

Charter of the City of York

PENNSYLVANIA, SS.

(Signed) ROBT. E. PATTISON.

{ SEAL OF THE STATE }
{ OF PENNSYLVANIA. }

IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE COMMONWEALTH
OF PENNSYLVANIA.

ROBERT E. PATTISON,
Governor of the said Commonwealth.

To all to whom these presents shall come,
Sends greeting:

Whereas—In and by an act of the general assembly of this commonwealth entitled “An act dividing the cities of this State into three classes regulating the passage of ordinances providing for contracts for supplies and work for said cities authorizing the increase of indebtedness and the creation of a sinking fund to redeem the same defining and punishing certain offences in all of said cities and providing for the incorporation and government of cities of the third class” approved the 23d day of May A. D. 1874 it is among other things provided by the fourteenth section thereof “that cities of the third class shall be chartered whenever a majority of the electors of any town or borough or of any two or more contiguous towns or boroughs having a population of at least ten thousand shall vote at any general election in favor of the same” and by the fifteenth section of said act it is further provided that if it shall appear by the said returns that there is a majority in favor of a city charter, the governor of this commonwealth shall issue letters patent under the great seal of the State reciting the facts, defining the boundaries of the said city and constituting the same a body corporate and politic.”

And whereas by the third section of a supplement of the said act approved the eleventh day of April A. D. 1876 the said fourteenth section is so amended as to make its provisions apply to cities of the third, fourth and fifth classes.

CODE OF ORDINANCES OF YORK

And whereas it appears by the return of an election held at the borough of York on Tuesday the second day of November A. D. 1886 that there was a majority in favor of a city charter.

And whereas it appears that the said borough of York has a population of "less than thirty thousand and exceeding twelve thousand."

And whereas the requirements of the fourteenth and fifteenth sections of said act of May 23d 1874 have been fully complied with.

Now know ye that I, Robert E. Pattison, governor as aforesaid in compliance with the provisions of the first above recited act of the general assembly do hereby define the boundaries of the City of York in the county of York in this commonwealth as follows: Beginning at a stone thence south $70\frac{1}{4}$ degrees east 48 perches to a walnut tree thence south $22\frac{1}{2}$ degrees east 29 and 4-10 perches to a stone thence south 34 degrees east 76 and 4-10 perches to a stone, thence north $62\frac{1}{2}$ degrees east 51 and 2-10 perches thence north $48\frac{1}{2}$ degrees east 18 perches thence north 54 degrees east 176 perches thence south 24 degrees east 99 and 8-10 perches thence north $7\frac{1}{2}$ degrees east 123 and 1-10 perches thence south 25 degrees east 27 and 6-10 perches thence south 65 degrees west 57 and 6-10 perches thence south 64 degrees east 56 perches thence south 68 degrees west 24 and 5-10 perches thence south 73 degrees west 38 and 6-10 perches thence south $1\frac{1}{2}$ degrees west 22 and 8-10 perches thence south $13\frac{1}{4}$ degrees east 73 and 4-10 perches thence south $13\frac{1}{4}$ degrees west 4 perches thence south 89 degrees east 22 and 6-10 perches thence south $1\frac{1}{2}$ degrees west 73 and 3-10 perches thence south $26\frac{3}{4}$ degrees east 116 and 7-10 perches thence south 67 degrees west 69 and 2-10 perches thence north 38 degrees west 8 and 6-10 perches thence north 29 degrees west $32\frac{1}{2}$ perches thence south 79 degrees west 95 and 4-10 perches thence south $8\frac{1}{2}$ degrees east 27 and 5-10 perches thence south 78 degrees west 63 perches thence south $71\frac{1}{4}$ degrees west 95 perches thence north $33\frac{1}{4}$ degrees west 145 perches to the Codorus creek thence south 72 degrees west 79 and 8-10 perches thence south 75 degrees west 90 and 4-10 perches thence south 48 degrees west 16 perches thence north 36 degrees west 78 and 2-10 perches thence north 18 degrees west 104 and 7-10 perches thence north 6 degrees east 39 and 5-10 perches to the Carlisle road thence north $39\frac{1}{2}$ degrees east 261 and 8-10 perches to a stone the place of beginning. And do also by these presents which I have caused to be made patent and sealed with the great seal of the State hereby constitute the same a body

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corporate and politic by the name of the City of York and by the said name to be invested with all the rights, powers and privileges with full force and effect and be subject to all the duties, requisitions and instructions specified and enjoined in and by the said act of the general assembly approved the 23d day of May A. D. 1874 with the several supplements thereto and of all other laws of this commonwealth pertaining to the same and to be a city of the fourth class.¹

Given under my hand and the great seal of the State at Harrisburg this eleventh day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-seven and of the commonwealth the one hundred and eleventh.

By the Governor

(Signed) W. S. STENGER

Secretary of the Commonwealth

In an opinion as to the voting on incorporation of the borough of York into a city, it was held that the requirement of state law that a majority of the electors of the borough vote in favor of incorporation in order to make it effective was fulfilled when a majority of those voting were in favor of the incorporation, even if not a majority of the total electors. York Borough Case, 3 C. C. 514 (1887).

1. This classification was according to Act April 11, 1876, P. L. 20, amending Act May 23, 1874, P. L. 230. Under Act May 24, 1887, P. L. 204, York became a city of the fifth class, and when the Acts of 1876 and 1887 were declared unconstitutional on Jan. 7, 1889 (see Ayar's Appeal, 122 Pa. 266, 16 A. 356), it became a city of the third class under the Act of 1874, supra. The legislature of 1889 brought order out of the existing chaos by the passage of Acts May 8, May 13, and May 23, 1889, P. L. 133, 196, 277, under the first named of which York remained a city of the third class, continuing in the same class under the present classification Act of June 25, 1895, P. L. 275.