

vested in the Heirs and Families of such deceased original Proprietors. *And Whereas*, the interest of the several present Owners of the said Pews has now become so considerable, that great difficulties are experienced in procuring Funds to keep the said Meeting-House in repair, owing to the neglect of many of the owners of the said Pews to pay their proportion of the necessary and unavoidable expense of repairing and ornamenting the said Meeting-House, in consequence of which the said Meeting-House is in great danger of going to decay.

Assessment of  
Pews

*I. Be it therefore enacted by the President, Council and Assembly*, That, from time to time, and at any time after the publication of this Act, whenever it shall be necessary to procure or raise any sum of Money for the repairing or ornamenting the said Meeting-House, it shall and may be lawful for the Congregation attending at such Meeting-House, at any public meeting of such Congregation, whereof due notice shall be given to such Congregation in said Meeting-House, during the time that the said Meeting-House shall be open for Divine Service, on the Sunday previous to such Meeting, to nominate and appoint by vote of the majority of the Members of the said Congregation present at such Meeting, three or more fit and proper Persons, to assess and apportion the sum of Money necessary and required to be raised for the purposes aforesaid, on the said Pews respectively, according to the relative size and value of such Pews, at a just and equitable rate; of which assessment and apportionment due notice shall be publicly given, by reading the same in the said Meeting-House, on the Sunday after the same shall be made by the said Committee; and also by putting up a true and correct copy of such assessment and apportionment on the door of the said Meeting-House, for three successive weeks, after the same shall have been made by the said Committee.

Pews may be  
Let until as-  
essment is  
paid

*II. And be it further enacted*, That if after due notice of such assessment and apportionment shall have been so publicly given as aforesaid, some such person or persons so interested in any of the said Pews, shall not come forward to pay the sum which may have been by the said Committee assessed on such Pew, within three weeks after such notice so given as aforesaid, then and in such case it shall and may be lawful for the said Committee, after having given on the previous Sunday due and public notice of the time of letting the same, to proceed to let at Public Sale or Auction, for two years and no longer, any Pew or Pews, whereon the sum assessed shall remain unpaid for such period of time as may be sufficient to pay the rate or sum assessed on such Pew or Pews respectively.

Recovery of  
Pew Rents

*III. And be it further enacted*, That the person or persons who shall or may become the Lessee or Lessees of the said Pew or Pews respectively, at the said Sale, shall be put into possession thereof by the said Committee, and shall be taken and held to be the sole and exclusive owner or owners of the said Pew or Pews, for such period of time as the same may be Leased or Let to the said person or persons at such sale, and such Lessee or Lessees shall be liable to pay such Rent or Rents as he or they shall or may have agreed to pay for the same at such sale; and if the said Rent or Rents, or any part thereof, shall be behind or unpaid after the time or times which shall or may have been agreed on for payment thereof, it shall and may be lawful for the said Committee, so to be appointed as aforesaid, to sue for and recover such Rent or Rents, or such part thereof as may so remain behind and unpaid, in the same manner as Debts of the like amount may or can be ordinarily sued for or recovered.

Act to be  
continued

*IV. And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall continue and be in force for two years, and no longer.