

SENATE . . . No. 100.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

SENATE, March 16, 1887.

The Committee on Education, to whom was referred the petition of Edward Clapp and others for an Act establishing the Clapp Free Library in Belchertown, report the accompanying Bill.

For the Committee,

CHAS. A. GLEASON.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty-seven.

AN ACT

To incorporate the Clapp Memorial Library.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Everett Clapp, Dwight P. Clapp,
2 Edward L. Clapp, Nathaniel Dwight, Susan M
3 Bridgman, Payson W. Lyman and their associ-
4 ates, survivors and successors are made a corpora-
5 tion by the name of the Clapp Memorial Library,
6 for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a
7 public and social library for the diffusion of
8 knowledge and to promote intellectual, moral
9 and physical culture in the town of Belchertown,
10 with all the powers and subject to the duties,
11 restrictions and liabilities as the same are set
12 forth in the public laws and not herein specified.

1 SECT. 2. Said corporation shall consist of not
2 less than five nor more than seven members, of
3 whom the chairman of the board of selectmen for
4 the town of Belchertown for the time being shall
5 always be, *ex officio*, one of the members; and all
6 vacancies occurring in such membership shall be
7 filled at such time and in such manner as the cor-
8 poration may lawfully direct.

1 SECT. 3. Said corporation is authorized to
2 take and hold real and personal property for the
3 uses and purposes aforesaid, not exceeding in
4 amount and value two hundred thousand dollars,
5 inclusive of the bequest of the late John F.
6 Clapp, which bequest said corporation is author-
7 ized to receive, hold and apply to the uses and
8 purposes of a public library in the town of
9 Belchertown; said corporation may also take and
10 receive donations, grants, devises and bequests,
11 to be held and applied to the uses aforesaid, and
12 upon such conditions as may be lawfully pre-
13 scribed by the donors.

1 SECT. 4. It shall be lawful for the town of
2 Belchertown to transfer to said corporation all
3 funds and properties which said town may now
4 hold or may hereafter receive for the uses of a
5 public library, to be received and applied by said
6 corporation in like manner as if held by said
7 town: *provided always*, that the inhabitants of
8 Belchertown shall have free use of said library,

9 under suitable and proper rules and regulations;
10 and said town may lawfully appropriate and pay
11 annually to said corporation, towards increasing
12 and maintaining said library and its buildings,
13 and defraying expenses of same, a sum not ex-
14 ceeding that which is allowed by law for the sup-
15 port and maintenance of public libraries.

1 SECT. 5. The purchase of books for the library
2 and in the administration of its affairs the library
3 shall be non-sectarian in character.

1 SECT. 6. This act shall take effect upon its
2 passage.