

C H A P.  
XXXVII.

of individuals, are desirous to embrace the present favourable occasion of peace and prosperity, for making lasting provision for the encouragement and advancement of all useful knowledge and literature through every part of this state;

College to be  
established, &c.

II. BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That a college or general seminary of learning, by the name of Saint John's, be established on the said western shore, upon the following fundamental and inviolable principles, namely; first, the said college shall be founded and maintained for ever, upon a most liberal plan, for the benefit of youth of every religious denomination, who shall be freely admitted to equal privileges and advantages of education, and to all the literary honours of the college, according to their merit, without requiring or enforcing any religious or civil test, or urging their attendance upon any particular religious worship or service, other than what they have been educated in, or have the consent and approbation of their parents or guardians, to attend; nor shall any preference be given in the choice of a principal, vice-principal, or other professor, master or tutor, in the said college, on account of his particular religious profession, having regard solely to his moral character and literary abilities, and other necessary qualifications to fill the place for which he shall be chosen. Secondly, there shall be a subscription carried on in the different counties of the western shore, upon the plan on which it hath been opened, for founding the said college; and the several subscribers shall class themselves, according to their respective inclinations, and for every thousand pounds current money which may be subscribed and paid, or secured to be paid, into the hands of the treasurer of the western shore, by any particular class of subscribers, they shall be entitled to the choice of one person as a visitor and governor of said college. Thirdly, when any of the first visitors and governors chosen by the subscribers as aforesaid shall die, or remove out of the state, or absent himself from four succeeding quarterly meetings, without such excuse or plea of necessary absence as shall be deemed reasonable by a legal and just quorum of the said visitors and governors, duly assembled at quarterly visitation of the said college, such quorum, so assembled, shall proceed, by a new election, to fill up the place and seat of such deceased, removed, or absenting member.

Agents ap-  
pointed, &c.

III. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the reverend Mr. John Carroll, and the reverend William Smith and Patrick Allison, doctors in divinity, Richard Sprigg, John Steret and George Digges, Esquires, and such other persons as they, or any two of them, may appoint in the different counties of this shore, be agents for soliciting and receiving, and they are hereby authorized to solicit and receive, subscriptions and contributions for the said intended college and seminary of universal learning, of any person or persons, bodies politic and corporate, who may be willing to promote so good a design; and when any class or classes of subscribers shall have subscribed and paid, or secured to be paid, as aforesaid, to the treasurer of the western shore, in three equal yearly payments, to commence from the first day of June, seventeen hundred and eighty-five, the sum of one thousand pounds current money, and shall have lodged their original subscription papers in the hands of any one of the agents aforesaid, such agent shall take a copy of the same, and shall deposit the original subscription lists with the said treasurer, taking his receipt for the same; and such agent shall then appoint a time and place, convenient for the said class of subscribers to meet and choose one person as a visitor and governor of the college, agreeably to the foregoing fundamental articles, and shall cause six weeks notice of the time and place of such election to be given in the Annapolis and Baltimore news-papers, and shall attend at the time and place of such election, with a complete list of the subscribers, and all persons having subscribed or contributed nine pounds or upwards, shall be entitled to vote for one person as a visitor and governor, according as he may be classed, but shall not be entitled to vote for another visitor and governor among any other class or denomination of subscribers, unless he shall have made a second subscription of nine pounds or upwards in the said class, by and with their approbation; and all persons who may be chosen visitors and governors as aforesaid shall be considered as agents, together with the agents above mentioned, and shall have authority to act in conjunction with them, or any of them, in carrying the design into execution, as fully as if they had been herein and hereby nominated and appointed original agents for that purpose.

To give notice,  
&c.

IV. AND BE IT ENACTED, That when thirteen visitors and governors shall be chosen as aforesaid, the said agents, or any three or more of them, shall cause six weeks notice to be given in the news-papers aforesaid, appointing a time and place for the said visitors and governors to meet and take upon them the discharge of their trust; and the said thirteen visitors and governors, and such persons as may be afterwards added to their number by any new elections made as aforesaid, by subscribers of one thousand pounds current money, within three years after the first day of June, seventeen hundred and eighty-five, and their successors, duly chosen according to the tenor hereof, shall be, and are hereby declared to be, one community, corporation and body politic, to have

continuance