

FRANCIS NICHOLSON, ESQUIRE, GOVERNOR. JULY. 1696.

VI. AND FURTHER, That the said Francis Nicholson, and other the governors, trustees and visitors afore-
said, the longest livers and successors of them, be the true, sole and undoubted visitors, trustees
and governors of the said free-school or schools, in perpetual succession for ever, to be continued in
the way and manner hereafter specified, with full and absolute power, liberty and authority in
making and ordaining such laws, orders and rules, for the good government of the said free-school
or schools, as to them the said trustees, governors and visitors afore-
said, and their successors, shall
from time to time, according to the various occasions and circumstances, seem most fit and requisite.
All which shall be observed by the master, usher, tutors and scholars of the said school; upon the
penalties therein contained.

C H A P.
XVII.
Governors, &c.
to make laws,
&c.

VII. PROVIDED NOTWITHSTANDING, That the said rules, laws and orders, be no ways contrary
to your majesty's prerogative royal, nor to the laws and statutes of your majesty's kingdom of Eng-
land, or province of Maryland afore-
said, or to the canons and constitutions of the church of Eng-
land by law established.

Proviso.

VIII. AND, That they, the said governors and visitors and trustees afore-
said, and their successors,
shall for ever be eighteen men, and not exceeding twenty in the whole, to be elected and constituted
in the way and manner hereafter specified; of which one discreet and fit person, that shall be called
rector of the said free-school and schools: And that, from time to time, and in all times coming, the
said rector shall exercise the said office during one year, (death and legal disability excepted) and
after, till some others of the said visitors and governors of the said school and schools shall be duly
elected, preferred and sworn to the said office. And that, from time to time, and at all times coming,
after the said year is expired, or after the death of the said rector, the visitors or governors of the
said school or schools, or the greatest part of them, or their successors, should have power to elect,
and nominate another discreet and fit person from amongst themselves, to be rector of the said free-
school or schools; and that he, who is so elected, preferred and nominated into the place of rector
as afore-
said, shall have power to have, exercise and enjoy, the said office of rector for one whole
year, except before excepted, then next ensuing, and thereafter until some other rector of the said
school or schools shall be duly elected, preferred to, and sworn in, the said office.

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Not to be fewer
than eighteen,
&c.

IX. AND, To perpetuate the succession of the said governors, rectors and visitors, that as often as
one or more of the governors or visitors of the said school or schools shall die, or remove himself and
family out of this province into any other country for good and all, that then, and so often, the rec-
tor for the time being, and the other visitors and governors of the said free-school and schools, then
surviving and remaining within the province, or the major part of them, shall and may have leave to
elect, nominate and choose, one or more of the principal and better sort of the inhabitants of the said
province, into the place or places of the said visitors and governors so dead or removed; and so to
fill up the number of the visitors and governors of the said school and schools: And that he and they,
so elected and chosen, shall take his and their corporal oath before the rector and other visitors and
governors as afore-
said, or the major part of them, well and faithfully to execute the said office;
which oath the rector and two or more of the said visitors shall have power to administer. And that,
after the taking the said oath, he or they shall be of the number of the said visitors and governors of
the said school or schools.

Succession of
governors, &c.
provided for.

X. AND FURTHER, That the said rector for the time being, by and with the advice and consent
of three or more of the said governors and visitors, shall and may, from time to time, and as often as
need shall require, and they see convenient, call and convocate the said governors and visitors to-
gether; to do, consult and consent to such things, as for the propagation, good and benefit of the said
free-school or schools, shall be ordained and established. And that the said governors and visitors
shall and may hold such their court or convocation in such free-school, or such part thereof, as to
them shall seem convenient. And shall and may, from time to time, punish any disorder, breaches,
misdemeanors or offences, of any master, usher, or scribe or scholars, of any such free-school or
schools, against any orders, laws or decrees of the said governors and visitors afore-
said. And if they
find cause, to alter, displace and turn out, any master, usher or scribe, of any such school or schools,
and put others in their steads and places, as to the said rectors, governors and visitors of the said
school or schools, or the major part of them, shall seem convenient and fitting.

Rector to call
them together.

XI. AND ALSO, That the said rectors, governors and visitors of the said free-school or schools,
and their successors, shall have one common seal, which they may make use of in whatsoever cause
and business, belonging to them and their successors, relating to the said office of rector, governors
and visitors of the said free-school and schools. And that the said governors and visitors may have
leave

To have a com-
mon seal.