

ACT OF INCORPORATION,

AND

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

Society for the Relief of the Poor,

OF THE

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH,

OF

BALTIMORE CITY STATION,

AND

BY - L A W S

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS.

FORMED, 1816.—INCORPORATED, 1853.

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BALTIMORE:

JOHN W. WOODS, PRINTER.

1853.

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Officers.

NICHOLAS L. WOOD, *President.*  
WILLIAM W. WATKINS, *Vice President.*  
JAMES BRUNDIGE, *Secretary,*  
THOMAS ARMSTRONG, *Treasurer.*

**Managers.**

ALEXANDER YEARLEY,	JOHN PATTERSON,
JOHN G. CHAPPELL,	THOMAS FRANCE,
ISAAC P. COOK,	CHARLES COCHRAN, Jr.
PHILIP HISS,	WILLIAM SULLIVAN,
SOLOMON ALLEN,	J. WESLEY KREBS,
JOHN MORROW,	J. ROBERT ISRAEL.

**GIFT**

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**ACT OF INCORPORATION.**

To all whom these Presents shall come, Greeting:

KNOW YE, that by virtue and in pursuance of an Act of the General Assembly of Maryland, passed at January Session, eighteen hundred and fifty-two, chapter 231, Alexander Yearley, Thomas Armstrong, James Brundige, John G. Chappell, Thomas France, Isaac P. Cook, Charles J. Baker and J. Robert Israel, of the city of Baltimore, and citizens of the United States and of the State of Maryland, do hereby incorporate themselves and their successors, into a Benevolent Society, to be known by the name, style and title of "The Society for the Relief of the Poor of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Baltimore City Station, under the following rules and regulations, viz.

The objects of this Society are hereby declared to be for the laudable purpose of securing and affording pecuniary aid and assistance to the indigent and poor, members of the Methodist Episcopal Church attached to that part of said Church, in the city of Baltimore, commonly known as the Baltimore City Station, and for no other purpose or purposes whatsoever.

Any person may become a member of this society by paying annually the sum of two dollars or upwards; ten dollars paid at one time shall constitute a member for life.

This society and their successors, by the name, style and title aforesaid, are hereby declared to be one community, corporation and body politic, and by the name, style and title aforesaid, are hereby made able and capable in law, to have, hold, purchase, receive, possess, enjoy and retain to them and their successors, lands, tenements, hereditaments, rents, annuities, donations or pensions in fee simple, or for a term of years, life, lives or otherwise, and also goods, chattels and effects of what nature or description whatsoever, and the same again to grant, demise, alien, convey, assign, dispose of, use and apply, to the benevolent purposes of said society, in such manner as the Board of Managers of the said society may from time to time direct. Provided, however, that nothing herein contained shall be so construed or understood as to authorize the use or investment of any donation made or legacy given to this society, or any part thereof, in any other fund or mode than that which may be prescribed or directed by the donor or deviser. And, provided also, that they shall not appropriate the funds or income of the society, in whole or in part to other objects than declared in this instrument.

And it is hereby further declared that the said society and their successors, by the aforesaid name, shall be able and capable, in law, to sue and be sued, implead and be impleaded, answer and be answered, defend and be defended, in any court of law or equity, in any place whatsoever, and also to make and use a common seal, and the same to break, alter and renew at pleasure, and also to assemble and meet at such time and place as may be agreed on, and to appoint a Board of Manage-

ment, consisting of sixteen members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in Baltimore City Station, seven of whom shall be chosen from the ~~Stewards~~ Stewards of said station, and to establish and put in force and execution such Constitution, Articles, By-Laws and regulations, as to them shall seem necessary and convenient for the government of such society or corporation, the same not being contrary to the laws of the State of Maryland or of the United States.

This society shall be capable, and power and authority is hereby given, to alter, change or amend any of the foregoing regulations, or adopting other provisions, by giving at least sixty days notice of such intention to alter, change or amend the same, and by the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present at a meeting called for that purpose.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said Alexander Yearley, Thomas Armstrong, James Brundige, John G. Chappell, Thomas France, Isaac P. Cook, Charles J. Baker and J. Robert Israel, have hereunto set their hands and seals, this fifth day of May, in the year eighteen hundred and fifty-three.

Signed, sealed and delivered }  
in the presence of } 5

WILLIAM FRICK.

ALEXANDER YEARLEY, [Seal.]  
THOMAS ARMSTRONG, [Seal.]  
JAMES BRUNDIGE, [Seal.]  
JOHN G. CHAPPELL, [Seal.]  
THOMAS FRANCE, [Seal.]  
ISAAC P. COOK, [Seal.]  
CHARLES J. BAKER, [Seal.]  
J. ROBERT ISRAEL, [Seal.]

