

## CHAPTER MDXI.

## AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE CARPENTERS' COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA."

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas it appears to this assembly that in the year one thousand seven hundred and twenty-four a number of the house carpenters of the city and county of Philadelphia formed themselves into a company for the purposes of obtaining instruction in the science of architecture and assisting such of their members as should by accident be in need of support or the widows and minor children of members and for the furtherance of the said charitable and useful designs did for many years pay into the hands of the masters of the said company considerable sums of money a great part whereof was expended in the relief of their unfortunate members and the remainder was appropriated in the year one thousand seven hundred and sixty-nine to the obtaining a large lot of ground on which were several buildings and other improvements and towards erecting of the house known by the name of the Carpenter's Hall in the said city:

And whereas the members of the said carpenter's company have prayed that they may be incorporated in such manner as to secure the said estate to them and their successors, in order to further the useful and charitable design of the institution:

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

[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 for the purpose of promoting the useful and charitable objects before mentioned the present members of the carpenter's company, that is to say, Isaac Zane, John Mifflin, Joseph Thornhill, Benjamin Loxley, James Worrel, Gunning Bedford, Thomas Nevell, James Armtiage, Sam-

rel, Gunning Beadford, Thomas Nevell, James Armitage, Sam-James Potter, George Wood, Joseph Rakestraw, Silas Englis, William Lownes, Samuel Powel, William Robinson, James Bringhurst, James Graysbury, Thomas Shoemaker, David Evans, William Colliday, William Ashton, Samuel Jervis, Samuel Wallis, Matthew M'Glathery, Thomas Proctor, Adam Zantzinger, John Keen, John Lort, Joseph Govett, Joseph Ogilby, William Williams, Robert Allison, George Forepaugh, John Smith, Matthias Sadler, James Gibson, George Ingels, Frazer Kingsley, James Corkrin, Joseph Rakestraw, Junior, Joseph Thornhill, Junior, John King, Andrew Boyd, Conrad Bartling, William Garrigues, John Rugan, Mark Rodes, Robert Evans, Joseph Wetherel, Hugh Roberts, Isaac Jones, Samuel Pancoast, Matthias Val Keen, William Stevenson, Robert Morrel, Richard Mosley, John Reinhard, Samuel Pastorius, Josiah Matlack, John Piles, Joseph Clark, William Zane, Benjamin Mitchell, Thomas Savery, Nathan Allen Smith, Samuel Jones, John Hall, Joseph Howell, Junior, Israel Hallowell, John Harrison, Ebenezer Ferguson, John Cooper, William Linnard, Jonathan Evans, Joseph Worrel, James Boyer, be and the same persons are hereby created a body corporate and politic in deed and in name by the name and style of "The Carpenters' Company of the city and county of Philadelphia;" and by the same name they and their successors are hereby constituted and confirmed one body corporate and politic in law to have perpetual succession and to be able and capable to receive any sum or sums of money or to receive, purchase, have, hold and enjoy any goods, chattels, lands, tenements, rents, hereditaments, gifts, devises and bequests of what nature soever either in fee simple or any less estate or estates or otherwise:

And also to grant, alien, assign or let the same lands, tenements, rents, hereditaments and premises according to the tenures of the respective grants and bequests made to the said corporation and of the estate of the corporation therein. Provided, That the clear yearly value of such real estate exceed not the sum of one thousand pounds lawful money of this commonwealth.

[Section II.] (Section III, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said corporation by the name style title aforesaid be and shall be forever hereafter able and capable in law to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, answer and be answered unto, defend and be defended in any court or courts or other places and before any judge or judges, justice or justices or other persons whatsoever within this commonwealth or elsewhere in all and all manner of suits, actions, complaints, pleas, causes, matters and demands of whatsoever kind or nature they may be in as full and effectual a manner as any other person or persons, bodies politic and corporate may or can do.

[Section III.] (Section IV, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said corporation shall have full power and authority to make, have and use one common seal with such device and inscription as they shall judge proper and the same to break, alter or renew at their pleasure.

[Section IV.] (Section V, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That for the well ordering the affairs of the said corporation there shall be a general meeting held of the members on the third Monday or second day of the week in January in every year hereafter at the Carpenters' Hall or such other place as they may direct when a majority of those convened shall choose by ballot a president, a treasurer and such and so many assistants and such other officers or committees as they may judge necessary or useful, and shall have full power and authority to order quarterly or special meetings of said corporation and do and transact all business and matters appertaining thereunto agreeably to such rules, ordinances, regulations and by-laws as may hereafter be made concerning the premises. And the corporation at any of their said meetings shall have full power and authority to make and ordain such rules, ordinances, regulations and by-laws as a majority of the company met shall from time to time judge necessary or convenient and the same to put in execution or to revoke, disannul, alter or amend at their pleasure. Provided always. That the said rules, ordinances, regulations and

by-laws relate only to the useful and charitable purposes before mentioned and be not repugnant to the laws of this commonwealth.

[Section V.] (Section VI, P. L.) And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the duties and authorities of the officers, the times of meeting of the corporation, the admission of members and the other concerns of the said corporation shall be regulated by the by-laws and ordinances thereof. Provided that no by-laws or ordinances of the said corporation shall be binding on the members or officers thereof unless the same shall be proposed at one regular meeting of the corporation and received and enacted at another after the intervention of at least thirty days, and that no sale, alienation or lease for more than two years of any part of the real estate of the said corporation shall be valid unless the terms and nature of such sale or lease be proposed at a previous meeting of the corporation as aforesaid.

[Section VI.] (Section VII, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That no misnomer of the said corporation and their successors shall defeat or annul any gift, grant, devise or bequest to the said corporation if the intent of the donor shall sufficiently appear by the tenor of the gift, testament or other writing whereby any estate or interest was intended to pass to the said corporation nor shall any nonuser of the rights, liberties, privileges and authorities or any of them hereby granted to the said corporation create or cause a forfeiture thereof.

[Section VII.] (Section VIII, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the president, assistants, wardens and committee appointed by the company at their meeting on the eighteenth day of January one thousand seven hundred and ninety shall continue to act in their several stations and do and perform the duties assigned them for and during the remainder of the year or unto the third Monday (or second day of the week) in January one thousand seven hundred and ninety-one.

Passed April 2, 1790. Recorded L. B. No. 4, p. 96.