

the preceding Sunday, and then and there shall elect, *visa voce*, seven lay members of said congregation as trustees, and the seven lay members who shall have the majority of legal votes, shall be, and they are hereby declared to be, the lay trustees of said corporation, and shall succeed those herein appointed, and continue until the next annual election shall take place.

V. AND BE IT ENACTED, That in case any of the lay members of said church, appointed trustees in virtue of this act, or who may hereafter be elected trustees, shall die, or remove with a view to reside out of this state, that from and immediately after such death or removal, the surviving trustees, or a majority of them, shall have full power and authority, at their next, or at any subsequent meeting, to elect a lay member in the room of such person so deceased or removed, which lay member shall be elected by a majority of the votes of the trustees present, and shall continue in office until the next annual election takes place.

VI. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said trustees now appointed, and who may hereafter be elected, or a majority of them, and their successors, from time to time, as occasion may require, may and shall meet together to transact the business and superintend and protect the property put under their trust and care, and shall make, constitute and alter, such rules and orders for regulating their own 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.

An ACT to incorporate the German reformed congregation in Baltimore-town. Lib. JG. No. 2. fol. 285.

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,

II. BE IT ENACTED, *by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That George Troidemier, Michael Diffenderffer, John Hull, Peter Diffenderffer, Jacob Hoffman, George-Decker, Peter Bankert, Christopher Dietmor, Philip Cronemiller, Nicholas 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 declared 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.

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 Baltimore-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 be held in pursuance of this act.

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 together 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 appear expedient, not being repugnant to the discipline of the said church, or to the constitution and laws of this state.

V. AND