*State of Maryland, City of Baltimore, Sect.*

Be it remembered, and it is hereby certified, that on this fifth day of May, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three, before me, William Frick, Judge of the Superior Court of Baltimore City, personally appeared Alexander Yearley, Thomas Armstrong, James Brundige, John G. Chapel, Thomas France, Isaac P. Cook, Charles J. Baker and J. Robert Israel, they being known to me, to be the persons who are named and described as, and professing to be the parties to the foregoing instrument of writing, and did severally acknowledge the said instrument of writing to be their act and deed. And I do hereby direct that the said instrument of writing be recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Baltimore City, being the office for the recording of deeds in the said city, according to the terms of the Act of the General Assembly of Maryland, passed at January Session, eighteen hundred and fifty-two, chapter 231.

*In Witness Whereof*, I hereto subscribe my name, on the day and year aforesaid.

WM. FRICK.

## CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I. This Society shall be known by the name of the "SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF OF THE POOR OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF BALTIMORE CITY STATION."

ARTICLE II. Any person by the payment of two dollars or upwards per year, shall be a member of this Society. Ten dollars paid at one time shall constitute a member for life.

ARTICLE III. The funds collected by this Society, shall be appropriated by the Board of Managers, as far as they deem advisable, to the relief of the poor among the members of the Baltimore City Station, upon the recommendation of the leader of the class to which the applicant may belong; nevertheless, in extreme cases the board may dispense with such recommendation, and grant immediate relief.

In case of the death of a member in indigent circumstances, the Board of Managers may assist in defraying the funeral expenses.

ARTICLE IV. The Society immediately after

its organization, and thereafter in the month of November, shall annually elect by ballot sixteen managers, all of whom shall be members of the Baltimore City Station, and seven of whom, shall be chosen from the Stewards of said Station, and from their whole number they shall proceed to elect a President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary, and shall have power to form by-laws for their own government.

ARTICLE V. All funds arising from legacies or special donations, shall be invested by the Board of Managers, who shall be fully authorized to purchase in fee, lease, buy, rent, or erect, a building or buildings, for the accommodation of aged females attached to Baltimore City Station, which building or buildings, together with the inmates thereof, shall be subject to such rules and regulations as the Board may adopt.

ARTICLE VI. The Society shall meet whenever the Board of Managers may deem it advisable, at which meeting they shall submit a report of their proceedings.

In the recess of the meetings of the Society, the Board shall have power to fill all vacancies that may occur in their own body.

ARTICLE VII. This constitution may be altered or amended at any meeting of the Society by the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present.

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## BY-LAWS

### *For the Government of the Board.*

ARTICLE I. The Board shall meet each Wednesday evening, after the adjournment of the Leaders' meeting—five members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The following order of business shall be observed: Roll call—applications from the Leaders for relief—report from Visitors of Home for Aged Females—Appointment of Committee of Visitation—Collection made by the Managers—new business.

ARTICLE II. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Board—state all questions—try all motions—preserve good order—in case of equal division, give the casting vote—enforce the laws, and appoint all committees, except when decided to the contrary by motion. In the absence of the President,

the Vice President shall perform the aforementioned duties, or in the absence of them both, a President pro tem. shall be appointed.

ARTICLE III. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep a correct account of all moneys paid into his hands, and pay the same to the order of the Board. Annually he shall submit a statement of his account to the Society, audited by two members of the Board, appointed for that purpose.

ARTICLE IV. It shall be the duty of the Recording Secretary to keep correct minutes of all proceedings of the Society or Board—and shall preserve all papers and records of the Society, except such as belong to the Treasurer, and shall present to each meeting of the Society a report of the proceedings of the Board, if they should so direct.

ARTICLE V. The Managers shall collect the subscriptions of the members, and pay the same to the Treasurer at any of the meetings of the Society or Board, accompanied with a written or verbal report, and shall render such services in visiting the home for aged females, as the Board may direct.

ARTICLE VI. For the regulation of the meet-

ings of the Board, the following rules shall be adhered to: No motion shall be received unless seconded, after which it shall be stated by the President before debate. No member shall speak more than twice on the same subject, unless to explain, nor longer than ten minutes without leave from the Board. The President shall decide all questions of order, but any member dissenting from his decision may appeal to the Board, when if such an appeal is seconded, the Board shall decide the case without debate. No member shall leave the room previous to adjournment, without permission from the Board.