

sylvania for his clerk or clerks besides a reasonable allowance for stationery consumed in his respective office, all which salaries and allowances shall commence from and after the enacting hereof.

[Section II.] (Section III, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said salaries and allowances shall be paid to each of the said officers quarterly upon orders to be drawn by the president or vice president in council on the treasurer of the state out of the fees of the said offices which shall have been paid into the treasury.

Passed December 8, 1789. Recorded L. B. No. 4, p. 46. See the Act of Assembly passed February 19, 1790, Chapter 1480.

CHAPTER MCDLXXVI.

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE A SOCIETY BY THE NAME OF "THE PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING THE ABOLITION OF SLAVERY AND FOR THE RELIEF OF FREE NEGROES UNLAWFULLY HELD IN BONDAGE AND FOR IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF THE AFRICAN RACE."

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas a voluntary society has for some years subsisted [in this state] by the name and title of "The Pennsylvania Society for promoting the abolition of slavery and the relief of free negroes unlawfully held in bondage," which has evidently co-operated with the views of the legislature expressed in the act of the general assembly of the commonwealth passed the first day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty entitled, "An act for the gradual abolition of slavery,"¹ and a supplement thereto passed the twenty-ninth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight entitled, "An act to explain and amend an act entitled an act for the gradual abolition of slavery."²

¹ Chapter 881.

² Chapter 1345.

And whereas the said society have lately extended their plan so far as to comprehend within their intentions the improving the condition as well of those negroes who now are or hereafter shall become free by the operation of said acts or otherwise and their posterity, and have by their petition to this house prayed to be created and erected into a body politic and corporate for the purpose of increasing their ability to be useful in the several matters aforesaid:

[Section I.] (Section II, P. L.) Be it therefore enacted and it is hereby enacted by the Representatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met and by the authority of the same, That the present members of the said society, to wit, Dr. Benjamin Franklin, James Pemberton, Jonathan Penrose, Thomas Harrison, James Starr, William Lippincott, John Thomas, Benjamin Horner, Samuel Richards, John Evans, John Todd, James Whiteall, Edward Brooks, Thomas Armat, John Warner, Samuel Davis, Thomas Bartow, Robert Evans, Robert Wood, Seymour Hart, Richard Humphreys, Robert Towers, Joseph Moore, Joseph Russell, William Zane, Israel Whelen, Samuel Baker, Richard Price, Charles Jervis, Israel Hallowell, Clement Biddle, Amos Wickersham, Pattison Hartshorn, Nathan Sellers, David Sellers, Isaac Parrish, Zacariah Jess, Dr. Benjamin Rush, John Field, Richard Jones, William Poyntell, Andrew Carson, Philip Price, John Hunt, Junior, Norris Jones, John Norton, Thomas Penrose, Thomas Poultney, Thomas Eddy, Isaac Weaver, Junior, Caleb Attmore, Joseph Budd, Abraham Sharpless, Isaac Massey, James Lewis, Thomas Shoemaker, Robert Morris, Jeremiah Paul, Thomas Savery, Francis Bailey, Thomas Shields, George Eddy, John Morrison, John Morris, Joseph Clark, Zachariah Poulson, Junior, Thomas Parker, William Graham, Thomas Rodgers, John Poultney, Isaac Bonsall, Joseph Cruckshank, John Jacobs, Nathan Boys, William Ashby, Jacob Trasel, William Jackson, Charles Crawford, Ellis Yarnall, John Olden, Tench Coxe, Jonathan Pugh, Reece John, Jacob Shoemaker, Junior, William McIlhenny, Caleb Lownes, John Letchworth, William West, Isaac Peason, Burton Wallace, Francis John-

