

CHAPTER 258.

CHAP. 258

An Act to incorporate the Wethersfield Academy, in Somerset County.

Section 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Massachusetts,* That an Academy by the name of Wethersfield Academy, shall be incorporated upon the following principles; namely: First, the said Academy shall be founded and maintained upon a liberal plan, for the benefit of youth of every religious denomination, who shall be admitted to equal natural ^{and equal} privileges and advantages of education, without requiring or enforcing any religious test, or urging their attendance upon any place of worship or service, other than that in which they have been educated, or have the consent of their parents or guardians to attend, nor shall any preference be given in the choice of a Principal or Teacher, on account ^{of his} of his particular religious profession, but regard shall be had to his moral character and literary qualifications to fill the place for which he shall be chosen; Secondly, when any of the trustees shall die, resign, decline serving, or remove out of the county, a quorum of said trustees shall proceed by a new election, to fill the place of such deceased, removed or vacant member; And Whereas, Benjamin Dashiel, of Wethersfield, James, Levin Walter, Matthias Dashiel, George Hopkins and John Hopkins, have constructed at their own expense, a house suitable for an institution of the kind intended to be hereby incorporated, and have employed teachers and organized a school, at which there are now being educated in classical and other studies, thirty-five pupils—Therefore,

Sec. 2. *Be it enacted*, That said Benjamin Dashiel, of Wethersfield, James, Levin Walter, Matthias Dashiel, George Hopkins, and John Hopkins, shall have full power to meet and elect a board of trustees, to consist of a number not less than nine nor more than eighteen, who when elected, shall be hereby incorporated and recognized in law, as the first trustees of the Wethersfield Academy, and they and their successors, shall be declared to be one community, corporation and body politic, with perpetual succession in deed and in law, to all intents and purposes connected with said institution, by the name and style of The Wethersfield Academy, by which name and title they and their successors, shall be known in law and equity, to take and to hold to them, their heirs, successors, for the use of the said Academy, all lands, buildings, furniture, tools and implements, necessary for the use, quantity,