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whatsoever of the Government in the premises: *Provided*, That should the district attorney neglect or refuse to file the plea, answer, demurrer, or defense, as required, the plaintiff may proceed with the case under such rules as the court may adopt in the premises; but the plaintiff shall not have judgment or decree for his claim, or any part thereof, unless he shall establish the same by proof satisfactory to the court."

Proviso.
—failure of, to plead.

Plaintiff to establish claim.

Approved, February 6, 1901.

CHAP. 218.—An Act To reincorporate and preserve all the corporate franchises and property rights of the de facto corporation known as the German Orphan Asylum Association of the District of Columbia.

February 6, 1901.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Jacob Jose, Louis Kettler, William Kettler, John Walter, Frederick Imhoff, Charles G. Rogier, Charles Graff, Jacob J. Appieh, George J. Seufferle, George Breitbarth, Christian Heurich, Werner Koch, John A. Griesbauer, William H. Veerhoff, Clement A. Didden, George Bessler, John F. Schneider, and Otto Wehner, the present board of directors of the said de facto corporation, and their present associate members and successors, be, and they are hereby, created a body politic and corporate by the name of German Orphan Asylum Association of the District of Columbia, with all the powers, franchises, and privileges, and for the purposes set forth in the original Act of incorporation, executed September twentieth, eighten hundred and seventy-nine, and recorded October eleventh, eighteeen hundred and seventy-nine, in liber numbered three, folio sixty-two et sequentes, Acts of incorporation, in the office of the recorder of deeds for the District of Columbia: *Provided, however*, That the term of said corporation shall be, and hereby is, made perpetual.

District of Columbia. German Orphan Asylum Association reincorporated.

Proviso.
Term of incorporation perpetual.

SEC. 2. That all lawful acts done and all lawful engagements entered into by the said German Orphan Asylum Association of the District of Columbia, while acting as a corporation de facto, are hereby declared to be valid, and that all property rights acquired by the said German Orphan Asylum Association of the District of Columbia and belonging to it while a corporation de jure, and all property right acquired by it while acting as a corporation de facto, are hereby confirmed unto the German Orphan Asylum Association of the District of Columbia by this Act incorporated, which shall hereupon succeed to all the rights and liabilities of the said German Orphan Asylum Association of the District of Columbia the body corporate de jure and de facto, saving, however, to all persons and corporations all rights and rights of action against the said original corporation and the said corporation de facto.

Acts of de facto corporation validated, etc.

SEC. 3. That the said German Orphan Asylum Association of the District of Columbia by this Act incorporated is hereby authorized, if such be deemed necessary, to institute in the supreme court of the District of Columbia, proceedings in equity, by bill against all persons and corporations who may set up any claim to any of the property rights of the said original corporation or de facto corporation by this Act vested in the corporation created hereby for the purpose of determining finally the rights of any such adverse claims and of having its right and title to all such property rights finally affirmed by the decree of said court: *Provided, however*, That nothing in this Act shall be held in any wise to disturb or affect any reserved lien which the United States may have under existing law upon any of the property of the said original corporation or the said de facto corporation.

Authority to sue, etc.

Proviso.
Lien of United States.

SEC. 4. Congress hereby reserves the right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act.

Amendment.

Approved, February 6, 1901.