

An ACT to incorporate the contributors to the Baltimore General Dispensary.

Passed 20th of January, 1808.

WHEREAS a Dispensary has been established in the city of Baltimore for the purpose of affording medical aid to the indigent poor of that city, and its precincts, which has been supported for several years past by the voluntary contributions of a number of charitable persons, and has been extensively beneficial in its effects, in relieving the poor from sickness and preserving the health of the city, under the direction of managers appointed by the contributors to the said institution: And whereas this general assembly are desirous to encourage and give permanence to an institution of such public utility,

Preamble.

II. BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the contributors to the Baltimore General Dispensary, as well as those who shall hereafter become contributors, shall be and they are hereby created and made a corporation and body politic for ever hereafter, by the name, style and title, of The President and Managers of the Baltimore General Dispensary, and by that name shall have succession, and be capable in law of purchasing, holding, selling, leasing and conveying, lands, tenements, goods, chattels, and other property, real, personal and mixed, provided that the value of the property held at any one time shall not exceed fifteen thousand dollars, and to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, and to make, have and use, a common seal, and the same to break, alter and renew, at pleasure, and generally to do all acts and things which may be necessary to carry into effect the provisions of this charter.

Contributors incorporated, &c.

III. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the present managers, to wit: the reverend Joseph G. J. Bend, president, the reverend Francis Beeston, the reverend James Inglis, doctor John Crawford, William Wilson, Baltzer Schaeffer, Philip E. Thomas, Isaac Burneston, Andrew Ellicott, George Warner, James Ramsay and William Gwynn, are hereby declared to be the president and managers of the said institution under this charter, and as such shall have a right to act until an election shall take place in the manner herein after directed.

J G J. Bend, &c. declared president, &c.

IV. AND BE IT ENACTED, That any person who hath at any one time contributed, or shall hereafter contribute, to the use of the said institution, the sum of fifty dollars, shall be considered, and is hereby declared to be, during life, a contributor, and as such entitled to vote at all annual elections for managers and attending physicians to the said General Dispensary, to recommend indigent poor to the care of the institution, and to enjoy all other rights and privileges to which contributors are or shall be entitled under this act, and under such by-laws as the managers shall from time to time to make and establish; and every person who hath contributed, or shall contribute, to the use of the said institution, the sum of five dollars, shall be deemed a contributor within the meaning of this charter, for the term of one year next after the time of paying such contribution, and entitled to all rights and privileges as such during the said term.

Persons declared contributors, &c.

V. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the contributors to the Baltimore General Dispensary shall annually, at such time and place, and in such manner, as the president and managers shall by their by-laws direct and appoint, elect twelve of the contributors to act as managers of the General Dispensary, and the persons, so elected, shall be entitled to hold their office until a new election shall take place; the managers for the time being shall have power to fill all vacancies in their own body occasioned by the death, resignation, refusal to serve, or removal from the city and its precincts, of any manager; to appoint their own president, and all other officers of the institution, except attending physicians, who shall be annually elected by the contributors in such manner as the by-laws may provide; to fix the salary of the apothecary and attending physicians, and prescribe their duties; to remove or displace any of the officers of the said institution whom they may adjudge to be guilty of misconduct or neglect of duty, and appoint a person to fill the vacancy thereby occasioned until the next annual election; to regulate the expenses and manage the funds of the institution; to make such rules and by-laws as may be necessary to carry into effect the provisions of this charter in the most full and beneficial manner, or as they may think necessary for the promotion, regulation, government or convenience, of the said General Dispensary, the same not being contrary to the laws and constitution of this state or of the United States; and generally to do all acts and things which may appertain to do.

Twelve managers to be elected annually, &c.

VI. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said president and managers may call a meeting of the contributors at any time when they think the interest of the institution may require, and any six of the

A meeting may be called, &c.