

ACT OF ASSEMBLY.

An Act for the Incorporation of Certain Bodies in Connection with the Eastern and Western Baptist Association.

Passed 12th April, 1855.

WHEREAS certain persons are associated together in Churches constituting a religious community known as the Baptist Church, in connection with the Eastern and Western Baptist Associations: And whereas sundry chapels and other buildings have been erected, and land purchased or otherwise conveyed or held in trust for the use of such churches in the several Counties of this Province, or for educational or other benevolent objects in connection therewith, and inconveniences have been experienced in managing the same by Trustees, without being incorporated for that purpose:—

Be it therefore enacted by the Lieutenant Governor, Legislative Council, Assembly, as follows:—

1. Every Board of Trustees of any Chapel or Seminary for education, and land and buildings held therewith, or held for the purpose of erecting any Chapel or Seminary thereon for the use and benefit of any Baptist Church in connection with the Eastern and Western New Brunswick Baptist Association, or in connection with any Baptist Education, or other Society, to be hereafter chosen for any such purpose, and their successors, shall be a body corporate by the name of "The Trustees of the Baptist Chapel," or other property as the case may be, in the place in which the trust property may be situate and by that name shall have perpetual succession, power to sue and be sued, a common seal renewable at pleasure, power to hold and receive real and personal estate, and improve, sell, let, or assign the same or any part thereof, or any interest in or arising out of the same, and make bye-laws, and exercise such other powers as are conferred by law for the purpose of managing the temporal affairs of the said Chapel, or other property for the benefit of the Church to which the same may belong, or the educational or other objects to which it may be devoted.

2. All Chapels or other property as aforesaid, held in trust as aforesaid in any part of the Province, shall be subject to the provisions of this Act whenever a Board of Trustees to manage the same shall be elected as hereinafter mentioned, and a conveyance thereof shall be made to the Corporation by the existing Trustees; and the said Corporation shall then hold the same for the purposes aforesaid with as good a title, legal and equitable, as such Trustees had at the time of the conveyance.

3. Every such Church, together with the congregation regularly attending and contributing to its funds by pew rents or otherwise, may annually at such time and in such manner as each Church shall prescribe by the male members present at any meeting for the purpose elect any number of Trustees, not less than three nor more than nine, from among the male members of the said Church or congregation or both, who shall continue in office for one year, or until others are elected in their stead.

4. Every meeting of the Church, or Church and congregation, for any of the purposes aforesaid, shall act on notice to be given by the Pastor or Minister presiding over the same, or if there be none, by any Deacon thereof, of any usual meeting of the Church for worship or business.

5. Such Trustees may, on due notice, meet together and manage the temporal affairs of the Chapel for which they are elected, and the property in connection therewith, for the benefit of the Church, to which it shall belong.

6. Every Educational or other Society as aforesaid, may, at its Annual Meeting to be held at either of the said Associations, or elsewhere, on notice by post or otherwise, elect from among its members such number of Trustees as may be deemed necessary for the management of the affairs of any Seminary in connection therewith, who, together with all the ministers of the denomination accredited at such Association as additional or *ex-officio* Trustees, may transact its business on due notice to be given as aforesaid, or by a Committee to be appointed for that purpose at the same time by the said Trustees.

7. Whenever by this Act any Board of Trustees or number of persons may require to do any act, a majority of those present at the meeting shall be sufficient for the purpose.

8. The annual revenue derived from the rent of lands belonging to any such Chapel, Seminary, or Society as aforesaid shall not exceed five hundred pounds.