

shall die, refuse, neglect, or be incapable to act; and if any three or more of the said commissioners shall die, refuse, neglect, or be incapable to act, the governor, with the advice of the council, may appoint some person or persons in his or their place or places, so as to make up the remaining vacancies in manner aforesaid.

C H A P. LIII.

VI. And be it further enacted, That the said commissioners shall be allowed the sum of ten shillings per day for every day they shall attend as commissioners aforesaid; and that the surveyor shall be allowed the sum of fifteen shillings per day for every day he shall be employed by the commissioners aforesaid, for the purpose aforesaid.

Allowance to commissioners, &c.

VII. And be it enacted, That the several proprietors of the lots in the said town shall, at their joint expence, pay to the said commissioners the aforesaid sum of ten shillings per day, to be levied on their property, to pay the said allowance to the commissioners, and all other expences, in equal proportions to the value of the property held by them severally, to be adjudged by the said commissioners.

To be paid by proprietors, &c.

C H A P. LIV.

An ACT for the relief of the poor of Baltimore-town, in Baltimore county.

Passed December 22.

WHEREAS a corporation capable of receiving donations, of establishing a productive fund, and of applying the same to the relief of persons in distress, or in want of the means of support and subsistence, would tend to lessen that bulk of human miseries so peculiar to large cities, while at the same time it would open to the charitably disposed a place where they might lodge their donations, in the sure hope of their being distributed so as to answer the greatest possible good; therefore,

Preamble.

II. Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That one clergyman, minister, preacher, pastor or priest, of each and every sect, order, or religious denomination, resident in Baltimore-town, now having, or that hereafter may have, a congregation and church, or house of worship, within the said town, are hereby declared to be one community, corporation and body politic, for ever, by the name of The Corporation for the Relief of the Poor and Distressed of every Sect or Religious Denomination whatever, and by the same name they and their successors shall and may have perpetual succession, and shall and at all times hereafter be persons able and capable in law to purchase, take, have and enjoy, to them and their successors, in fee, or for any less estate or estates, in land, tenements, rents, annuities, stock of the bank of the United States, or any other bank, debt of the United States, or debt of any of the states, pensions and other hereditaments, within this state, by gift, bargain, sale or devise, of any person or persons, bodies politic or corporate, capable to make the same; and such lands, tenements, rents, annuities, stock of the bank of the United States, or any other bank, debt of the United States, or debt of any of the states, pensions and other hereditaments, or any less estates, rights or interests, of or in the same, at their pleasure to alien, sell, transfer or lease, in such manner as they may judge most conducive for aiding and furthering the charitable designs of this incorporation, and according to the nature of such estate as they may have in the same; and also, that they and their successors may take and receive any sum or sums of money, and any kind, manner or portion of goods and chattels that may or shall be given, sold or bequeathed, unto them, by any person or persons, bodies politic or corporate, capable to make a gift, sale, or bequest thereof, and to employ the same in providing poor-house keepers and others, with fuel and necessaries, especially during the winter and seasons of uncommon distress, or in making such provision for them as may be thought most conducive to alleviate their distress; and further, to employ the same in providing a capital sufficient to produce an yearly interest, revenue or income, for answering the said charitable and other declared purposes of this corporation; provided always, that the said annual revenue or income of the said corporation does not exceed two thousand pounds current money; provided also, that all gifts, legacies or donations, in real estate or other

One clergyman of each sect incorporated, &c.