

481, be and the same is hereby amended as follows, that is to say: Section 1 of the Act of 1856, Chapter 67, is hereby repealed and re-enacted so as to read as follows:

Section 1. The Maryland School for the Blind is hereby authorized to increase its Board of Directors to a number not exceeding eighteen persons. The Board of Directors may provide by its by-laws that any number not less than seven shall be a quorum of the Board of Directors for the transaction of business.

Approved April 18th, 1918.

CHAPTER 435.

AN ACT to purchase from Mrs. George W. Hodges a list of marriage references prior to the year 1777, and to deposit same in the Land Office of Maryland in card form.

WHEREAS Mrs. George W. Hodges has accumulated a vast number of marriage references, which have been extracted from the early records of the Land Office and of the various counties; and

WHEREAS the State of Maryland has never compiled such a subject, or subscribed in any way for such a compilation; and

WHEREAS the value to the State of Maryland of such a compilation would be inestimable in saving the original records from the effects of constant handling and in prolonging their usefulness to the public; and

WHEREAS greater facilities would be afforded thereby in the study of Maryland history on genealogical lines, not only to resident Marylanders, but to residents in every State in the Union, inasmuch as Maryland lineage exists throughout the United States either directly or collaterally; therefore,

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the Commissioner of the Land Office of Maryland be and he is hereby authorized and directed to purchase in the name of the State ten thousand marriage references prior to the year 1777, collected by and now in possession of Mrs. George W. Hodges. And it shall be the duty of the said Commissioner of the Land Office to receive said marriage refer-