

C H A P.  
LXXVIII.

thousand Spanish milled dollars of the present current weight, namely, seventeen pennyweight and six grains each dollar, above all taxes and assessments.

May meet  
annually, &c.

III. **And be it enacted,** That the members of the said corporation, and their successors, may meet together on the fourth Tuesday in May every year, and at such other time or times, and at such place or places within this state, and upon such public notice given, as may be fixed, and agreed upon, for the purposes of forming such rules and regulations as may be necessary for answering and carrying into effect the pious purposes of this act, provided such rules and regulations be not repugnant to the constitution and laws of this state.

May sue, &amp;c.

IV. **And be it enacted,** That the said corporation, and their successors, by the name aforesaid, 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 that it shall and may be lawful for them, and their successors, for ever hereafter, to have a common seal for their use, and in their affairs and business, and the same, at the will and pleasure of them, and their successors, to change, alter, break and make anew, 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 benefit, succour and relief, of the widows of such clergymen in the orders and communion of the protestant episcopal church aforesaid, as may or shall become contributors to the funds of the said corporation, agreeable to such rules and bye-laws as may be established for the management and payment of annuities to the said widows, and for the education of their children, and settling them in some useful business or profession.

C H A P. LXXIX.

An ACT respecting the commerce of this state, to prevent frauds in the customs, and to direct the duty of naval officers, and to regulate the conduct of masters and mariners of merchant vessels.

Preamble:

**W**HEREAS the laws respecting commerce, the duty of naval officers, the registering of ships and other vessels, and the exportation and importation of goods, wares and merchandise, into this state, do not in many instances apply to the circumstances thereof, since the establishment of its independence, and different and suitable provisions and regulations are requisite,

What vessels  
are deemed to  
belong to this  
state, &c.

II. **Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland,** That no ship or other vessel shall be deemed belonging to this state, and entitled to any privileges as such, unless one half thereof, at least, is actually and bona fide the property of one or more citizen or citizens of this state, and registered agreeably to this act, such property to be proved by oath or affirmation of one or more credible witness or witnesses before a naval officer of this state, and a certificate thereof granted by such naval officer on the back of the register.

III. **And**

780 Oct 28  
782 April 12  
783 Nov 36  
84.c. 04. 05