

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
RHODE ISLAND STATE ARCHIVES
337 WESTMINSTER STREET
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

An Act for incorp
and granting them a

Whereas Abraham Redwood Esq^r ha
to be laid out in a collection of useful Books
And having in view but the good of
diffusive & profitable to which End James Hon
Esq^r William Paul John Shanning Esq^r
Daniel Wadsworth Daniel Wadsworth Jun^r Ab
Samuel Wickham Thomas Ward Josias S
Lyndon Thomas Wickham John Tillingh
Rodman James Honeyman Jun^r Samuel
Gray Joseph Phillips Benjamin Hooper
Gardner Jonathan Nichols Stephen W
win them lies to form a Society or Company
which they have accordingly done And with
a Charter of Incorporation And the Applicants
and being willing & desirous to give all
by Virtue of the Authority reposed in them
James Honeyman Edward Scott Simon
Shanning Nathaniel Brewster David Shes
Daniel Wadsworth Jun^r Abraham Gordon
Thomas Ward Josias Lyndon Peter
Wickham John Tillinghast Joseph Ham
Callender John Bennett Joseph Scott Ebenezer
Turnout Benjamin Wickham John G
others that shall be by them admitted
a Body Politick & capable to subsist at
Redwood Library and by the same Name shall
I have hold receive and enjoy Lands Tenements
of Life Lives Years or otherwise & also Goods
grant let sell or assign the same Lands Tenements
about the same by the Name aforesaid And
Library be and shall be forever here after
in view and be answered unto the said
Judges Justices and other Persons whatsoever

resolving a Number of Gentlemen whose Names are after inscribed
to constitute a public Library in the Town of Newport
with Generosity engaged to bestow Five hundred Pounds Sterling
able for a Publick Library proposed to be erected in Newport aforesaid.
Mankind hath chosen to make his Donation a lasting and
nephew Edward Scott Simon Pearce Thomas Moffat John
Brett Brunton David (then through) William Vernon John Brown
Abraham Borden Henry Collins Joseph Jacob Samuel Rodman
Lyndon Peter Bowshara Wickham John Easton Joseph
West Joseph Harrison Clarke Rodman William Vinal Walter
Ward John Fallender John Bennet Joseph Scott Ebenezer
James Searing Samuel Vernon Benjamin Wickham John
son & Patrick Grant have ^{been} invited to join him and as far
for the propagating Virtue Knowledge & useful Learning
as the Society have made Application to this Assembly for
ly highly approving of so noble and generous a Design
Assistance & Encouragement which it is justly Merit
to it is hereby Enacted that the said Abraham Redwood
Pearce Thomas Moffat John Brett William Paul John
William ^{Vernon} ~~Paul~~ ~~Brett~~ John Brown Daniel Updike
Henry Collins Joseph Jacob Samuel Rodman Samuel Wickham
Charles Wickham John Easton Joseph Sylvester Thomas
Clarke Rodman ^{William Vinal Walter Rodman} James Honeyman Junr Samuel Ward John
Ray Joseph Phillips Benjamin Hazard James Searing Samuel
Jonathan Nichols Stephen Warton and Patrick Grant and all
of their Company do and they are hereby constituted erected and made
respective hereafter in Deed and Name by the Name of the Company of the
may have perpetual Succession and be Personable and capable in Law
to hold Liberties Franchises & Hereditaments in Fee simple or fee tail
and other Things of what Nature Kind or Quality soever and also to give
to Hereditaments Goods and Chattels to do and execute all other Things
that they and their Successors by the Name of the Company of the Redwood
or Persons Able Capable & Liable to sue & be sued plead & be impleaded
in gainst in all or any of the Courts of Law or other Places before any
Manner of Actions Suits Complaints Pleas Causes Matters of every Nature

And that it shall & may be lawful to & for
successors for ever hereafter to have and from time to time
to change and alter & amend for the well governing & ordering
the said affairs & to cause that it shall & may be lawful for the
said Company to meet on the first Wednesday in Sept^r in every Year & at such other
convenient Places in the Town of the said City, & such Publick
such Meetings not only of the Day, Time and Place of such
Meetings therein. And that the said Company or one fourth
part thereof shall have full Power and Authority
to make Statutes, Orders & Constitutions as shall appear to them
necessary for the Government, Regulation and Direction
and regulating the Election or Nomination of Directors
Officers as they shall think fit & for limiting, directing
and to do all things concerning the Government & Affairs
of the said Company. All which Statutes, Orders and
Constitutions shall be made from Time to Time in writing
and be not repugnant to the Laws of England or the Colony
inframing the nor the Local of the Company. And further
conforming to this Act shall be forth with made out
by his Honor the Governor and registered in the Publick

August 2

1707

full to & for the said Company of the Redwood Library and their
 Seal for their Use in their Affairs and the same at their Will & Pleasure
 & ordering the Affairs of the said Company. Be it further Enacted by
 the said Company & their Successors to Assemble and meet together
 at such Times as they shall think convenient at their Library or any other
 Publick Place being given at least five or six Days before the Times of
 Place of such Meeting but of the Cause thereof and of the Matters to be
 considered Part of them at least being so met in Person or by Proxy
 and Authority from Time to Time to make constitute and establish such
 as to them or the Major Part of them to be good and useful Honest and
 Direction of the Company and every Member thereof and for the appointing
 Directors a Treasurer Librarian Secretary and such as on any other
 and appointing their Trust & Authority for the admitting New Members
 Estates Goods Lands and Revenues as also all the Business & Affairs
 and Constitutions to be made as aforesaid shall be taking in every
 manner according to the Sense & Effect of them Provided that they
 do not exceed the Intent hereof may prove more Effectual &
 Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid that a Charter
 be sent and given the Company under the Seal of the Colony signed
 to the Publick Records of this Colony

August 22nd 1747

To the House of Mag^{ts}

Resolved that the aforesaid papers as an Act of this Assembly

Voted to pass
 J. Lyndon Cler

In the House of Mag^{ts} Aug^{ts} 22nd 1747.

Read & concurred with by Ord
 M. Ward Secy

6th Dec 1917