

James Morton, Nathan Hanscum, Christopher Plumer, Isaac Irish, Isaac Plumer, John Haskel junr, Reuben Libbee, Edward Webb, Joseph Hodgdon, John Lombard, John Carsley, John Carsley junr. Thomas Bolton Jeremiah Clement, William Bolton, Daniel Gammon, William Lakeman, Ephraim Crocket, Pelatiah Crocket, Thomas Paine, Benjamin Cate, James McIntosh, Reuben Elder, Benjamin Chamberlain, Ebenezer Cobb, Samuel Elder, Samuel Warren, Micah Whitney, James Gilkey, Hart Williams, & Jonathan Crocket members of the said religious Society, together with their families and estates be, and they hereby are incorporated by the name of the *Baptist religious Society of Gorham*, with all the privileges powers & immunities to which other parishes in the Commonwealth are by law entitled.

And be it further enacted that every person in the town of *Gorham*, who shall at any time hereafter actually become a member of, and unite in religious worship with any Society in said town, and give in his or her name to the Selectmen of the town with a Certificate signed by the minister of the Society to which he or she is so united, purporting that the same person is a member of, and unites in religious worship with such Society, fourteen days previous to the town meeting therein to be held in the month of *March* or *April* annually, shall from and after such meeting, with his or her families and estates be considered a member of such Society.

And be it further enacted, that *Josiah Thacher Esqr.* be, and he is hereby authorised to issue his Warrant directed to some principal member of the said Society, requiring him to warn the members of the said Society qualified to vote in parish affairs, to assemble at some suitable time & place in said town, to chuse such parish Officers, as are by law required to be chosen in the month of *March* or *April* annually, & to transact all such matters and things as are necessary, and may legally be done in said Society.

March 7, 1791.

Method of procedure, in order to be considered members.

Josiah Thacher, Esq. to issue his warrant.

1790. — Chapter 33.

[January Session, ch. 19.]

AN ACT FOR INCORPORATING THE MEMBERS OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE TOWN OF *PORTLAND* INTO A RELIGIOUS SOCIETY.

Whereas a number of persons in the town of Portland who belong to the Episcopal Church in said town, have Preamble.

petitioned this Court to be incorporated into a religious Society for the purpose of carrying on the public worship of GOD in said place, according to the Episcopal form & faith, and for other purposes mentioned in their petition, and it appearing reasonable to this Court that the prayer thereof should be granted.

Persons in-
corporated.

*Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled and by the authority of the same, that John Waite, John Thorlo, Nathaniel Fadre Fosdick, James Fosdick, Alexander Motley, Francis Waite, Thomas Oxnard, Shirley Erving, Stephen Deblois, Nathaniel Coffin, John Rudberg, Samuel Waite, William Waite, John Merrill, Joshua Rogers, Stephen Waite, Thomas Waite, Thomas Motley, William Tate, George Tate, Edward Oxnard, Joseph Riggs junior, Thomas Fosdick, Benjamin Waite, junior, John Wheelwright Greaton, John Baker junr. Benjamin Waite, Thomas Robison, John Kent, Samuel Tate, David Braddish, John Lowther, Alford Butler, Peter Warren, John Thorlo junr., Pelatiah Furnald, Samuel Mountford, Jeremiah Coffin, John Bailey, James Corry and Samuel Mountford junior the petitioners and members of said Episcopal Society, together with their polls & estates be and they are hereby incorporated into a religious Society by the name of the *Episcopal Church in the town of Portland*, with all the privileges powers and immunities which any parish or corporate religious Society in this Commonwealth is intitled to, by the laws and Constitution thereof.*

Wardens and
Vestry
empowered.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the Wardens & Vestry of said Church, and their successors in said office, be and they are hereby authorized & empowered to make sale and dispose of any land tenements or hereditaments belonging to said Church, to any person who may wish to purchase the same, in fee simple, and to make and execute good & sufficient deeds in law of the same, and to lease or otherwise dispose of the same in the name & behalf of the proprietors of said Church as to them shall seem necessary, agreeably & in conformity to the votes of the proprietors of said Church.

Daniel Davis,
Esq. to issue
his warrant.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that Daniel Davis Esqr. be and he is hereby authorized to issue his warrant directed to some principal member of said Church, requiring him to warn the members of said Church and Society to meet at some suitable time and

place in said town, to chuse such Officers or Committee as the said Society may deem necessary for governing the religious and secular concerns thereof, and to transact all matters and things necessary and which may legally be done in the said Society.

March 7, 1791.

1790. — Chapter 34.

[January Session, ch. 20.]

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE A NUMBER OF THE INHABITANTS IN THE TOWN OF TAUNTON, INTO A PARISH BY THE NAME OF THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY IN THE TOWN OF TAUNTON.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled and by the authority of the same, that the congregational inhabitants within the town of Taunton in the County of Bristol, who usually attend the public worship of GOD in the old meeting house, so called, in said town, be, and they are hereby inc[or]porated into a parish, by the name of the *First congregational Society in the town of Taunton*, with all the privileges and immunities, exercised by other and similar Societies and Corporations within this Commonwealth.

Society
incorporated.

And in order to prevent and remove any doubts or disputes, which may hereafter arise, in distinguishing who do belong to, and are taxable, to the support of the ministry, in said Society ;

Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that it shall and may be lawful for said Society, (if they shall think proper) by a major vote, in a legal meeting to be warned for that purpose to make it requisite, for those who are inclined to belong to the same Society, to lodge their names with the Clerk of the said Society, who shall enter the same in a Book to be kept for that purpose ; & all persons who shall cause their names to be entered as aforesaid, shall be held, deemed, & taken to belong to said Society & liable to pay their proportion of all taxes, that shall be assessed on them, in either of the ways provided by this Act, untill they shall signify their intentions of leaving said Society to the Clerk thereof, in writing, declaring such their intentions, and shall also lodge a certificate with the said Clerk, signed by the Clerk of some other religious Society of a different denomination, setting forth, that they have actually joined the last mentioned Society, and become members thereof.

Method of procedure, in order to become members.