

C H A P.  
XXX.

a body politic and corporate, by the name, style and title, of The Committee of the Baptist Church in the City of Baltimore, and by the same name shall have perpetual succession, and shall be able to sue or be sued, to implead and be impleaded, in any court of law or equity in this state, or elsewhere, and to make and use a common seal, and the same to break, alter or renew, at their pleasure, and also to ordain and establish such by-laws and ordinances as to them shall appear necessary for regulating and managing the temporal concerns of the said church, not repugnant to this act, to the laws of the state, or of the United States, and for promoting literature in the said church.

Successors, how  
to be chosen,  
&c.

III. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the successors of the present committee shall be chosen in the following manner, viz. The male members of the said church may and shall meet at their meeting-house, or such other place in the city of Baltimore as may be appointed by the said corporation, on the first Monday in May, or any other Monday of the same month, in the year eighteen hundred, and they may and shall continue to meet in like manner on the first Monday of May, or any other Monday of the same month, every year thereafter, of which meetings due notice shall always be given by the president of the said corporation for the time being, on the forenoon of the two several Sunday next preceding the day of such meeting, at the place where public worship is usually performed by the said church, and then and there they, or so many of them as may attend, shall elect, *viva voce*, five lay members of the said church as a committee, who shall continue to act as such for one year, and until others shall be elected in their room.

How vacancies  
are to be filled.

IV. AND BE IT ENACTED, That in case of the death, removal or resignation, of any lay member of the said body corporate, the remaining members thereof, or a majority of them, shall have full power and authority, at their next or any subsequent meeting, to elect another person in his place.

Lands vested,  
&c.

V. AND BE IT ENACTED, That all the lands and tenements, with their appertanances, now held in trust for the use of the said church or congregation, and all other property of the said church or congregation, shall be and hereby are absolutely and unconditionally vested in the said body corporate, and their successors, for ever; and the said corporation, (with the consent of a majority of the members thereof,) are hereby declared to be capable of bargaining and selling, leasing and conveying, any part of the said property, or any other property which may hereafter be acquired by the said corporation, in as full, ample and effectual a manner, as any moral person or body corporate may or can do.

Minister to  
preside, &c.

VI. AND BE IT ENACTED, That at all meetings of the said corporation the minister for the time being shall preside, and in case of the absence, removal or death, of the minister, the lay members of the corporation may appoint one of their own body president *pro tempore*, who, during such absence, or in the case of removal or death until the appointment of another minister, shall have all the privileges and authority of the president.

President to ap-  
point persons,  
&c.

VII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the president shall nominate and appoint three persons to be the judges of each and every election that shall or may be held for electing the lay members of the said corporation, and that such nomination and appointment shall be made a reasonable time before every such election.

Acts to be sign-  
ed, &c.

VIII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That all acts or deeds of the said corporation shall be signed by the president in behalf of the body corporate, and sealed with the corporate seal, and all deeds by the body corporate, for the conveyance of lands and tenements, which by the laws of the state ought to be recorded, shall be signed and sealed as aforesaid, and shall also be acknowledged in due form by the president, as such, in behalf of the corporation; and all acts or deeds of the said body corporate, so authenticated, shall be valid and effectual in law.

Account to be  
rendered, &c.

IX. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the present committee of the said church, and each and every succeeding committee that shall be chosen in virtue of this act, shall, within a reasonable time after each election for the committee, render to their successors respectively an exact account of all the monies by them had and received, disbursed and paid away, on account of the corporation, together with a general account of their transactions, and statement of the concerns of the institution, and shall moreover pay, hand over and deliver up, to their successors respectively, the balance of all monies remaining unexpended in their hands, together with the books of account of the corporation, and all notes, bonds, and other evidences of debt thereunto belonging, or in anywise appertaining.

Corporation  
may purchase,  
&c.

X. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said corporation shall be able and capable hereafter to purchase, receive, hold and enjoy, any estate, real, personal or mixed, not exceeding six thousand dollars.

C H A P. XXXI.

Passed Jan. 15.

## An ACT for the relief of Philip Edwards, of Baltimore county.

Preamble.

WHEREAS Philip Edwards, of Baltimore county, has stated to this general assembly his inability to pay his debts, and has petitioned for an act to release him therefrom upon giving up all his property to the use of his creditors: And whereas the said Philip Edwards, being an officer in the navy of the United States, is liable, from the military arrangements, to be called out of this state, which justifies a distinction of his case from others who have petitioned for similar acts;

Oath to be  
taken, &c.

II. BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That in case the said Philip Edwards shall, before some justice of the peace for the county where he resides, make and subscribe the following oath, to wit: "I, Philip Edwards, do swear, or affirm, that I will deliver up, convey  
" and