

Dec.Ses.1823. *tenements, rents, annuities, pensions or other hereditaments, or any less estates, rights, interests of or in the same, at their pleasure, to grant, alien, sell, and transfer in such manner and form as they shall think meet and convenient for the furtherance of the objects of the said society; and also that they may take and receive any sum or sums and any kind of goods and chattles that shall be given or sold to them by any person or persons, bodies politic or corporate, capable to make a gift or sale thereof, and employ the same towards maintaining the said society in such manner as they shall judge necessary and convenient for the promotion of the purposes of the association.*

Legal capacity.

4. *And be it enacted*, That the aforesaid members and their successors shall be able in law to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded in any court or courts, before any judge, judges or justices, within this state or elsewhere, in all and all manner of suits, complaints, pleas, causes, matters and demands of whatsoever kind, nature or form they may be, to make, have and use one common seal and the same to alter at pleasure; all and every other matter and thing therein to do in as full and effectual a manner as any other person or persons, bodies politic or corporate, within the state in like cases may or can do.

Property limited.

5. *And be it enacted*, That the yearly value of the messuages, houses, lands, tenements, rents, annuities, or other hereditaments, and real estate of said society and corporation, shall not exceed thirty thousand dollars, current money, and all gifts to the said society and corporation after the yearly value of their estates shall amount to thirty thousand dollars as aforesaid, and all bargains and purchases to be made by the same corporation, which may increase the yearly value of said estates above or beyond the aforesaid sum shall be absolutely void and of none effect: *Provided*, each member of this corporation shall be individually liable for the debts to be contracted, or that shall be contracted by the directors thereof by virtue of their corporate powers.

Powers.

6. *And be it enacted*, That the said society shall have power to determine the amount in money which each person shall pay on being admitted a member of said society, the amount of monthly, quarterly and yearly contributions which each member of the society shall pay, and the fines which members of the society shall pay for violations of the laws of the society; to regulate the distribution of the funds of the society among the members and their families whom sickness or misfortune may render proper objects of the benevolence of the society, in the manner prescribed by the constitution of the society; to make rules and regulations for the admission of members and for the expulsion of those whose misconduct may render them unworthy to remain members thereof, and to make such other rules and regulations as they consider necessary and expedient to accomplish the objects of the society and are not repugnant to the laws of Maryland: *Provided always*, that no bye-law or alteration in or amendment to the constitution shall be considered void unless proposed for consideration one month previous to its adoption, and unless two-thirds of the members present concur in such alteration or amendment; and that any person who may consider himself aggrieved by any law or regulation of the society, or who is unwilling to submit to any law, rule or regulation of the society, may at any time withdraw therefrom, and cease to be a member on relinquishing all claim to the beneficial aid of the society, and to all the contributions which he may have paid.

Proviso.