

**BILL.**

An Act for incorporating certain Charitable, Philanthropic and Provident Associations, and for the effectual protection from fraud and misappropriation of the funds of the same.

**W**HEREAS large and increasing numbers of all Preamble.  
 classes of the community have for some time past associated themselves together for the purpose of making provision for themselves and families, by contributing  
 5 subscriptions or otherwise, against sickness, misfortune and death, and for the relief of the widows and orphan children of deceased members ; And whereas, the accumulated funds of such Associations (owing to the absence of legal protection,) have been subjected to great and  
 10 serious losses from frauds and defalcations ; And whereas it is expedient to encourage habits of providence and forethought amongst all Her Majesty's subjects : Be it therefore enacted, &c.

And it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,  
 15 That it shall and may be lawful for any number of persons to unite for the purpose of making provision, by means of contributions, subscriptions, donations or otherwise, against the several contingencies of sickness, unavoidable misfortune or death, and for relieving the widows and  
 20 orphan children of members deceased ; and it shall and may be lawful for the members and officers of such associated body or Society, from time to time, to establish and maintain branches thereof, for and at the convenience of the respective members, but for so long only as the  
 25 business transacted at the meetings of such Society, or any of the branches thereof, shall be confined exclusively to the objects herein set fourth.

II. And be it enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the Members of such Societies so constituted as  
 30 aforesaid, to nominate, choose and appoint proper persons as Trustees, Treasurers, Secretaries or other Officers, for conducting the business, discipline and management of such Societies, and to meet together from time to time to make. alter, rescind or frame laws, rules or  
 35 regulations for the necessary government of, and for conducting the business of such Societies or any branches thereof : Provided that such laws, rules and regulations, shall not contain any matter or thing contrary, repugnant to, or in violation of the laws, statutes or customs of this

Any number of persons may associate for the purpose of mutual assistance in case of death, sickness, &c.

They may elect officers and make By-laws.

Proviso : as to the objects of the Association.