

bequest or other mode of conveyance, or transfer of or from any person or persons, bodies politic or corporate, having legal capability to make such transfer or conveyance; and the same at their pleasure, to improve, lease, rent, incumber, dispose of or alien in such manner as they may judge most conducive to the benevolent purposes of said society; *provided*, their entire property or estate shall at no time exceed in value the sum of forty thousand dollars.

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted*, That the Home Missionary Society of the Maryland Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant church, shall meet annually at the place, and during the time of the meeting of the Maryland Annual Conference, and shall elect a President and not exceeding twelve Vice Presidents, and a board of eight Managers, a Treasurer and Secretary; said officers to hold their office for one year, and until their successors are elected, and to perform such duties as the constitution and by-laws of the society may prescribe, not inconsistent with the Constitution and Laws of the State.

SEC. 4. *And be it enacted*, That said society at its first annual meeting, shall adopt a constitution and by-laws, prescribing the duties of all its officers and directing how all moneys shall be invested, and prescribe the terms of membership, and may alter, amend, or change their constitution and by-laws at pleasure.

SEC. 5. *And be it enacted*, That any estate or interest whatever, in lands, chattels, annuities, rents, bank stock, registered debts, public or private securities, or other real or personal property, within or without the State, devised, bequeathed, given or otherwise conveyed, or transferred to said society, not otherwise expressly directed, shall be invested as part of the permanent fund of the society, the interest only of which, with the interest of all moneys invested, shall be placed in the hands of the conference or missionary steward to be paid to the ministers or preachers employed as Home Missionaries within the Maryland Conference District, or so much thereof as may be necessary, as the conference may direct.

SEC. 6. *And be it enacted*, That no money shall be drawn from said society, except by a vote of the Maryland Annual Conference, and then only for Home Missionary purposes.

SEC. 7. *And be it enacted*, That nothing in this act shall be so construed as to authorize said society to issue any note, token, scrip, device or other evidence of debt to be used as a currency.

SEC. 8. *And be it enacted*, That the General Assembly reserves the right to alter, amend or repeal this act at pleasure.

SEC. 9 *And be it enacted*, That this act shall take effect from the date of its passage.