

place where she was begotten with child, with such other circumstances as he shall judge necessary for the discovery of the truth of such accusation; which examination shall be given in evidence on the trial of the issue; and at his discretion may bind him that is so accused to the next General Sessions of the Peace, with sufficient surety or sureties, to answer to such accusation, and abide the order of Court thereon. And if the woman be not then delivered, or be unable personally to attend the said Court, may order the continuance or renewal of his and her bond, that they may be forthcoming at the next Court of General Sessions of the Peace after the birth of the child; and the continuance of such bonds aforesaid to the next Court of General Sessions of the Peace, entered thereon by order of the said Court (unless the surety or sureties shall object thereto) shall have the same force and effect as a recognizance taken in Court for the next term.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all laws heretofore in force respecting the subject matter of this act, be and they are hereby declared to be repealed: touching all cases, that may happen after the passing of this act.

Laws heretofore made, repealed.

March 15, 1786.

1785.—Chapter 67.

[February Session, ch. 28.]

AN ACT FOR INCORPORATING CERTAIN PERSONS BY THE NAME OF THE SCOTS CHARITABLE SOCIETY.

Chap. 67

Whereas a considerable number of persons have for many years associated themselves in the town of Boston, for the purpose of joining their charities, for the relief of certain widows, orphans, and other objects of charity, and have raised a common stock, but are unable to recover the monies they have letten on interest, and to transact the business necessary for supporting the said institution:

Preamble.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That John Scollay, William Erving and James Swan, Esquires, Messrs. Thomas Melville, James Thompson, James Graham, William Doll, William M^cKean, Andrew Drummond and John Young, with such other persons as they may from time to time hereafter admit, be and they hereby are, incorporated and

Society incorporated.

Their powers.

made a body politic, by the name of the Scots Charitable Society, and that they, their associates and successors, have perpetual succession, by said name, and have power to make a common seal, and alter the same as they may see fit, and to make by laws for the preservation and advancement of said body (which shall not be repugnant to the laws of this Commonwealth) with penalties, either of disfranchisement from said Society, or of fines not exceeding *forty shillings*.

May sue and be sued, &c.

And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That said Scots Charitable Society may sue or be sued in their said corporate capacity, and are hereby licenced and empowered to make purchases, and receive donations of real and personal estates, for the purposes aforesaid, provided the said estates shall not be productive of an annual income exceeding the sum of *Two hundred pounds* per annum, and to manage and dispose of such estates in manner as to them shall appear most fit.

Empowered to meet at such times and places as they shall see fit.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said Society be, and they hereby are, authorized and empowered to meet at such times and places as they shall see fit (the time and place of holding the first meeting to be determined by the said *John Scollay, William Erving* and *James Swan*, Esq's. or any two of them, and notified in one of the *Boston* newspapers, fourteen days before such meeting) and from time to time to choose such officers, as to them shall seem most suitable. And all instruments to be made for, or in behalf of said Society, shall be executed under the common seal of said Society, and by such persons as the said Society shall appoint.

Proviso.

Provided always, and it is further enacted, That the members of said Society, shall at no time exceed the number of one hundred.

Empowered to receive monies heretofore due to the society.

And be it further enacted, That the Society aforesaid, be, and they hereby are, authorized and empowered to receive to their use, all monies due to the Society, heretofore called the Scots Society in *Boston*, before the passing of this act, and to give receipts for monies they shall receive, to any person or persons who have heretofore given their obligations to the said Scots Society, which are now in the hands of absentees, which receipts may be given in evidence in any action that may hereafter be brought on any obligation of the description aforesaid.

March 16, 1786.