

## CHAP. 53.

James Cunningham, James Gawthorp, Thomas Johnson, Andrew McClelland, Nicholas Speaks, Charles H. Claiborn and others, by their petition to this General Assembly have represented, that they have associated themselves together by the name of the United Beneficial Society of Cordwainers of the city of Baltimore, for works of benevolence and charity, under and subject to a constitution and by-laws, which have been found wholesome, and well calculated to promote the ends for which the society was first formed, provided an act of incorporation can be obtained from the General Assembly of Maryland, constituting them a body corporate, with a perpetual succession, and with such powers and privileges for taking, holding, and disposing of property as may be deemed expedient; AND WHEREAS, the facts set fourth in the said petition appear to be true, and the prayer thereof is reasonable and proper—Therefore,

Persons incorporated

SECTION. 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the said Richard Marley, Thomas Cafferty, James H. Carlile, James Porter, John Dohn, Francis Gallagher, James Cunningham, James Gawthorp, Thomas Johnson, Andrew McClelland, Nicholas Speaks, Charles H. Claiborn and others, and those who may hereafter become members of the said society, and their successors, shall be, and are hereby constituted a body corporate, by the name and style of the United Beneficial society of Cordwainers of the city of Baltimore, with perpetual succession, and by that name may sue and be sued, may have and use a common seal, and the same at their pleasure to change, alter or make anew; may take, hold and use any real estate, or chattle property, by devise or otherwise, in fee simple or for any less estate, and the same or any part thereof, may lease, sell and convey by deed or otherwise, with power and authority to collect and receive all rents and debts which may become due and owing to the said association by suit or otherwise, as any person might lawfully do; *Provided always,* that the said corporation shall not at any one time hold, use, possess and enjoy any estate, real or personal, beyond or exceeding in value, in the whole, the sum of ten thousand dollars.

Powers conferred

Limitation

Banking prohibited

Sec. 2. *And be it enacted,* That nothing herein contained shall be taken and construed, so as to authorise the said company to establish a banking institution, or to exercise directly or indirectly any of the privileges of a bank.