

until the first Monday in April, seventeen hundred and ninety-five, and till others shall be duly chosen in their room; which said present directors, and all future directors of this society, or the major part of them, shall have power, and are hereby empowered, to provide a seal for this society, and to alter the same as they shall see fit, from time to time, and when they shall deem it necessary, to take a house or room for an office, within the town of Baltimore, at such rent or rents, for such term or terms, and under such covenants, as they shall judge meet, and also to appoint one or more clerks or book-keepers, surveyors, messengers and other assistants, and their respective fees and salaries, as occasion shall require, to fix and ascertain, and to take such securities from them as they shall think proper and sufficient for the due discharge of their respective trusts, offices and places; and they the said directors shall and may also, from time to time, direct and order the making and giving out policies, and from time to time apply, dispose of, place out, take in, secure and improve, the stock of this society, and the interest, profit and produce thereof, for answering the contingent charges of this society, and satisfying all such losses and damages as shall or may happen in or to the same, and shall and may also purchase and provide books for accounts, and all other things needful and requisite for this office, and for the affairs thereof, and carrying on the same; and the said directors shall and may, and they are hereby empowered to suspend, displace or remove, all or any of the officers, servants or assistants, above mentioned, as they shall see cause, and from time to time supply and fill up any vacancy which shall happen on the death or removal of them, or any of them, so that such displacing be agreed to by the major part, at least, of all the directors; and the said directors are hereby empowered to do, perform and execute, all other acts, matters and things needful, or relating to the premises, or any of them, which they shall judge fit and reasonable, and which shall be according to the tenor and true meaning of the rules, orders and agreements, in and by these presents declared. ART. 22. That there shall be a general meeting of the members of this society on the first Monday in April, every year, or oftener, if the directors for the time being shall think fit, or any twenty members insuring to the value of ten thousand pounds or upwards shall require the same, at which general meetings all the members of the society shall have a right and liberty to be present; of which general meetings, and of the matters therein intended to be moved, proposed or transacted, notice shall be given by the directors, at least seven days before the times of such meetings, in one or more of the public news-papers, or otherwise, as they shall see fit; which general meeting shall be capable of acting and managing the affairs of the society that shall then come before them, and they shall begin an hour at least after the time appointed for meeting, and shall choose a chairman, and after the choice of a chairman, shall continue for the space of one hour at least; and if any chairman of the said general meetings shall refuse or neglect to put, or offer to the consideration and determination of the said general meetings, any question or matter which shall be then and there proposed, seconded and insisted on, then the general meeting shall and they are hereby empowered to choose another chairman in the room of him so refusing or neglecting as aforesaid; and all and every the said general meetings may and they are hereby declared to have full power and authority to consider, treat of and determine, concerning all or any the matters and things relating to the said society, and the support, preservation and good order thereof, and to make all rules and regulations not inconsistent with the fundamental articles, in matters relating only to the better, more orderly and satisfactory management of the affairs of the society; at all which meetings the determination of a majority of the members present shall be conclusive and binding on the whole society. ART. 23. At the general meeting in April yearly, twelve members of this society shall be chosen by ballot to be directors for the year ensuing, and one other of the members shall also be chosen treasurer for the ensuing year, by ballot as aforesaid, the election to begin on the first day of the meeting, and to be continued by adjournment, if necessary, as the directors for the time being shall determine; and the directors shall appoint two of their own body, and three other members, not directors, to be judges and managers of the election, who shall, under their hands, or under the hands of the major part of them, report the names of the persons duly elected directors and treasurer, respectively,