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same, and over the approaches thereto, upon the payment of a reasonable compensation for such use; and in case the owner or owners of said bridge and the several railroad companies, or any one of them, desiring such use shall fail to agree upon the sum or sums to be paid and upon rules and conditions to which each shall conform in using said bridge all matters at issue between them shall be decided by the Secretary of War upon a hearing of the allegations and proofs of the parties; and equal privileges in the use of the bridge shall be granted to all telegraph and telephone companies.

Disagreements with owner of bridge.

Telegraph and telephone companies.

SEC. 9. That the bridge constructed, maintained, and operated under this Act and according to its limitations shall be a lawful structure, and shall be recognized and known as a post route, upon which also no higher charge shall be made for the transportation over the same of the mails, the troops, and the munitions of war of the United States than the rate per mile paid for the transportation of said mails, troops, and munitions of war over the railroads and public highways leading to said bridge; and the United States shall have the right of way for postal, telegraph, and telephone purposes over said bridge.

Lawful structure and post route.

SEC. 10. That this Act shall be null and void if actual construction of the bridge herein authorized be not commenced within one year and completed within three years from the date of approval thereof.

Commencement and completion.

SEC. 11. That the right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is hereby expressly reserved.

Amendment.

Approved, April 11, 1898.

CHAP. 166.—An Act To incorporate The Masonic Temple Association of the District of Columbia.

April 15, 1898.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That James A. Sample, of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia; R. B. Donaldson, of Federal Lodge, numbered one; Thomas F. Gibbs, of Columbia Lodge, numbered three; Isaac Birch, of Potomac Lodge, numbered five; Henry Orth, of Lebanon Lodge, numbered seven; E. H. Chamberlin, of New Jerusalem Lodge, numbered nine; Martin R. Thorp, of Hiram Lodge, numbered ten; Jesse W. Lee, junior, of Saint John's Lodge, numbered eleven; Richard C. Lewis, of National Lodge, numbered twelve; William H. Baum, of Washington Centennial Lodge, numbered fourteen; Wallace H. Hills, of Benjamin B. French Lodge, numbered fifteen; Samuel R. Bond, of Dawson Lodge, numbered sixteen; A. W. Johnston, of Harmony Lodge, numbered seventeen; Robert Cook, of Lafayette Lodge, numbered nineteen; George W. Baird, of Hope Lodge, numbered twenty; B. W. Murch, of George C. Whiting Lodge, numbered twenty-two; Joseph C. Johnson, of Pentalpha Lodge, numbered twenty-three; George W. Balloch, of Stansbury Lodge, numbered twenty-four; Matthew Trimble, of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia; Allison Nailor, junior, of Columbia Chapter, numbered one; John R. Garrison, of Washington Chapter, numbered two; John H. Olcott, of Mount Vernon Chapter, numbered three; S. H. Walker, of Eureka Chapter, numbered four; George W. Evans, of Lafayette Chapter, numbered five; W. F. R. Phillips, of Mount Horeb Chapter, numbered seven; S. C. Palmer, of Potomac Chapter, numbered eight; Abram Frey, of Brightwood Chapter, numbered nine; John C. Chaney, of Hiram Chapter, numbered ten; E. G. Davis, of the Grand Commandery of the District of Columbia; Howard Perry, of Washington Commandery, numbered one; J. H. Small, junior, of Columbia Commandery, numbered two; Samuel M. Yeatman, of Potomac Commandery, numbered three; Thomas Somerville, of De Molay Mounted Commandery, numbered four; H. K. Simpson, of Mithras Lodge of Perfection; J. A. Lacey, of Orient Lodge of Perfection; William Oscar Roome, of Evangelist Chapter Rose Croix; Charles T. Caldwell, of Robert De Bruce Council of

District of Columbia.

Incorporation of Masonic Temple Association

Kadosh, and Mark D. Brainard, senior, of Albert Pike Consistory, of the order of Free and Accepted Masons of the District of Columbia, representing the several bodies above named, and their associates and successors to be appointed as hereinafter declared, be, and they are hereby, constituted a body politic and corporate within the District of Columbia, under the name of The Masonic Temple Association of the District of Columbia, and by the same name shall have perpetual succession, and shall be able to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, in any court of law or equity of competent jurisdiction, and to make and have a common seal, and the same to alter and renew at pleasure; to enact such by-laws and regulations, and generally to do such acts as are or may be necessary to carry into effect this Act and promote the objects and designs of this corporation.

Powers.

Purposes of corporation.

SEC. 2. That the purposes and designs of this corporation shall be the purchase of a site in the city of Washington, in said District, and the erection and maintenance thereon of a Masonic temple, whereby the mutual improvement of its members and the tenets and the educational, benevolent, and charitable work and purposes of the order of Free and Accepted Masons and of bodies related thereto may be promoted and advanced; and for said purposes the said corporation shall have power to take and hold, encumber and convey, such real not exceeding one quarter of a block and personal estate as may be necessary therefor, to erect such buildings thereon, and to rent the same or any parts thereof as a source of revenue for the purposes aforesaid.

Power to acquire, etc., real and personal estate, etc.

Board of managers.

SEC. 3. That the affairs of said corporation shall be conducted by a board of managers, to be elected annually in December by the respective bodies owning capital stock of this corporation to the amount of not less than five hundred dollars each, and to continue in office until their successors shall be elected, not less than a majority of whom shall be a quorum to do business. The board may fill vacancies happening in their number from the members of the body losing representation until such time as an election may be had at the next meeting of that body to fill such vacancy; they shall elect one of their number as president, and a secretary and a treasurer, which latter officer shall give bond in such amount as may be fixed by the board of managers, and such other officers as may be necessary for conducting the affairs of said corporation. The managers shall have the right to elect to membership other bodies owning capital stock of this corporation at their discretion.

—powers.

—designation of members.

—organization

SEC. 4. That the persons named in section one of this Act be, and they are hereby, constituted a board of managers, to serve as such until their successors shall be elected, as herein provided. A meeting of said managers shall be held within sixty days after the approval of this Act, at which time they may proceed to organize, adopt by-laws, provide all necessary books, and exercise general superintendence of the affairs of the corporation.

Encumbrance of real estate.

SEC. 5. That whenever it shall be deemed necessary for the purposes of this corporation, the managers shall have the power, by a vote representing a majority of the capital stock, to issue bonds, secured upon the real estate held by this corporation; and no encumbrance or conveyance of the real estate of the corporation shall be made except by a vote representing such majority of the capital stock.

Meetings.

SEC. 6. That the first annual meeting of this corporation shall be held in the month of January, eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, and thereafter at such time and place as shall be determined by the managers.

Capital stock, limit.

SEC. 7. That the capital stock of this corporation shall not be less than one hundred and fifty thousand dollars nor more than three hundred thousand dollars, divided into shares of ten dollars each.

Amendment.

SEC. 8. That Congress reserves to itself the right to change, alter, repeal, or amend this Act, or any part thereof, at its pleasure.

Approved, April 15, 1898.