

Dec Ses 1817.

CHAPTER 102.

Passed Feb 4
PreambleTrustees ap-
pointed—oath
—powers**An act for the relief of the Poor of Caroline County.**

WHEREAS, it is represented to this general assembly, by the petition of sundry inhabitants of Caroline county, that the existing law for the support of the poor of said county does not answer the purpose for which it was intended; Therefore,

Sec. 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That for the time being the several persons hereafter named be and they are hereby appointed trustees for the poor within the said county, and are empowered with full and sufficient authority to discharge the several offices, duties and trusts, reposed in and required of them, by virtue of this act, that is to say; Col. William Potter, Edmond Pendleton, James Houston, Richard Hughlett, Peter Willis, Jeremiah Rhodes and John Jump, senior; which persons, or a majority of them, in case of the death or absence of any, are hereby required to meet at the poor-house of said county, on the first Monday of April next, and then and there qualify for the office of trustees for the poor of said county, which they are to do by taking the following oath, or affirmation, (as the case may be,) "I, A. B. do swear or affirm, that I will duly and faithfully discharge the duties and trusts committed to me as a trustee for the poor of Caroline county, by an act of assembly, entitled, 'An act for the relief of the poor of Caroline county,' according to the best of my skill and knowledge, so help me God;" which oaths or affirmations are to be administered by any of the persons last named, to the person first named that shall be there present; which person being sworn as aforesaid shall administer the oaths or affirmations aforementioned to all the rest, and so successively the person first named that shall be present shall always administer the oaths or affirmations to any that may have been absent, or that shall hereafter be elected and chosen, pursuant to the directions of this act, to supply the place of any that shall be dead or removed out of the county, or any who shall refuse or neglect to qualify and act as a trustee, when elected and chosen pursuant to the directions of this act; and the aforesaid persons, or the majority of them, being sworn or affirmed as aforesaid, shall be constituted and qualified as trustees for the poor of said county, and as such are hereby vested with full power and authority as a body politic, and shall be capable in law to plead and be impleaded, sue and be sued, defend and be defended, and answer and be answered, by the name of The Trustees of the Poor of Caroline County, in all and every cause, complaint and action, real, personal or mixed, of whatever kind or nature it shall or may be, in any court of record within this state; and by that name they and any of them, and their successors, shall and are hereby enabled to take, hold, possess and enjoy, any gift, donation or present, which shall or may hereafter be given, devised or bequeathed, by any person or persons whatsoever, to them or any of them, for or towards the support and maintenance of the poor of the said county; and they, or any of them, may receive by way of subscription any sum or sums of money which shall or may be given for the better and more speedy promoting the benefit and good by this act intended, and that they have full power and authority to purchase, take, hold, receive, enjoy and have, to them and their successors, forever, any lands, tenements and hereditaments, not exceeding the