ston, Joseph Sharpless, Thomas Wistar, Joseph Lownes, Dr. Benjamin Say, Joseph Anthony, Caspar W. Haines, Joseph Bacon, George Rutter, David Lownes, Bartholomew Wistar, George Fox, William T. Franklin, William Rawle, James Trenchard, Conrad Hanse, Samuel Coates, Richard Wells, Sharp Delaney, Johnathan Willis, Junior, Joseph Gibbons, Samuel Pancoast, Junior, Kearney Wharton, Dr. James Hutchinson, Charles Williams, John Claypole, John Dowers, Hilary Baker, George Latimer, Andrew Geyer, James Read, Peter Woglom, John Hagn, John Todd, Junior, Philip Benezet, Joseph James, Dr. Caspar Wistar, Junior, Dr. Samuel P. Griffiths, Thomas Fitzgerald, Stephen Maxfield, Philip Price, Junior, Israel Pleasants, Mordicai Churchman, Thomas Annesly, Benjamin W. Morris, John McCree, George Richie, James Olden, John Huntchinson, George Wilson, Jacob Parke, Thomas Lawrence, Dr. John Foulke, Jesse Waterman, James Trimble, Dr. William Rogers, Dr. Nicholas Collin, Samuel M. Fox, Benjamin Shoemaker, Joseph Parker Norris, George Roberts, Jeremiah Parker, Abraham Liddon, John Bleakley, Joseph Inskeep, Robert Waln, Richard Parker, John Starr, Nathan Allen Smith, Thomas Norton, Robert Taggart, Samuel Emlen, Junior, William Kidd, Dr. John Andrews, Zebulon Potts, Samuel Kingsley, Nathan Field, Daniel Trotter, Benjamin Taylor, James Smith, Junior, Caleb Carmalt, Robert Roberts, William Chancellor, Thomas Forrest, Jonathan Jones, Ebenezer Breed, George Ashton, Thomas Proctor, George Davis, John Smilie, Thomas Palmer, Anthony Felix Wuibert, Matthew Hale Richard Peters, Joseph Thomas, Thomas Ross, Isaac Buckbee, Joshua Gilpin, Dr. Amos Gregg, Gerard Vogels, Richard Riley, Samuel Claphamson, Zaccheus Collins, Henry Hale Graham, John Ely, Richard H. Morris, John Stapler, Junior, Daniel May, Andrew Johnston, S. Barnett, William Welsh, Isaiah Ham, Charles Lukins, James Smith, S. Morris, Ambrose Updegraff, Peter Monderf, Thomas Fisher, Robert Kammersly, John Smith, William Webb, John Roberts, John Kittere, William Brisband, William Gibbons, Samuel Updegraff, Caleb Johnston, Robert Veree, Dr. John Chapman, Alexander Anderson, Samuel Redwood, Rees Cad-

wallader, Samuel Jackson, Dr. John Luther, Dr. John Story, Benjamin Wright and Eli Lewis, all of the state of Pennsylvania,

Joseph Shotwell, Junior, David Cooper, Samuel Allison, Thomas Redman, Thomas Stokes, John Wistar, Thomas Clemens, Joseph Sloan, Ebenezer Howell, Clement Hall, James Jess, Benjamin Wright, Richard Waln, Stacy Biddle, Hezekiah Hughes, Thomas Githen, all of the state of New Jersey,

The Honorable John Jay, and Matthew Clarkson of the state of New York,

John Boggs, Caleb Kirk and Warner Mifflin of the state of Delaware,

Zebulon Hollingsworth, John Richardson, Woolman Hickson, John Feigle, Joseph Wilkinson and John Needles of the state of Maryland. •

Samuel Hopkins, Benjamin Foster, Enos Hitchcock, Benjamin West, Moses Brown, William Patton, Samuel Vinson, Thomas Robinson and Jonathan Easton of the state of Rhode Island,

John Saunders, George Tegal and George Corbyn of the state of Virginia,

Noah Webster, Thomas Gain and Benjamin West of the state of Massachusetts,

Capel Loft, David Barclay, Granville Sharpe, Dr. Richard Price, James Philips, Thomas Day, Dr. Thomas Clarkson, The Right Honorable William Pitt, Dr. John Okely Lettsom, William Dilwyn, Robert Robeson, and William Hollick of the Kingdom of Great Britain,

