

hereby added to chapter three hundred and seventy-seven of the acts of eighteen hundred and seventy-two, relating to public free schools, sub-chapter seven, "Schools."

Agriculture.

SEC. 3A. That the elements of agricultural science may, in the discretion of the state board of education, be added to the branches required to be taught in the state normal school and in the public schools of the several counties of this state.

Approved April 4, 1888.

Chapter 383.

AN ACT to provide for the payment of the wages and salaries due employes of insolvent employers.

Employes to
be first paid.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That whenever any person or body corporate shall make an assignment for the benefit of his, her or its creditors, or shall be adjudicated insolvent upon his, her or its petition, or upon the petition of any creditor or creditors, or shall have his, her or its property or estate taken possession of by a receiver under a decree of a court of equity, in the distribution of the property or estate of such person or body corporate, all moneys due and owing from such person or body corporate for wages or salaries to clerks, servants or employes contracted not more than three months anterior to the execution of such assignment, adjudication of insolvency, or appointment of receiver, shall first be paid in full out of such property or estate, after payment of the proper and legitimate costs, expenses, taxes and commissions, and shall be preferred to all claims against the property and estate of such insolvent person or body corporate, except the lien claims of such persons as shall hold liens upon such property or estate, recorded at least three months prior to such assignment, adjudication or decree.

Approved April 4, 1888.