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the General-Treasurer for Deficiency of the State or Continental Taxes.

It is Voted and Resolved, That Essek Hopkins, and John Foster, Esquires, be and they are hereby appointed a Standing Committee to examine and settle with the Collectors of Impost in the several Counties, their Accounts of Monies received by them in their respective Offices, and paid into the General-Treasury; and that the said Accounts be settled once every Three Months.

An A C T to incorporate certain Persons, by the Name of the *Six Principles Baptist Society*, in the Town of *Newport*, in this State.

WHEREAS divers Persons, belonging to the Congregation ^{As incorporating the Six Principles Baptist Society in Newport.} assembling for the public Worship of Almighty God with the Church of Christ called *Baptist* or *Antipædobaptist*, in the Town of *Newport*, now under the pastoral Care of the Reverend *Gardner Thurston*, professing to believe that Water Baptism ought to be administered by Immersion only, and that professed Believers in Jesus Christ, and no others, are proper Subjects of the same, have petitioned this Assembly to grant them a Charter of Incorporation, with the Privileges and Powers herein after mentioned: Now therefore be it known, That We, the Governor and Company of the State of *Rhode-Island* and *Providence-Plantations*, in General Assembly convened, Do, for ourselves and our Successors, Enact, Grant, Ordain, Constitute and Declare, and it is hereby Enacted, Granted, Constituted and Declared, that the Reverend *Gardner Thurston*, *Samuel Fowler*, *Peleg Barker*, *Stephen Peckham*, *Jethro Briggs*, *Caleb Gardner*, *Peleg Clarke*, *Constant Taber*, *William Burroughs*, *Nicholas Paris Tillingbush*, *Philip Moss*, *Thomas Eyres*, *Simeon Martin*, *William Langley*, *William Taggart*, *Parker Hall*, *John M^r Quarter*, *Peleg Barker, jun.* *Daniel Rogers*, *John Shaw*, *John Shearman*, *Ebenezer Shearman*, *Clarke Brown*, *Ephraim Macomber*, *Joshua Peckham*, *William Prior*, *Daniel Gardner*, *John Gardner*, *Joseph Rogers*, *Elisha Barker*, *Isaac Barker*, *Oliver Durfee*, *John Clarke*, *Elisha Gibbs*, *Elisha Lawton*, and *Gardner Fowler*, or such or so many of them as shall convene at the *Baptist Meeting* in *Newport*, on the First Monday in June next, on the Business of this Charter, and their Successors, shall be forever hereafter one Body, Corporate and Politic, in Fact and Name, with perpetual Succession, to be known in the Law by the Name of the *Six Principles Baptist Society*, according to *Hebrews*, Chap. vi. Ver. 1st and 2d, in the Town of *Newport*, and State aforesaid. And the said *Six Principles Baptist Society* is hereby empowered to take, receive and hold, all and any voluntary Subscriptions, Contributions, Legacies and Donations, of any

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any Sum or Sums of Money, or of any real and personal Estate: Also to have, take, possess, purchase, acquire, or otherwise receive and hold, Lands, Tenements, Hereditaments, Goods, Chattels, or other Estates; of all which they shall and may stand seized, notwithstanding any Misnomer of this Corporation, and by whatever Name, or how ever imperfectly the same shall be described, in Donations, Legacies, Assignments and Grants, provided the true Intent and Meaning of the Assignee or Benefactor be evident: Also the said *Six Principles Baptist Society* is hereby empowered to take, hold, and stand seized of, all Estates aforesaid, solely to and for the Use and Benefit of the said Baptist or Antipodobaptist Church and Congregation, and their Successors forever; and the same to use, occupy and improve, towards the Support of Pastors, Relief of the Poor in schooling their Children, or otherwise, or any other religious Uses in said Church and Congregation, according to the Will of the Donors, and to the Purposes, Trusts and Uses, to which they shall be seized thereof, or the same shall be designed: Also to lease the real Estate, or the same to grant, demise, aliene, or hold in Perpetuity, according to the Tenor of each particular Donation, or their Property therein, and to let Monies on Bonds, Mortgages, or other Securities; and shall and may be Persons capable in the Law, as a Body Corporate, to sue and be sued, to plead and be impleaded, to answer and be answered unto, to defend and pursue unto final Judgment and Execution thereon, in all Courts and Places, and before all proper Judges whatever, in all and singular Suit and Suits, Causes and Actions, of what Kind soever, in the fullest and amplest Manner; by and in the Name of their Treasurer for the Time being. And furthermore, the said Body Corporate, and their Successors forever hereafter, shall and may have a public Seal, which they may use for any Purposes or Affairs as to them shall seem expedient: Also, it shall be lawful for them the Seal to break, alter and make anew, from Time to Time, at their Will and Pleasure.

AND be it further Enacted, That there shall be an annual Meeting of the said *Six Principles Baptist Society*, in the said Town of *Newport*, on the First Monday in June forever; at which Time they shall, out of their own Body Politic, elect a Moderator, Treasurer and Clerk, and such other Officers as they shall think needful; and that the Moderator, Treasurer and Clerk, be sworn to the faithful Performance of their respective Trusts.

