

sidered as a Member of the Society to which he or she has so united.

SECT. 4. *And be it further Enacted*, That Samuel Weston Esqr. be and he is hereby authorized and empowered to issue his Warrant directed to some suitable Member of the said Society, requiring him to notify and warn the Members of the said Society to meet at such time and place as shall be appointed in said Warrant, to choose such Officers as Parishes in this Commonwealth are by Law entitled to choose in the Month of March or April annually.

First meeting.

Approved February 1, 1799.

1798. — Chapter 38.

[January Session, ch. 5.]

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE SUNDRY INHABITANTS OF THE TOWN OF BLANFORD IN THE COUNTY OF HAMPSHIRE, AND OF THE TOWNS ADJOINING THERETO, INTO A RELIGIOUS SOCIETY BY THE NAME OF THE PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL SOCIETY IN BLANFORD.

SECT. 1. *Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled and by the authority of the same*, That Sanford Thomson, Jedediah Smith, Russell Atwater, Timothy Hatch, Samuel Sloper, William Knox 3d. William Thomson, David Hamilton, Josiah Harvey, David Butler, John Webster, James Beard, James Sinnet, Luke Osburn, Jonathan Frary, Nathan Stewart, Frederick Falley, John Morton, James Slade, Thoda Garret, David Hannan, James Hamilton, William Montgomery, Charles Plum, Perry Button, George Smith, Francis Hamilton, Benjamin Herrington, Samuel Moor, George Nies, Thomas Moor, Ezekiel Cannon, Benjamin Bowers, John Bowers, Newel Bowers, Oliver Knox, Abijah Babcock, Jacob Plum, Jonas Johnson, William Mitchel, David C. Osburn, Roger Parks, David Knox 2d. Mathew Blair, Seth Webster, William Wooldridge, Phinehas Ashman, Timothy Linus Hatch, Nathan Gibbs, Samuel Sloper jun. and John Frost, be and hereby are incorporated into a Religious Society by the name of The Protestant Episcopal Society in Blanford, with all the powers & privileges which Parishes in this Commonwealth are by Law vested with.

Persons incorporated.

Corporate name.

SECT. 2. *Be it further Enacted, by the authority aforesaid*, that any person being an Inhabitant of the said town of Blanford, or of any Town adjoining thereto, may, at any

Mode of association.

time hereafter, become a Member of the said Society by giving in his or her name to the Clerk of the Parish to which he or she may at that time belong, together with a Certificate signed by the Minister or Clerk of said Society, that he or she hath actually united and joined with the said Society, fourteen days at least previous to the Parish meeting therein to be held in the Month of March or April annually; And from & after thus giving in his or her name and such Certificate, such person with his or her polls and estate, shall to all intents and purposes, be considered as belonging to said Society. *Provided nevertheless*, that such person shall be held to pay his or her proportion of all monies voted or assessed by the parish to which he or she did belong previous to that time. And any person being a Member of said Society, and having a desire to leave the same, and to join with the Parish in which he or she may reside or be an Inhabitant, may at any time hereafter become a Member of such parish by giving in his or her name to the Clerk of said Society together with a Certificate signed by the Minister or Clerk of such parish, fourteen days at least previous to the annual meeting of said Society in the month of March or April; And from and after thus giving in his or her name and such Certificate, such person with his or her polls and Estate shall to all intents and purposes, be considered as belonging to such parish. *Provided nevertheless* that such person shall be held to pay his or her proportion of all monies voted or assessed by said Society previous to that time.

Mode of
separation.

SECT. 3. *Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid*, that the said Protestant Episcopal Society be and they hereby are empowered to raise and establish a Fund in such way and manner as they may see fit, the income or interest of which, or so much thereof as shall be found necessary, shall be appropriated & applied to the support of a Protestant Episcopal Minister of said Society.

Fund to be
raised.

SECT. 4. *Be it further Enacted by the authority aforesaid*, that Sanford Thomson, Jedediah Smith, Timothy Hatch, Russell Atwater, and William Knox, 3d. be and they hereby are constituted Trustees of said Society, and they and their Successors in Office are hereby vested with full power and authority to receive all such donations, subscriptions, monies and securities, and also all such Grants and Appropriations either of Real or Personal property for the use aforesaid as may hereafter be made

Trustees.

to the said Society; *Provided* that the whole amount of such donations, subscriptions, monies, securities, grants and appropriations, do not exceed the sum or value of Twelve Thousand Dollars. Sum limited.

SECT. 5. *Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid*, that the said Trustees for the time being shall, from time to time, at the said annual meeting of the said Society, and as much oftener as they shall be thereto required by a major vote of said Society at any Meeting legally warned and held for that purpose, lay before the said Society a fair statement in writing of the Debts, Credits, Money and other property of the said Society in the hands of the said Trustees, together with all the disbursements and expences which may have been incurred. Accounts to be annually submitted.

SECT. 6. *And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid*, that Samuel Fowler Esqr. be and he is hereby authorized and empowered to issue his Warrant, directed to some principal Member of said Society, requiring him to warn the Members of the said Society, qualified to vote in parish affairs, to assemble at some suitable time and place in said Town of Blanford, to chuse such Officers as Parishes are by law required to choose in the Month of March or April annually, and to transact such other business as may be proper and necessary in said Society. First meeting.

Approved February 2, 1799.

1798. — Chapter 39.

[January Session, ch. 8.]

AN ACT REPEALING THE FOURTH ENACTING CLAUSE OF AN ACT PASSED JUNE ONE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND NINETY SIX ENTITLED "AN ACT FOR INCORPORATING CERTAIN PERSONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF BUILDING A BRIDGE OVER ACUSHNET RIVER IN THE TOWN OF NEW-BEDFORD."

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled and by the authority of the same, that the clause in the Act aforesaid, providing "that no Toll shall be required of those who have occasion to pass said Bridge on the Lord's day, in order to attend Public Worship, nor of Children crossing said Bridge on either side of the River in said Town, in going to and from School," be and the same is hereby repealed. Free Toll on the Lord's Day, not to continue longer.

Approved February 4, 1799.