

coins shall be fixed by the director of the mint, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury; and the laws now in force relating to the coinage of cents and providing for the purchase of material and prescribing the appropriate duties of the officers of the mint and the Secretary of the Treasury be, and the same are hereby, extended to the coinage herein provided for.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That all laws now in force relating to the coins of the United States and the striking and coining the same shall, so far as applicable, be extended to the coinage herein authorized, whether said laws are penal or otherwise, for the security of the coin, regulating and guarding the process of striking and coining, for preventing debasement or counterfeiting, or for any other purpose. Present laws extended thereto.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That the director of the mint shall prescribe suitable regulations to insure a due conformity to the required weights and proportions of alloy in the said coins; and shall order trials thereof to be made from time to time by the assayer of the mint, whereof a report shall be made in writing to the director. Director of mint to secure conformity of alloy in such coins.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That the said coins shall be a legal tender in any payment, the one-cent coin to the amount of ten cents, and the two-cent coin to the amount of twenty cents; and it shall be lawful to pay out said coins in exchange for the lawful currency of the United States, (except cents or half cents issued under former acts of congress,) in suitable sums, by the treasurer of the mint, and by such other depositaries as the Secretary of the Treasury may designate, under general regulations proposed by the director of the mint and approved by the Secretary of the Treasury; and the expenses incident to such exchange, distribution, and transmission may be paid out of the profits of said coinage; and the net profits of said coinage, ascertained in like manner as is prescribed in the second section of the act to which this is a supplement, shall be transferred to the treasury of the United States. Such coins to be legal tender and for what sums.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That if any person or persons shall make, issue, or pass, or cause to be made, issued, or passed, any coin, card, token, or device whatsoever, in metal or its compounds, intended to pass or be passed as money for a one-cent piece or a two-cent piece, such person or persons shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall, on conviction thereof, be punished by a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars, and by imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years. Penalty for making coins intended to be passed as cents, &c.

APPROVED, April 22, 1864.

CHAP. LXVII. — *An Act for a Charter of Masonic Hall Association, in Washington City, District of Columbia.* April 26, 1864.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That B. B. French, of the Grand Encampment of the United States of America; Robert McMurdy, of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States; George C. Whiting, of the Grand Consistory; E. L. Stevens, of Osiris Lodge of Perfection, No. 1; Z. D. Gilman, of Washington Commandery, No. 1; W. P. Partello, of Columbia Commandery; W. M. Smith, of Columbia Royal Arch Chapter, No. 15; W. G. Parkhurst, of Washington Royal Arch Chapter, No. 16; James Steele, of Mount Vernon Royal Arch Chapter, No. 20; C. F. Stansbury, of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia; Joseph Nairn, of Federal Lodge, No. 1; N. Acker, of Lebanon Lodge, No. 7; E. Kloman, of New Jerusalem Lodge, No. 9; J. M. Turton, of Hiram Lodge, No. 10; T. J. Fisher, of Saint John's Lodge, No. 11; L. Gassenheimer, of National Lodge, No. 12; J. Van Riswick, of Washington Centennial Lodge, No. 14; J. C. McGuire, of B. B. French Lodge, No. 15; F. L. Harvey, of Dawson Lodge, No. 16; J. W. D. Gray, of Harmony Lodge, No. 17; J. M. Hanson, of Acacia Masonic Hall Association incorporated.

