

purposes, and as provided by section 3 of this act, greater than one per cent. on the assessed value of the property in said city, nor shall they contract debts or issue city orders to a greater amount each year than the tax allowed by law to be collected, except for the payment of bonds issued under this act, and then only in a sufficient amount over one per cent. to meet such bonds or interest becoming due.

SEC. 7. The common council of said city are authorized to provide for the payment of bonds, issued in pursuance of this act, previous to the maturing thereof. Payment of bonds before maturity.

SEC. 8. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after the first day of June next, and all acts or parts of acts conflicting with the provisions of this act, are hereby repealed. Take effect.

Approved March 19, 1860.

CHAPTER 147.

[Published April 6, 1860.]

AN ACT to provide for the incorporation of benevolent, charitable, scientific and literary societies.

The People of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Any five or more persons, of full age, citizens of this State, who shall desire to associate themselves together for benevolent, charitable, scientific or literary purposes, may make, sign and acknowledge, before any officer authorized to take the acknowledgment of deeds in this State, and file in the office of register of deeds, for the county in which the business of such society is to be conducted, a statement or certificate, in writing, in which shall be stated the name or title by which such society shall be known in law, the particular business and objects of such society, the names and number of the trustees or directors of such society, for the first year of its existence: *Provided*, that such certificate or statement, before being filed, shall have endorsed thereon the written consent and approval of one of the justices of the supreme court, or the judge of the circuit court, of the judicial circuit in which the business of such society is to be conducted. Certificate, to be filed.

Incorporation. SEC. 2. Upon filing a statement or certificate, as aforesaid, the persons who shall have signed and acknowledged the same, and their associates and successors, shall thereupon, by virtue of this act, be a body politic and corporate, by the name stated in such statement or certificate, and by that name they, and their successors, shall and may have succession, and by that name shall be capable, in law, of suing and being sued, and they and their successors may have and use a common seal, and the same may alter or change at pleasure, and they and their successors, by their corporate name, shall, in law, have power and capacity to take and receive by gift, grant, purchase, devise or bequest, and hold real estate, for the purposes of their incorporation, and for no other purpose, to an amount not exceeding in value the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars, and personal estate, for like purposes, to an amount not exceeding in value the sum of one hundred thousand dollars, to make a constitution and by-laws for the management of its affairs, not inconsistent with the laws and constitution of this State, or of the United States, to elect and appoint the officers and agents of such society for the management of its business, and to allow them a suitable compensation.

Trustees or directors, how elected. SEC. 3. The society, so incorporated, may annually elect, from its members, its trustees or directors, at such time and place, and in such manner as may, in its by-laws, be provided, who shall have the control and management of the affairs and funds of said society, a majority of whom shall be a quorum for the transaction of business, if not otherwise provided in the by-laws, except that no purchase, lease, or sale of real estate shall be made, unless two-thirds of the whole number are present at the meeting at which it is ordered; and whenever any vacancy shall happen, among such trustees or directors, by death, resignation, neglect, or refusal to serve, such vacancy shall be filled in such manner as shall be provided by the by-laws of such society.

Failure to elect not to dissolve society. SEC. 4. In case it shall, at any time, happen that an election of trustees or directors shall not be made on the day designated by the by-laws, said society, for that cause, shall not be dissolved, but it shall be lawful, on any other day, to hold an election for trustees or directors, in such manner as may be provided by the by-laws of such society.

Trustees or directors to SEC. 5. It shall be the duty of the trustees or directors, of any such society, formed under the provisions of

this act, or a majority of them, in the month of December ^{file certifi-} in each year, to make, and file in the office of the regis- ^{ates.} ter of deeds, of the county where the original statement or certificate, provided for by section one of this act, is filed, a certificate, under their hands, stating the names of the trustees or directors and officers of such society or corporation, with an affidavit that such society or corporation has not been engaged, directly or indirectly, in any other business than such as is set forth in the original statement or certificate on file.

SEC. 6. The trustees, directors, or stockholders of any existing benevolent, charitable, scientific or literary cor- Existing so- poration may, by conforming to the requirements of sec- cieties can re- tion one of this act, re-incorporate themselves under this incorporate. act, and all the property and effects of such existing corporation shall vest in and belong to the corporation so re-incorporated.

SEC. 7. The provisions of this act shall not apply nor Declaratory. extend to universities, colleges, academies, seminaries or religious societies, nor to the formation of any secret societies.

SEC. 8. The legislature may at any time amend, annul Power of leg- or repeal any incorporation formed under the provisions islatiure. of this act.

SEC. 9. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved March 19, 1860.

CHAPTER 148.

[Published April 4, 1860.]

AN ACT to amend the charter of the city of Appleton.

(See Supplement to Local Laws.)