means therefor, the Cemetery Commissioners are unable to protect said cemetery from depredation and to preserve it from waste and absolute destruction; and

Whereas, the Congress of the United States has made provision for the perpetual care of Confederate cemeteries in all the States, under conditions made satisfactory to all parties in interest, and the commissioners of the Point Lookout Cemetery believe that the transfer of said cemetery to the United States is the only alternative for its protection and preservation,

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the cemetery located near Point Lookout, in St. Mary's County, created and established by the Legislature of Maryland by the several Acts of 1870 and 1874 recited in foregoing preamble for the interment of the Point Lookout Prison Confederate Prisoners who died while in prison there, be and the same is hereby authorized to be ceded to the United States Government for the purpose of its perpetual care; and that upon satisfactory assurance that the properly designated authority of the United States Government is prepared to accept the grant thereof by the State of Maryland for its perpetual care, the title of said cemetery and its appurtenances shall be transferred by the present holders of said title to the properly designated grantee of the United States.

SEC. 2. And be it enacted, That this Act shall take effect from the date of its passage.

Approved April 8, 1910.