

C H A P. XV. proceedings and the management of the temporal business of the society of the Roman catholics in the town of Baltimore, as they shall judge most fit, provided that such rules and regulations be not repugnant to the constitution and laws of this state, or of the United States.

C H A P. XVI.

Passed December 24.

An ACT to incorporate the German reformed congregation in Baltimore-town.

Preamble.

WHEREAS the German reformed congregation of Baltimore-town, by their petition to this general assembly, have prayed that they may be incorporated, with powers adequate to the regulation of their temporal concerns, and with authority to take, hold and enjoy, property sufficient for the support of their clergy, and the establishment of schools for the education of their youth; for granting whereof,

G. Trolde-
mier, &c. erect-
ed into a bo-
dy politic, &c.

II. *Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That George Trolde-
mier, Michael Diffenderffer, John Hull, Peter Diffenderffer, Jacob Hoffman,
George Decker, Peter Bankert, Christopher Dietmor, Philip Cronemiller, Nicho-
las Tschudy, Richard Ration and Christian Keener, the present minister, elders,
deacons and trustees, of the said congregation, and their successors, chosen in
manner herein after mentioned, shall be and they are hereby erected into and de-
clared to be one body politic and corporate, by the name and style of The Elders,
Deacons and Trustees, of the German reformed congregation of Baltimore-town,
and by the same name and style shall have perpetual succession, and be able and
capable in law to sue or be sued, plead or be impleaded, answer or be answered
unto, in any court of law or equity within this state, and to make, change or
alter, at pleasure, a common seal, and shall be able and capable to purchase,
take, hold, receive and enjoy, any estate, real, personal or mixed, not exceeding,
in the whole, the clear yearly value of twelve hundred pounds current money.

Male mem-
bers to meet,
&c.

III. *And be it enacted,* That the male members of the congregation aforesaid,
of the full age of twenty-one years, may and shall meet on Easter Monday in
every year, from and after the passing of this act, or within ten days thereafter,
at the church of the said congregation, or such other convenient place in Balti-
more-town as may be chosen by the officiating elders, deacons and trustees, and
notified during the time of divine service on Easter Sunday to the congregation,
and then and there elect four persons, members of the said congregation, to be
elders, four other persons to be deacons, and three other persons to be trustees of
the said congregation, and the persons so elected, together with the minister for the
time being, shall be the elders, deacons and trustees, of the said congregation,
until another election shall be held in pursuance of this act.

Elders, &c. to
meet, &c.

IV. *And be it enacted,* That the elders, deacons and trustees, now appointed,
or who may hereafter be elected, or a majority of them, shall and may meet to-
gether from time to time, and as often as they may judge expedient, to transact and
manage the business of the said society, and superintend and protect the property
thereof, and make such by-laws and regulations for the good conduct of their
proceedings and the management of their temporal concerns as to them may ap-
pear expedient, not being repugnant to the discipline of the said church, or to
the constitution and laws of this state.

Property vest-
ed in the el-
ders, &c.

V. *And be it enacted,* That all property of the said congregation, now vested
in trustees for their use, shall be and is hereby vested in the elders, deacons and
trustees, appointed by this act; and the said elders, deacons and trustees, or their
successors, shall and may, with the approbation and consent of three fifths of
the whole male members of the said congregation of the age aforesaid, sell and
dispose of any part thereof, and execute conveyance for the completion of any
contract made as aforesaid, and transferring the legal estate and interest of the
said congregation therein.