

CHARTER  
of the  
INDEPENDENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
of Savannah, Ga.,  
with  
Amendments and Acts Relating Thereto  
AN ACT

To increase the funds of the Independent Presbyterian Church, in the City of Savannah. (*See Laws of Georgia, 1801 to 1810, Clayton's Compilation, page 248. See Act of 1806, No. 249, Sec 6, repealing this Act.*)

Whereas, the Independent Presbyterian Congregation of the City of Savannah did, under the provincial government, obtain in the said city a lot, known in the plan of said city by letter K, to build thereon a church to be denominated the Independent Presbyterian Church, which was accordingly built and remained dedicated to the service of the Almighty God, until the same was destroyed by fire.

And whereas, there is not at present any successors of the original Trustees of said congregation alive, authorized to take upon themselves the charge and care of said church lot, and execute religious objects and desires of said congregation, excepting Barrach Gibbons, Esq., who has the uncontrolled government, management and disposition thereof.

Be it therefore enacted, That Joseph Bryan and Josiah Gibbons Telfair, be, and they are hereby appointed as Trustees in aid and addition to the said Barrach Gibbons to continue in office, to increase the funds, and to rebuild the Church on lot K, to be denominated and known by "the Independent Presbyterian Church, in the City of Savannah."

ABRAHAM JACKSON

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

JARED IRWIN,

*President of the Senate.*

Assented to December 3, 1805.

JOHN MILLEDGE, Governor.

AN ACT

To incorporate the Presbyterian Church of the City of Savannah. (*See Laws of Georgia, 1801 to 1810, Clayton's Compilation, pages 325 327.*)

Whereas, a number of the inhabitants of the City of Savannah and County of Chatham have, by their memorial, represented to the Legislature, that on the 16th day of January, 1756, a certain lot of land, situate and being in the City of Savannah, and known by the letter K, was granted to James Powell, Robert Bolton, James Miller, Joseph Gibbons, William Gibbons, Benjamin Farley, William Wright, David Fox and John Fox, their heirs and assigns forever in trust nevertheless, and

(CHARTER)  
 ACT INCORPORATING THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
 OF THE CITY OF SAVANNAH  
 AMENDED

No. 162 (House Bill No. 300).

An Act to amend that certain act assented to December 8, 1806, entitled, "An Act to Incorporate The Presbyterian Church Of The City of Savannah," compiled and published in Ga. L. 1806, p. 38, by amending sections 2 and 5 thereof; to amend that certain act approved August 15, 1917, entitled, "An Act To Validate and Confirm the amendment to the charter of The Trustees of The Presbyterian Church of the City of Savannah, commonly known as The Independent Presbyterian Church, granted by The Superior Court of Chatham County, Georgia, on the 26th day of May, 1917," compiled and published in Ga. L. 1917, p. 979; to repeal the laws and parts of laws in conflict herewith, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Georgia, and it is hereby enacted by authority of the same:

Section 1. Section 2 of that certain act assented to December 8, 1806, entitled "An Act To Incorporate The Presbyterian Church Of The City of Savannah," compiled and published in Ga. L. 1806, p. 38, which section 2 reads as follows:

"Section 2. And be it further enacted, That said Trustees and their successors in office, shall be invested with all manner of property, real and personal, all monies due and to grow due, donations, gifts, grants, privileges and immunities whatsoever, which shall or may belong to the said Presbyterian Church, at the time of the passing of this act, or which shall, or may at any time, or times hereafter, be granted, given, conveyed or transferred to them, or their successors in office, to have and to hold the same to the said Trustees and their successors in office, to the only proper use, benefit and behoof of the said Church forever. And the said Trustees, their successors in office, may have and use a common seal, and shall be, and they are hereby declared to be capable, by the name and style aforesaid, of suing and being sued, impleading and being impleaded in any court or courts of law or equity, and of using and taking all lawful and necessary ways and means for recovering or defending any property whatsoever, which the said Church may have, hold, claim or demand, or the rents, issues and profits thereof, or any part thereof," is hereby amended as follows:

A. By striking therefrom the words, "And be it further enacted, That," and

B. By placing a comma at the end of the first sentence of said section and by adding to said sentence the following:

"except that all gifts for benevolences and current expenses, other than

Charter (Amended) - Cont'd

endowments, trusts and estates created for such purposes and committed or entrusted to the Trustees, and all subscriptions paid on pledges and all offerings taken during any church service shall be under the exclusive control of the session of said Presbyterian Church."

so that said section of said act as amended shall read as follows:

"Section 2. The said Trustees and their successors in office, shall be vested with all manner of property, real and personal, all monies due, and to grow due, donations, gifts, grants, privileges and immunities whatsoever, which shall or may belong to the said Presbyterian Church, at the time of the passing of this act, or which shall, or may at any time, or times hereafter, be granted, given, conveyed or transferred to them, or their successors in office, to have and to hold the same to the said Trustees and their successors in office, to the only proper use, benefit and behoof of the said Church forever, except that all gifts for benevolences and current expenses, other than endowments, trusts and estates created for such purposes and committed or entrusted to the Trustees, and all subscriptions paid on pledges and all offerings taken during any Church service shall be under the exclusive control of the session of said Presbyterian Church. And the said Trustees, and their successors in office, may have and use a common seal, and shall be, and they are hereby declared to be capable, by the name and style aforesaid, of suing and being sued, impleading and being impleaded in any court or courts of law or equity, and of using and taking all lawful and necessary ways and means for recovering or defending any property whatsoever, which the said Church may have, hold, claim or demand, or the rents, issues and profits thereof, or any part thereof."

Section 2. Section 5 of said act of 1806, which section reads as follows:

"Section 5. And be it further enacted, That it shall not be lawful for the said Trustees or their successors in office, at any time or times hereafter, to grant, bargain, sell, alien or convey any real estate whatsoever, belonging to the said Church, to any person or persons under any pretense or upon any consideration whatsoever, so as to dispose of the fee simple thereof." is hereby amended as follows:

A. By striking therefrom the words, "And be it further enacted, "That, " and

B. By deleting the period at the end of said section and by adding the following:

"without first obtaining authority from the congregation, nor shall they have the power to incur any debt in the name of the church unless specifically authorized by the congregation to do so."

So that said section of said act as amended shall read as follows:



Charter (Amended) - Cont'd

"Section 5. It shall not be lawful for the said Trustees or their successors in office, at any time or times hereafter, to grant, bargain, sell, alien or convey any real estate whatsoever, belonging to the said Church, to any person or persons, under any pretense or upon any consideration whatsoever, so as to dispose of the fee simple thereof without first obtaining authority from the congregation, nor shall they have the power to incur any debt in the name of the Church unless specifically authorized by the congregation to do so."

Section 3. Section 1 of that certain act approved August 15, 1917, entitled, "An Act to validate and confirm the amendment to the charter of the Trustees of the Presbyterian Church of the City of Savannah, commonly known as the Independent Presbyterian Church, granted by the Superior Court of Chatham County, Georgia, on the 26th day of May, 1917," compiled and published in Ga. L. 1917, p. 979, which section 1 reads as follows:

"Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Georgia that the amendment to the charter of The Trustees of the Presbyterian Church of the City of Savannah, commonly known as the Independent Presbyterian Church, granted by the Superior Court of Chatham County, Georgia, on the 26th day of May, 1917, be and the same is hereby validated and confirmed, and that as provided therein, the Trustees of the said Church now in the office shall continue until the 1st day of February, 1918, and that prior to the annual meeting in 1918 the said Trustees as now constituted shall elect three Trustees, and that the members of the church at the annual meeting to be held on the third Sunday in January, 1918, shall elect two trustees to serve until February 1, 1919, and their successors shall be elected annually thereafter in the manner herein stated, that is to say, three by the Trustees in office and two by the members of the said Church."

is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following new sentence:

"Only members of said church who have been active members for at least five years shall be eligible to serve as Trustees."

so that said section of said act as amended shall read as follows:


"Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Georgia that the amendment to the charter of The Trustees of the Presbyterian Church of the City of Savannah, commonly known as the Independent Presbyterian Church, granted by the Superior Court of Chatham County, Georgia, on the 26th day of May, 1917, be and the same is hereby validated and confirmed, and that as provided therein, the Trustees of the said Church now in the office shall continue until the 1st day of February, 1918, and that prior to the annual meeting in 1918 the said Trustees as now constituted shall elect three Trustees, and that the members of the church at the annual meeting to be held on the third Sunday in January, 1918, shall elect two trustees to serve until February 1, 1919, and their successors shall be elected annually thereafter in the manner herein stated, that is to say, three by the Trustees in office and two

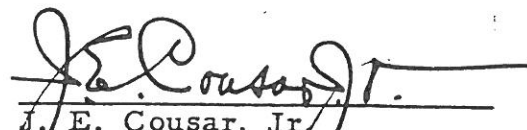
Charter (Amended) - Cont'd

by the members of the said Church. Only members of said church who have been active members for at least five years shall be eligible to serve as Trustees."

## CERTIFICATION

I certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution favorably voted on and adopted by a two-thirds majority of the members of this body present and voting in meeting assembled on January 25, 1959.

  
Charles A. Inglesby  
Clerk of the Congregation

  
J. E. Cousar, Jr.  
Moderator of the Congregation