

XXI. **And**, to prevent individuals from being unreasonably burthened with the execution of this act, as trustees for the poor, **Be it enacted**, That at the time of the meeting of the said trustees for the poor in the first week of November yearly, the said trustees, or the major part of them, in the county aforesaid, shall and may elect and choose two of the inhabitants of the said county to be trustees for the poor of that county, in the stead of the first two named or eldest of the said trustees of the same county; which said first named or eldest trustees shall be, and is by virtue hereof, thencefrom discharged from their office.

C H A P.
XIV.
Two trustees
to be chosen
annually, &c.

XXII. **And be it enacted**, That it shall and may be lawful for the trustees aforesaid, or the major part of them, to rent an house or houses in the said county, for the reception of such poor, vagrants, vagabonds, or other offenders, with the necessary lot or lots of ground adjoining to such house or houses, as convenient to the court-house as may be in the same county, for the reception and accommodation of the said poor, vagrants, vagabonds, and other offenders, until a sufficient sum of money be raised in virtue of this act, to enable the said trustees to purchase the land and erect the buildings herein before mentioned; and the justices of said county are hereby empowered and enjoined annually, at the court for laying the county rate, to assess on the taxable property of the said county, a sufficient sum to discharge the rent aforesaid, with the collector's commission of six *per cent.* thereon; which sum so as aforesaid assessed, shall be collected and paid by the said collector to the said trustees, or the major part of them, to be by them applied to the purposes aforesaid; and the said trustees, or the major part of them, are hereby empowered and required, as soon as such house or houses aforesaid are procured on rent, to proceed to the appointment of an overseer, and other officers and servants as are mentioned in this act, and to do and perform every other matter and thing necessary to the carrying the said act into execution, according to the true intent and meaning thereof.

Trustees to
rent an house,
&c.

C H A P. XV.

An ACT for the relief of the poor of Queen-Anne's county.

Passed De-
cember 22

Preamble,

WHEREAS many of the inhabitants of Queen-Anne's county, by their humble petition to this general assembly, have set forth, that the taxes for the support of the poor of their county are very heavy and burthensome, but are, notwithstanding, under the present regulation, inadequate to the comfortable subsistence of said poor; that a work-house has become necessary for the reception and employment of beggars, vagrants and vagabonds; and that the free-school of the said county does not answer the purposes of its institution; and have therefore prayed, that an act may pass to appropriate the said free-school, with the land and funds belonging to the same, to the use of an alms and work-house for the said county.

II. **Be it enacted**, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the free-school property of the said county, of what nature soever, and the funds appropriated to the use thereof, be and are hereby vested in the trustees within named, and their successors, and shall be taken and held by them for the use and as funds for the relief and support of the poor of said county; and the visitors of the free-school in the said county are hereby authorized, required and directed, to deliver to the said trustees all the free-school property aforesaid, and to render unto them a full and just account of the profits thereof, and also of any sum or sums of money or tobacco which may be owing to the said school; and if there shall be any money or tobacco owing to the said school, the visitors shall, and are hereby required, to draw an order or orders for the same to the said trustees, and their successors, for the uses and purposes aforesaid.

Property vest-
ed in trustees,
&c.

III. **And**, whereas there are buildings upon the said land which may be repaired and converted into alms and work-houses, and others which may be judged necessary by the said trustees for the purposes in this act mentioned may be erected and built on the said land, at a moderate expence, and the same ought to be effected at the general charge of the said county, **Be it enacted**, That the

Justices to le-
vy money,
&c.

Justices