

No. 243. S.]

[Published April 18, 1898.]

## CHAPTER 174.

AN ACT to amend chapter 284, of the laws of 1880, entitled "An act to provide for the incorporation of religious societies in connection with Congregational churches."

*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

Amends sec. 1,  
ch. 284, laws of  
1880.

Adult mem-  
bers of Congre-  
gational  
church may  
organize cor-  
poration for  
religious, etc.  
purposes.

Amends sec. 3  
of same.

Form of cer-  
tificate.

SECTION 1. That chapter 284, of the laws of 1880, entitled "An act to provide for the incorporation of religious societies in connection with Congregational churches," be and the same is hereby amended so that section 1, of said chapter, shall read as follows: Section 1. The adult members, not less than three in number, of any Congregational church known as such in both government and name, which shall have been organized in this state, and which at the time maintains regular public worship, may, after due public notice given at some stated meeting of such church, organize a corporation for religious, charitable or educational purposes, in the manner hereinafter provided.

SECTION 2. That section 2 shall be amended to read as follows: Section 2. Such members shall sign and acknowledge, before some officer authorized by law to take the acknowledgment of deeds in the county where such church is organized, a certificate substantially in the following form: "Know all men by these presents, that the undersigned (insert the names of the signers), and those who are or who may become associated with them for the purposes herein specified, have organized themselves into a church, located in (name of town, city or village), in the county of—, and state of Wisconsin, for religious, charitable and educational purposes, which shall be known and incorporated by the name (here insert the name). And they shall record the same in the office of the register of deeds of such county; and when such certificate shall have been so recorded, the church named therein shall be a corporation, and shall possess the powers and privileges granted to corpora-

tions by chapter 85, of the Revised Statutes, so far as the same are applicable or necessary to accomplish its purposes, and also such as are conferred by this chapter.

SECTION 3. That section 3 shall be amended to read as follows: Section 3. Such corporation may, by its constitution and by-laws, fix the terms and qualifications of membership and office therein, may provide rules for the government of the church and its officers, and fix the number of its trustees, not less than three nor more than nine, their term of office, and the manner of appointing or electing the same.

Amends sec. 3  
of same  
Constitution  
and by-laws.

SECTION 4. That section 5 shall be amended to read as follows: Section 5. The secular business and temporal affairs of such corporation shall be administered by the board of trustees. It shall have the custody and management of the corporate property, and shall be governed in its official acts by the rules of the corporation applicable thereto, and not inconsistent with the laws of this state.

Amends sec. 5  
of same.  
Affairs of corporation,  
how administered.

SECTION 5. That section 8 shall be amended to read as follows: Section 8. All lands, tenements and hereditaments that have been or may hereafter be lawfully conveyed by demise, gift, grant, purchase, or otherwise to any persons or trustees in trust for the use of any religious society organized, or which may hereafter be organized, within this state, either for a meeting house, burying ground, or parsonage, shall, with the improvements, vest in such church when incorporated under the provisions of this chapter, as fully as if originally conveyed to it; and in case the society has not been re-incorporated as herein provided, shall vest in the trustees of such society, and be held by them and their successors in trust for such society.

Amends sec. 8  
of same.  
Real estate conveyed in  
trust to vest in  
corporation.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved April 13, 1893.