And Le Abbe Raynal, Le Marquis de La Fayette, I. P. Brissot de Warville, Charton de La Terrierre and Francis Clery Du Pont of the Kingdom of France and such other person and persons as shall be hereafter elected and chosen in the manner hereinafter mentioned and their successors be and they are hereby declared to be one body politic and corporate in deed and in law by the name and style and title of "The Pennsylvania Society for promoting the abolition of slavery and for the relief of free negroes unlawfully held in bondage and for the improv-

ing the condition of the African race," and by the same name shall have perpetual succession and shall be able to sue and be sued, implead and be answered unto in all courts of law and equity, and to make, have and use one common seal to give authenticity to their acts, deeds, records and proceedings and the same at their pleasure to break, alter, change and make anew and to purchase, take and hold by gift, grant, demise, bargain and sale, will and demise, bequest, testament, legacy or by any other mode of conveyance any lands, tenements, goods, chattels, or estate, real, personal or mixed, or choses in action, not exceeding at any one time the yearly value of fifteen hundred pounds lawful money of Pennsylvania in the whole, and the same to give, grant, bargain, sell, demise, convey and assure to others for the whole or any lesser estate that they have in the same in such manner and form as the said society at their future meetings hereinafter described shall order and direct and to apply the rents, issues and profits, income and interest of such estate and the moneys arising from the sale of any parts thereof to the uses, ends, intents and purposes of their institution according to the rules, orders, regulations and constitutions of the said society now in force or which according to the provisions hereinafter made shall from time to time be declared and ordained touching and concerning the same as fully and effectually as any natural person or body politic and corporate within this state by the constitution and laws of this commonwealth can do and perform the like things.

[Section II.] (Section III, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the officers of the said society shall consist of one president, two vice-presidents, two secretaries, one treasurer who shall also be the keeper of the common seal and so many councillors as the said society shall from time to time think proper from time to time to appoint and elect all of whom shall be chosen annually by ballot of a majority of votes of the whole number of members who shall be present at the quarterly meeting hereinafter mentioned, which shall be held on the first second day of the week, called Monday in

the first month called January in every year after the passing of this act, or at such other time and at such place as the said society shall by their rules and orders direct and appoint and of such committees for carrying into execution the designs of the said institution as the said society heretofore have appointed and hereafter at any of their quarterly or special meetings shall agree to and appoint in the manner and form to be hereafter agreed on.

[Section III.] (Section IV, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said society shall and may hold four quarterly meetings in every year at such place and hour of the day as they shall agree unto on every the first second day of the week called Monday in every the first, fourth, seventh and tenth months, called January, April, July and October in every year forever hereafter and may adjourn the said meeting from time to time, and shall and may hold such other special meetings as the society by their rules and orders shall direct and appoint and shall hold such other meetings as the president of the said society shall think necessary to call or one of the vice-presidents of the said society at the request of any six members thereof shall call, of which special meetings notice shall be given in two of the public newspapers printed in the city of Philadelphia at least two days before the time of meeting, at any of which quarterly or special meetings or adjournments thereof it shall and may be lawful for the said society or so many of them as shall meet by a majority of voices to agree to, ordain and establish such by-laws, rules, orders and regulations as they shall judge necessary for the well ordering and governing the said society and for the well managing the affairs thereof and to appoint such and so many committees consisting of such number of their members as they shall think necessary to superintend the different departments of duties already undertaken by the society heretofore subsisting or hereafter to be undertaken by the society hereby established and to receive the reports of such committees and take such order thereon as to them shall seem proper, and to fix and ascertain the terms and conditions upon

which new members shall be admitted into the said society upon which former members may be removed and to define and ascertain the duties of the several officers and committees of the said society and to enforce the same by such reasonable fines and forfeitures to be imposed on delinquents as they shall think proper and for want of obedience in any of the members, committees or officers of the said society to remove and displace them and others to appoint and generally to agree to, ordain and establish such by-laws, rules, orders and regulations for the well governing the said society, for perpetuating a succession of its officers and performing the duties they have undertaken or shall undertake as the said society at any of their said quarterly meetings, or special meetings or adjournments thereof shall by a majority of voices determine to be right and proper. Provided always nevertheless, That no real or personal estate above the value of sixty dollars shall be disposed of or the right and estate of the society therein shall be lessened and altered for the less nor any by-law, rule, order or regulation of the said society enacted, repealed or altered nor any sum of money appropriated to any new use not before agreed upon by any of the said meetings or committees to be appointed unless the president or one of the vice-presidents and at least twenty members shall be present at such meeting and a majority of those present shall agree to the same. And provided also, That all and every the by-laws, rules, orders and regulations already enacted and made or hereafter to be enacted and made by the said society be reasonable in themselves and not contradictory to the constitution and laws of this commonwealth.