- Lodge, No. 18; N. D. Larner, of Lafayette Lodge, No. 19, of the order of free and accepted masons, of the District of Columbia, and their successors to be appointed in the manner hereinafter declared, representing the several masonic bodies before named, be, and they are hereby, incorporated and made a body politic and corporate, by the name of the Masonic Hall Association of the District of Columbia, and by that name may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, in any court of law or equity, of competent jurisdiction, and may have and use a common seal, and the same change at pleasure, and be entitled to use and exercise all the powers, rights, and privileges incident to such corporation.
- Powers of corporation.** SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the said corporation shall be capable of taking and holding real and personal estate, which estate, personal and real, shall never be divided among the members of the said corporation, but shall descend to their successors, duly elected and appointed in the manner hereinafter declared by the bodies they represent, for the promotion of the principles of the said corporation, and the benevolent purposes of the order of free and accepted masons, which they represent: *Provided,* That said corporation shall take and hold no more land than is necessary for a site on which to erect a masonic hall, suitable and convenient for the transaction of the business of the association and the promotion of the principles and purposes aforesaid. But this provision shall not prevent the said corporation from constructing suitable rooms and offices in connection with the said hall, to rent, and renting the same, and receiving rent therefor, to be applied to the promotion of the principles and purposes aforesaid.
- Limit to amount of land.** SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That the capital stock of said corporation shall not exceed the sum of three hundred thousand dollars, and that the stock shall be divided into shares of twenty dollars each; and shall be deemed personal property, transferable in such manner as the constitution and by-laws of said corporation may direct.
- Rooms, &c., may be rented.** SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That within twenty days after the passage of this act the corporators named in the first section, or a majority of them, or if any refuse or neglect to act, then a majority of the remainder, shall cause books of subscription to the capital stock of the said corporation to be opened and kept open in such place and for a period to be fixed by said corporators, or a majority of them, public notice of which may be given by advertisement or otherwise as said corporators or a majority of them may determine; and subscribers upon said books to the capital stock of the corporation shall be held to be stockholders: *Provided,* That every subscriber shall pay, at the time of subscribing, such per centum of the amount by him subscribed to the treasurer elected or appointed by the corporators, or a majority of them, as may be required by said corporators or a majority of them, or his subscription shall be null and void. And when the books of subscription to the capital stock of said corporation shall be closed, the corporators named in the first section, or a majority of them, and in case any of them refuse or neglect to act, then a majority of the remainder, shall, within twenty days thereafter, call the first meeting of the stockholders of said corporation, to meet within ten days thereafter, for the choice of directors, of which public notice shall be given for three days in two public newspapers published daily in Washington city, or by written personal notice served on each stockholder, by the secretary or clerk of the corporation. And in all meetings of the stockholders each share shall entitle the holder to one vote, to be given in person or by proxy.
- Capital stock; number of shares, &c.** SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That the government and direction of the affairs of the corporators shall be invested in a board of directors, five in number, elected by the stockholders on the first Monday of December in each year from among the corporators named in the first section of this act, and their successors, elected or appointed in the manner herein
- Books of subscription to capital stock to be opened.**
- Who to be stockholders.**
- First meeting, how called.**
- Votes.**
- Directors.**

after declared by the masonic bodies they represent, who shall hold their office for one year and until others are duly elected and qualified to take their places as directors; and the said directors shall elect one of their number to be president of the board, who shall also be president of the corporation, and shall elect a secretary from among their own number, or from the corporators aforesaid, who shall also be secretary of the corporation, and they shall also choose a treasurer, who shall give bonds with surety to said corporation, in such sum as the said directors may require, for the faithful discharge of his trust. A majority of the directors shall form a quorum for the transaction of business, and in case of a vacancy in the board of directors by the death, resignation, or otherwise, of any director, the vacancy occasioned thereby shall be filled by the remaining directors from among the corporators named in the first section of this act, or their successors duly elected or appointed in the manner hereinafter declared by the masonic bodies they represent.

President, secretary, and treasurer.

Quorum.

Vacancies.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted,* That the directors shall have full power to make and prescribe such by-laws, rules, and regulations as they shall deem needful and proper for the disposition and management of the stock, property, estate, and effects of the corporation, not contrary to the charter or to the laws of the United States and the ordinances of Washington city, and shall have power to alter or amend the same as the interests of the corporation, in their opinion, may require. And the said directors shall have power to regulate the payment of interest upon the certificates of stock held by the stockholders, or to the dividends that may accrue, and shall have power to provide for the redemption of the stock held by individuals, upon fair and equitable terms.

By-laws.

Interest, dividends, &c.

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted,* That each masonic body or organization, named in the first section of this act, shall be entitled, during the month of November, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, and annually thereafter, to meet and select, by ballot, one of its members as a successor to the person then, or last, representing it as member of this corporation, whose annual term expires next thereafter, or which may have expired next before that time, so that said corporation shall forever consist of one corporator from each of the said masonic bodies, named in the first section of this act: *Provided, however,* That should any of the said several masonic bodies, named in the first section of this act, surrender or forfeit its masonic charter or warrant, or from any cause cease to be recognized by the order of free and accepted masons, it shall not thereafter be entitled to any representation in said corporation, nor shall the continued corporate existence and rights of this association be in anywise affected thereby, so long as there remain five corporators qualified to act as such.

Corporation to consist of one corporator from certain masonic bodies.

Proviso.

SEC. 8. *And be it further enacted,* That any masonic lodge, chapter, council, commandery, or consistory now in existence or that may hereafter be instituted in the District of Columbia, may, by and with the consent of two thirds of the corporators named in the first section, or their successors, be admitted to a representation in said corporation upon an equal footing with the several masonic bodies named in the first section of this act.

New masonic bodies, how admitted.

SEC. 9. *And be it further enacted,* That this act may be altered, amended, or repealed, at the pleasure of the congress of the United States of America.

Act may be amended, repealed, &c.

APPROVED, April 26, 1864.

CHAP. LXVIII.—*An Act to authorize the Issuing of a Register to the Steam Vessel "John Martin."*

April 26, 1864.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treas-