

a corporation and body politic forever hereafter, under the name of "The second Franklin beneficial Society of Maryland, established in Baltimore." Dec. Ses. 1822

2. *And be it enacted,* That the aforesaid members and their successors, by the same name, shall be able and capable in law to purchase, have and enjoy to them and their successors in fee, or any other less estate or estates, any lands, tenements, annuities, pensions or other hereditaments within this state, by the gift, grant, bargain, sale, alienation, enfeoffment, release, or confirmation of any person or persons, bodies corporate or politic capable to make the same; and such lands, tenements, rents, annuities, pensions, or other hereditaments or any less estates, rights or interests of or in the same, at their pleasure to grant, alien, sell and transfer, in such manner and form as they shall think meet and convenient for the furtherance of the objects of the said society, and also that they may take and receive any sum or sums of money, and any kind of goods and chattels that shall be given or sold to them by any person or persons, bodies politic or corporate, capable to make a gift or sale thereof, and employ the same towards maintaining the said society, in such manner as they shall judge necessary and convenient for the promotion of the purposes of its association. Powers.

3. *And be it enacted,* That the members and their successors shall be able in law to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, in any court or courts, before any judge, judges, or justices within this state and elsewhere, in all and all manner of suits, complaints, pleas, causes, matters and demands of whatsoever kind, nature or form they may be; to make, have and use one common seal, and the same to alter at pleasure; and all and every other matter and thing therein to do, in as full and effectual a manner as any other person or persons, bodies politic or corporate within this state in like cases may or can do. Legal capacity.

4. *And be it enacted,* That the yearly value of the messuages, houses, lands, tenements, rents, annuities or other hereditaments and real estate of the said society and corporation shall not exceed ten thousand doliars current money; and all gifts to the said society and corporation, after the yearly value of their estate shall amount to ten thousand dollars as aforesaid, and all bargains and purchases to be made by the same corporation, which may increase the yearly value of said estate above or beyond the sum aforesaid, shall be absolutely void and of none effect. Limitation.

5. *And be it enacted,* That the officers of said society shall consist of a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, messenger, committee of investigation and stewards, the five former of whom shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting on the second Tuesday in every year, and the two latter in the same manner, simultaneously, commencing at the same time, a majority of the members present being necessary to constitute a choice; the society shall also have power to appoint such other officers as may be deemed expedient and necessary, in such manner as may be thought proper. Officers.

6. *And be it enacted,* That the said society shall have power to determine the amount in money which each person shall pay on being admitted a member of the said society, the amount of monthly, quarterly and yearly contributions, which each member shall pay, and the fines which each member shall pay for violation of the laws of the society; to regulate the distribution of the funds of the society among the members and their families, whom sickness or misfortune may render proper objects of the benevolence of the society, in the Dispensation of funds, &c.