[Section IV.] (Section V, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the constitution of the Pennsylvania Society for promoting the Abolition of Slavery and for the relief of Free Negroes unlawfully held in bondage as enlarged at a meeting of the said Society held at Philadelphia the twenty-third day of April in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven and all rules, orders, regulations and proceedings made and had by the said society in pursuance thereof be and they are hereby declared to be in full force and

binding upon the said society by this act created and incorporated until the same shall be repealed, altered or annulled at a quarterly or special meeting or adjournment thereof to be held in pursuance of this act as fully and effectually as if the same were to be originally adopted by the said society hereby incorporated and created at one of their said meetings.

[Section V.] (Section VI, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That until the next election which shall be held by the said society in pursuance of this act the said Benjamin Franklin shall be the president thereof, the said James Pemberton and Jonathan Penrose, shall be the vice-presidents thereof, the said Benjamin Rush and Caspar Wistar shall be secretar[ies] thereof, the said James Starr shall be the treasurer thereof, and William Lewis, Miers Fisher, William Rawle and John D. Coxe shall be the councillors thereof, and that all and every the committee and committees heretofore appointed by the said Society for the Abolition of Slavery and for the relief of Free Negroes unlawfully held in bondage shall be and continue to be the officers and committees of the society hereby created and incorporated and shall report to and account with the same in the same manner as they would have done to the former society in case this act had not been passed.

[Section VI.] (Section VII, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That this act shall in all things be construed in the most favorable and liberal manner to and for the said society in order to effectuate the privileges hereby to them granted, and that no misnomer of the said corporation in any deed, will, testament, gift, grant, demise or other instrument of contract or conveyance shall vitiate or defeat the same if the said corporation shall be sufficiently described to ascertain the intent of the party or parties to give, devise, bequeath, convey or assure to or contract with the said corporation hereby created by the name aforesaid. Nor shall any non-user of the said privileges hereby granted create any forfeiture of the same but the same may be exercised by the said corporation and notwithstanding their failure to meet at any of the times herein specified to hold their annual elections, the officers elected at any of the said annual elections shall con-

tinue to hold and exercise their offices until others shall be duly elected to succeed them at some future meeting of the said corporation.

Passed December 8, 1789. Recorded L. B. No. 4, p. 46.

CHAPTER MCDLXXVII.

AN ACT FOR INCORPORATING THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
(KNOWN BY THE NAME OF SAINT GEORGES CHURCH) IN THE CITY
OF PHILADELPHIA IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas the congregation of the Methodist Episcopal church in the city of Philadelphia have prayed that their said congregation may be incorporated and by law enabled as a body politic and corporate to receive, hold and enjoy such charitable donations and bequests as have heretofore been or which hereafter may be made to their society and vested with such powers and privileges as are enjoyed by other religious societies who are incorporated in this commonwealth:

And whereas this house is disposed to exercise the power vested in the legislature of this commonwealth for the encouragement of pious and charitable purposes:

[Section II.] (Section II, P. L.) Be it therefore enacted and it is hereby enacted by the Representatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met and by the authority of the same, That the Reverend John Dickins, the present minister, Robert Fitzgerald, Jacob Baker, Thomas Armat, James Doughty, Josiah Lusby, John Hood, Burton Wallace, John Bond and Henry Manly and their successors duly elected and appointed in such manner as is hereinafter directed be and they are hereby made, declared and constituted to be a corporation and body politic and corporate in law and in fact to have continuance forever by the name, style and title of "The Methodist Episcopal Church in the city of Philadelphia in the commonwealth of Pennsylvania."