AND furthermore, there shall be a Quarterly-Meeting of said *Six Principles Baptist Society* on the First Mondays in September, December and March, forever: That the said *Six Principles Baptist Society* shall have full Power to appoint any other Meetings, at such Times and Places as to them from Time to Time shall seem necessary or expedient, more fully and effectually to accomplish the charitable Purposes aforesaid: And that they have Power at any such Meetings to appoint Committees, and transact all such Business as according to this Charter may regularly come before them; all which shall be done and determined by a Majority of the Members present.

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AND be it further Enacted, That whatever Monies or other Estates, both real and personal, the said *Six Principles Baptist Society* may become seized or possessed of, shall be and remain a capital Stock or Fund, and only the Interest, yearly Profits or Income thereof, shall be applied and appropriated to the Use of the said Baptist or Antipadobaptist Church and Congregation.

AND be it further Enacted, That *Samuel Fowler* be the First Moderator, *Peleg Clarke* the First Treasurer, and *Peleg Barker, jun.* the First Clerk of the said *Six Principles Baptist Society*, to continue in their respective Offices until the First Monday in June, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty-four.

AND be it further Enacted, That the said *Six Principles Baptist Society*, at any of their Meetings, may elect such Persons as they shall think proper to become Members of the same, and make such Rules, Orders and By-Laws, and alter the same, as they from Time to Time shall judge necessary for the good Order of said Society: Provided that such Rules, Orders and By-Laws, are not contrary to the Laws of this State; and that any Seven Members of the said *Six Principles Baptist Society*, convened at any regular Meeting (the Moderator, Treasurer, or Clerk, always to be one) are hereby declared to be a Quorum of the said Society.

AND be it further Enacted, That all Donations, of whatsoever Kind, or howsoever made, to the said *Six Principles Baptist Society*, together with the Names of the Donors, and the Purposes and Uses for which said Donations shall be made, shall be entered on Record by the Clerk for the Time being; as also their yearly Income, and its Appropriation, from Time to Time forever; and that the Treasurer's Accounts be exhibited and audited at every annual Meeting of the said Society.

PROVIDED nevertheless, and be it further Enacted, That if ever the whole Number of the said *Six Principles Baptist Society*, for the Time being, shall be reduced below Seven, then, and in such Case, all Monies, Bonds, Mortgages, Deeds, Notes, Obligations, Books and Papers of every Kind, together with all the Estate, both real and personal, at that Time belonging to the said *Six Principles Baptist Society*, shall be given up to, and the sole Property thereof be vested in, the Baptist or Antipadobaptist Church and Congregation aforesaid, for whose Use and Benefit the said *Six Principles Baptist Society* is instituted, to be received by a Committee by them appointed for that Purpose; and shall be punctually appropriated by them to the Purposes, Trusts and Uses, specified by the Donors to the said *Six Principles Baptist Society*, or to which they are by this Charter empowered to appropriate the same, and no otherwise.

PROVIDED furthermore, and it is furthermore Enacted, That no Part of this Charter shall be construed or understood to grant any Power or Powers to the said *Six Principles Baptist Society* to raise any
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Sum or Sums of Money any otherwise than by free and voluntary Subscription, Contribution, Legacy or Donation. And in case, at any Time hereafter, through Misapprehension or mistaken Construction of the Powers contained in this Charter, any Laws shall be enacted, or any Matters done and transacted by this Corporation, contrary to the Tenor hereof, such Laws, Acts and Doings, shall be in themselves null and void; but shall never be adjudged into an Avoidance, Defeazance or Forfeiture, of this Charter; but the same shall remain entire to the said Corporation in perpetual Succession forever, and all their Acts conformable to its Powers, Tenor, true Intent and Meaning, shall be and remain in full Force and legal Validity.



J. Sheldon al-
lowed £ 1
19 s. 10 d.

THE Account of Mr. *James Sheldon*, Collector of Taxes for the Town of *South-Kingsfown*, exhibited unto this Assembly, for the Tax of the *Borland* Lots (so called) in the Year 1777, with the Interest thereon, being duly considered, *It is Voted and Resolved*, That the Amount thereof, being *One Pound Nineteen Shillings and Tenpence*, Lawful Money, be allowed and paid the said *James Sheldon* out of the General-Treasury.

A. Hopkins al-
lowed £ 45
27 s. 3 d.

UPON the Account of Mr. *Asa Hopkins*, Keeper of the Gaol in the County of *Providence*, exhibited unto this Assembly, for the Maintenance of divers poor Prisoners committed at the Suit of the Governor and Company, the following Report was made, *to wit*:

AGREEABLY to our Appointment by the General Assembly to adjust the Account of Mr. *Asa Hopkins*, we do report, that we have examined the same; and that there is due unto him the Sum of *Forty-five Pounds Seventeen Shillings and Threepence*. All which is submitted by

PAUL ALLEN,
BENJAMIN TILLINGHAST, } Committee.

AND the said Report being duly considered, *It is Voted and Resolved*, That the same be and hereby is accepted; and that the Amount of the said Account, being *Forty-five Pounds Seventeen Shillings and Threepence*, Lawful Money, be allowed and paid the said *Asa Hopkins* out of the General-Treasury.



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