

ration or body politic, shall not, at any one time, hold or possess property, real, personal, or mixed, exceeding in total value 20,000. current money.—1796, c. 2, § 2.

2. The members of the said corporation, and their successors, may meet together on the 26th day of June, 1797, at Baltimore town, and on the same day annually for ever thereafter, or as soon after as may be, and then and there elect the officers of said society, and form such rules and regulations as may be necessary for assuring and carrying into effect the benevolent purposes of this act, provided such rules and regulations be not repugnant to the constitution and laws of this or the United States.—*ibid.* § 3.

3. All appointments of officers for said society heretofore made by the members thereof, in their private capacities, shall respectively continue and be of full force until the time specified by this act for the first election of officers for said body corporate.—*ibid.* § 4.

4. The said corporation, and their successors, shall be for ever hereafter able and capable in law to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, answer and be answered unto, defend and be defended, in all or any courts of justice, and before all or any judges, officers, or other persons whatsoever, in all and singular actions, matters and demands whatsoever, and it shall be lawful for them, and their successors, forever hereafter, to have a common seal for their use, and the same, at the will and pleasure of them and their successors, to change, alter, break and make away, from time to time, as they shall think best, and shall in general have and exercise all such rights, franchises, privileges, and immunities, as by law are incident and necessary to corporations of this kind, and which may be necessary to the corporation herein and hereby constituted and erected, to enable them duly and fully, in the law, to execute all things touching and concerning the design and intent of their said incorporation for the benevolent succour and relief of the widows and orphans of members of the said society, agreeable to such rules and by-laws as may be established by said society.—*ibid.* § 5.

CHARITABLE USES.

ANY sale, gift, lease or devise, of any quantity of land exceeding two acres, for a church, meeting, or other house of worship, or for a burying-ground, which shall be improved, enjoyed or used, only for such purpose, shall be void.—Decl. 34.

CHURCH LANDS.