

CHAP. XIX.

the time being then surviving, and remaining within the county, or the major part of them, be and are hereby authorized and required to elect, nominate and choose, one or more of the principal and better sort of the inhabitants of the county, and the place and room of the said visitors of such school so dead or removed; and in to fill up the full number of visitors for each school, the which persons, so elected and chosen from time to time, are always to be qualified in the same manner as is before mentioned.

VII. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the visitors (for the time being) of each school, being qualified as aforesaid, be and are hereby authorized and directed, with all convenient speed, to purchase one hundred acres or more of land; for the use of such school, having a special regard as to its conveniency, that it be as near as possible in such place in the county as is before directed for the erecting of schools by this act, the which land, when so purchased, the visitors are to assign such part of it as they shall see meet, not to exceed one moiety thereof, to be built upon, and cleared, (if not before built on and cleared,) for the conveniency of making corn and grain, and for pasturage, for the encouragement, use and benefit of the master of such school for the time being, the other moiety whereof is to be preserved in woodland ground, and no other use made thereof by such master, without the licence and direction of the said visitors, than what may be absolutely necessary for firewood, and the repairing of the houses and fencing already built and made, or to be built and made, on such other moiety thereof, and that no master be permitted, either by himself or by any other person, on any pretence whatsoever, to plant any tobacco on such land or plantation; and the visitors of the severall schools as aforesaid, are further empowered and directed, in case that there shall not be sufficient building upon any such land at the time of making a purchase thereof for a dwelling-house, and necessary conveniencies for the master, and for keeping a school therein, and ground cleared sufficient for the use aforesaid, that then they shall, with all possible speed, agree with such workmen and labourers, or other person, in the best manner they can, that will undertake the necessary buildings and improvements upon such lands for the uses aforesaid; and the visitors aforesaid are likewise hereby directed to take all proper methods for the encouraging good schoolmasters, that shall be members of the church of England, and of pious and exemplary lives and conversations, and capable of teaching well the grammar, good writing, and the mathematicks, if such can conveniently be got, and that they allow every such master for his encouragement for the present (besides the benefit and use of his plantation,) the sum of twenty pounds *per annum*, and to take such other measures, or make such other agreements, from time to time, for the future, as the circumstances will admit of, as may give due encouragement to one or more masters, and be necessary and useful for the improving and perpetuating such school.

Land to be purchased, &c.

VIII. AND, further, The visitors of every school, after it shall be erected, are hereby required to meet thereat at least four times a year, to inspect into and consider of and direct the necessary affairs thereof.

Visitors to meet, &c.

IX. AND, for the enabling the visitors of the schools as aforesaid for the purchasing of lands, and erecting of schools, and encouraging of masters in manner as aforesaid, BE IT ENACTED, That the money already raised for the use of county schools, and that is now in the public treasurer's hands, being divided into (a) twelve equal parts, answering to the number of county schools now to be erected, the treasurers, in whose hands such money lies, are hereby required to make due payment of one of those twelve parts or dividends of money in their hands to the visitors of the schools for each county, or the major part of them, or their orders, whensoever they shall have occasion to draw on such treasurers for the same, and the like payment shall, from time to time, be made to the visitors as aforesaid, by the treasurers, of the like dividends that shall hereafter arise due to such schools, and come to their hands; and the visitors of the schools as aforesaid, are hereby empowered to dispose of all such money as they shall receive from time to time, in such manner as may be most for the encouragement and advancement of such schools.

Schools to have an equal share, &c.

(a) By 1746, ch. 7, a school was erected in Worcester county, and the whole directed to be divided into 13 parts, of which the new erected school to have one part.

X. AND BE IT LIKEWISE ENACTED, That the visitors of each school, to be constituted, qualified and incorporated in manner aforesaid, or the major part of them, and their successors, be and are hereby enabled to take, hold and enjoy, and be apt and capable in law for taking, holding and enjoying, all manors, lands, tenements, inheritances, franchises and possessions whatsoever, spiritual or temporal, to the value of fifteen hundred pounds sterling, and all other goods, chattels, money and personal estate whatsoever, of the gift of any person whatsoever, that already hath, or hereafter shall be willing to bestow them for the use of the said schools, or any other gifts, grants, assignments, legacies or appointments of the same, or any of them, or any other goods whatsoever, to be applied by

Visitors to hold lands, &c.