

C H A P. XXXIV. and work-house, who shall be appointed by virtue of this act, and the act to which this is a supplement, and in purchasing materials for the use and employment of all beggars, vagrants, vagabonds and offenders, who shall be able to work, and who shall be committed by virtue of the act to which this is a supplement.

Persons exonerated, &c. XII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That all and singular the persons appointed trustees of the poor of Washington county by the act to which this is a supplement, and who have neglected or refused to qualify as trustee or trustees in the manner by the said act prescribed, shall be, and are hereby declared to be, exonerated and discharged of and from all fines, penalties and forfeitures, by them incurred by reason of such refusal or neglect.

Trustees to retain money, &c. XIII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the trustees herein before appointed, and their successors, and each and every of them, shall be and are hereby authorized and empowered to retain in their hands respectively, out of the sum or sums of money which shall or may be assessed, levied and collected, by virtue of this act, the sum of thirty dollars annually, as a compensation for their services as trustees of the poor of the county of Washington aforesaid, as long as they continue to act as such.

How penalties, &c. are to be recovered, &c. XIV. AND BE IT ENACTED, That all penalties and forfeitures by this act imposed shall be recoverable by the said trustees, and their successors, by the name aforesaid, before any justice of the peace, and applied to the use of the poor of the said county of Washington in such manner as the said trustees, and their successors, may direct.

Parts of an act repealed. XV. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth sections of the act of assembly, entitled, An act for the relief of the poor of Washington county, (and to which this act is a supplement,) be and the same are hereby abrogated and repealed.

C H A P. XXXV.

Passed 20th of Jan. 1798. An ACT to incorporate the members of the library company of Baltimore. Lib. JG. No. 2. fol. 619.

Preamble. WHEREAS the establishment of public libraries, under judicious regulations, cannot fail to promote the diffusion of useful knowledge and the interests of virtue, and to prove greatly beneficial to society: And whereas this general assembly is desirous to aid and encourage every undertaking tending to produce these effects: And whereas sundry persons in the city of Baltimore, and its vicinity, have formed themselves into a company, and established a library therein; therefore,

Persons incorporated, &c. II. BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the aforesaid persons, and such other persons as they may hereafter admit into their company, agreeably to such rules and by-laws as they may establish for the beneficial and orderly management of their institution, shall be, and they, and their successors and assigns, are hereby declared to be, one community, corporation and body politic, for ever hereafter, by the name and style of the Library Company of Baltimore, and by that name they shall be and are hereby made able and capable in law to have, purchase, receive, possess, enjoy and retain, to them and their successors, lands, tenements, rents, annuities, pensions, and other hereditaments, in fee-simple, or for a term of years, life, lives or otherwise, and also goods, chattels and effects, of what nature, kind or quality soever, and the same to grant, demise, alien or dispose of, and by the name aforesaid to do and execute all other things touching the same; provided, that the clear yearly value of the real estate of said corporation, exclusive of any house which they may hereafter possess for the keeping of the books, maps and other effects of the company, exceed not the sum of one thousand dollars.

Company may sue, &c. III. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said company, and their successors, by the aforesaid name, shall be for ever hereafter able and capable in law to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, answer and be answered, defend and be defended, in any courts of record, or any other place whatsoever, and also to make, have and use, a common seal, and the same to break, alter and renew, at pleasure, and also to assemble and meet at such times and places as they may agree upon and publicly notify, and by a majority of the voices of those attending to ordain, establish and put in execution, such by-laws, ordinances and regulations, as to them shall seem necessary and convenient for the government of the company, the same not being contrary to the laws of this state, or of the United States, and generally to do and execute all such acts, matters and things, as to them shall or may appertain to do.

IV. AND