

CHAP. 40.

purpose of affording relief to each other, and their respective families, in the event of sickness, distress and death, and have prayed an act of incorporation, that they may the better execute their intentions; and the legislature being desirous of promoting such useful institutions; Therefore,

Members incorporated

1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That David Harryman, John C. Petherbridge, William W. Waite, James B. Bosley, William Meeteor, Henry Myers, and others that now are or may hereafter become members of the said corporation herein erected, or may be admitted into the said corporation agreeably to the constitution, rules and by-laws of the same, and their successors, are hereby declared to be one community, corporation and body politic, for ever, by the name, style and title, of The Equitable Beneficial Society of Maryland; Provided nevertheless, that the said corporation may be dissolved at any time by the consent of its members as is hereinafter provided.*

Proviso

Affairs to be managed by a president, &c.

2. *And be it enacted, That the affairs of the said society shall be managed and conducted by a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and five Stewards, to be elected annually on the last Thursday in November in each and every year, in such manner as the said society shall think proper to appoint.*

May take & hold property

3. *And be it enacted, That the present members of the said society, and their successors, by their corporate name, shall and may have perpetual succession, and shall and may be at all times hereafter persons able and capable in law to purchase, take, have and enjoy, to them and their successors, in fee or less estate or estates, any lands, tenements, rents, annuities, chattels, United States stock, bank stock, registered debt, or other public securities within this state, by gift, purchase or devise, of or from any person or persons, body politic or corporate, to make the same, and the same at their pleasure to alien, sell, transfer or lease, in such manner as they may judge most conducive to the charitable uses of said society; Provided nevertheless, that the said corporation shall not at any one time hold or possess property, real, personal or mixed, exceeding in total value the sum of fifty thousand dollars.*

Proviso

Time of meeting

4. *And be it enacted, That the members of the said corporation and their successors, may meet together on the last Thursday in November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-one, at some convenient place in the city of Baltimore, and on the same day annually for ever thereafter, and then and there elect the officers of the said society, form such rules and regulations, and enact such by-laws, as may be necessary, for assuring and carrying into effect the benevolent purposes of this act, provided such rules, regulations and by-laws, be not repugnant to the constitution and laws of the United States, of the State of Maryland, and of the corporation of the city of Baltimore.*

Appointments heretofore made continued

5. *And be it enacted, That all appointments of officers for the said society, heretofore made by the members thereof in their private capacities, shall respectively continue and be in full force until the time specified by this act for the first election of officers for the said corporation.*

Rights and privileges

6. *And be it enacted, That the said corporation, and their successors, by the name aforesaid, shall be for ever hereafter able*