

shall be a competent witness, and shall not be objected to on account of any interest he may have as such member in the result of any such action or proceeding.

38. Any association of persons which may have been organized or established at any time before the thirtieth day of April in the year eighteen hundred and fifty-two, on being made a body corporate under the provisions of section thirty of this article, shall become merged in such corporate body thereby created, and every act done and to be done by any such unincorporated association of persons relating to the ends and objects of such association, and all mortgages, bonds or other instruments made to such association of persons, or to any person or persons to and for the use of such association of persons, or any member thereof as such, shall remain and continue in full force and virtue at law and in equity, in like manner as if such unincorporated association of persons had originally been a body corporate.

39. Any trustee or trustees, person or persons to whom any such conveyance shall have been made to and for the use of such unincorporated association, may be required to assign and transfer the same to such corporation, and they shall be as good and sufficient as if made to such corporation; and all the liabilities and obligations of, by and between the members of such incorporated association of persons shall remain of as binding force or effect as if such association had been from the first incorporated.

#### FOR MANUFACTURING PURPOSES.

40. Any five or more free white persons, who may desire to form a company for the purpose of carrying on any manufacturing business, may make, sign, and acknowledge before some officer competent to take the acknowledgment of deeds, and record the same in the office of the clerk of the Circuit Court for the county, or clerk of the Superior Court of Baltimore city, (in whichever the business may be carried on,) a certificate in writing, in which shall be stated the corporate name of the company; the corporate name always to include the name of the county or city in which the business is carried on; the amount of the capital stock of said company; the term of its existence, not to exceed forty years; the number of shares of which the said stock shall consist; the number of trustees, directors, or managers, and their names, who shall manage the concerns of the company for the first year, and the name or names of the