Act to take effect from its passage.

June 12, 1860.


Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That John Thaw, George Brown, C. J. Wright, John T. Bangs, Martin Johnson, and others, the officers and members of the Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of the District of Columbia, and their successors, be, and they are hereby, incorporated and made a body politic and corporate, by the name of the Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of the District of Columbia; and by that name may sue and be sued, plead and be implored, in any court of law or equity, and may have and use a common seal, and the same change at pleasure, and be entitled to use and exercise the powers, rights, and privileges incident to such corporation.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That the said corporation shall be capable of taking and holding real and personal estate not exceeding in value the sum of fifty thousand dollars; which estate, personal and real, shall never be divided among the members of the corporation, but shall descend to their successors, for the promotion of the benevolent purposes of said corporation.

SEC. 3. And be it further enacted, That this corporation shall have power to alter and amend their constitution and by-laws at pleasure: Provided, That they do not conflict with the laws of the United States, or the laws of the corporation of Washington City.

SEC. 4. And be it further enacted, That said corporation shall not exercise banking privileges, or issue or put in circulation bank notes, or any note, paper, token, scrip, or device to be used as currency.

SEC. 5. And be it further enacted, That this act shall continue in force until Congress shall by law determine otherwise.

APPROVED, June 12, 1860.

June 13, 1860.


Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the trustees of "Washington's Manual Labor School and Male Orphan Asylum Society of the District of Columbia," incorporated by an act of Congress approved on the thirteenth day of June, eighteen hundred and forty-two, be and they are hereby authorized and empowered, by deed or other instrument in writing, to transfer all their funds and property of every description to the "Columbia Institution for the instruction of the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind," incorporated by an act of Congress approved February sixteen, eighteen hundred and fifty-seven, on such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon by said corporate bodies and incorporated in such deed or instrument of writing.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That the said deed of transfer or instrument of writing shall be recorded in the recorder's office for land titles, in the county of Washington, and District of Columbia, and the terms and conditions of said deed shall be as obligatory upon said Columbia Institution as if they formed a part of its charter; and from the date of the record thereof, as aforesaid, the trustees of "Washington's Manual Labor School and Male Orphan Asylum Society" shall be forever after absolved from their trust, and the act of June thirteen, eighteen
hundred and forty-two, conferring upon them corporate powers and privileges, shall be thenceforward repealed: Provided, That all the debts and pecuniary liabilities of the said "Washington's Manual Labor School and Male Orphan Asylum shall be transferred to, assumed by, and be debts of the said "Columbia Institution for the instruction of the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind," which shall be responsible therefor, and suits at law or in equity may be commenced against said last-mentioned corporation the same as if said debts had been originally incurred by it.

Approved, June 13, 1860.

CHAP. CXXI.—An Act extending the Charter incorporating the "German Benevolent Society" of Washington City, in the District of Columbia, approved July twenty-seventh eighteen hundred and forty-two.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That from and after the passage of this act, all those persons who are, or shall hereafter become, members of the "German Benevolent Society," of the city of Washington, District of Columbia, be, and they are hereby, made a body corporate and politic, by the name and style of the "German Benevolent Society," and shall so continue until the third day of March, one thousand eight hundred and eighty; and by that name shall have perpetual succession, and by that name may sue and be sued, implead and be impleaded, answer and be answered, defend and be defended, in courts of law and equity and in all other places whatsoever; and by that name may make, have, and use a common seal, and the same may break, alter, and renew at pleasure, and shall have power to ordain, establish, and put in execution such by-laws, ordinances, and regulations as shall seem necessary and convenient for the government of said corporation, not being contrary to the laws and Constitution of the United States; and, generally, to do and execute all acts necessary or proper for the objects of said corporation, subject to the limitations of this act.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That the monthly contributions and all other moneys received on account of the society, may, from time to time, be invested in the public stocks of the United States, in loans to individuals, or in stocks of any incorporated banking institution or corporation, and the moneys so invested or that may be deposited shall be drawn out of the bank or place of deposit only on the order of the treasurer, countersigned by the secretary and approved by the president: Provided, nevertheless, That the said society or body politic shall not, at any one time, hold or possess property, real, personal, or mixed, exceeding in total value the sum of twenty thousand dollars: And provided, That the annual interest on the capital of the company, or the whole or any part of the capital, may, from time to time, be applied to aid and succor the poor and destitute of the society, or to such other charitable objects as the company may select.

SEC. 3. And be it further enacted, That it shall not be lawful for the said corporation to deal or trade in the manner of a bank, nor issue any note in the nature of a bank note, nor transact any other kind of business, or deal in any other manner or thing than is expressly authorized by the second section of this act; and any officer or officers who shall have assented to any such dealing or trade shall, on conviction thereof in the proper court, forfeit and pay the sum of five hundred dollars, one half to the use of the poor of the city of Washington, District of Columbia, and the other half to the use of the person who may prosecute the same: Provided, always, That Congress may, at any time, amend, alter, or annul this act.

Approved, June 13, 1860.