

Passed 20th of
Jan. 1799.

An ACT for the promotion of literature in this state. Lib. JG.

No. 3. fol. 226.

Preamble.

WHEREAS the establishment and promotion of literary institutions for the liberal education of youth, under proper regulations, in different parts of this state, would have beneficial effects in training up and continuing a succession of able and virtuous characters for discharging the various offices and duties of public and private life;

Sum discontinued, &c.

II. BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the sum of five hundred pounds, part of the sum heretofore appropriated to Washington college, shall be and the same is hereby discontinued, after the first day of May next.

Treasurer to pay, &c.

III. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the treasurer of the western shore shall be for ever hereafter authorized and required to pay annually, on or before the first day of June, to the several seminaries of learning herein after enumerated, in the following proportions, to wit: To the visitors and trustees of Washington academy, in Somerset county, or to their order, the sum of eight hundred dollars; to John Edmondson, Nicholas Hammond, Samuel Chamberlaine, Thomas J. Bullett, William Hayward, Ennalls Martin and Stephen Theodore Johnson, and their successors, as trustees for the use of an academy to be established in Talbot county, eight hundred dollars; to the president and trustees of Charlotte-Hall school, or to their order, eight hundred dollars; to the visitors and trustees of the Frederick county school, or to their order, eight hundred dollars.

Trustees appointed, &c.

IV. AND BE IT ENACTED, That Charles Ridgely, of Hampton, Harry Dorsey Gough, Thomas Cockey, of Thomas, John Tolly Worthington, Patrick Allison, doctor John Carroll, doctor John Archer, Jesse Jarratt, Nicholas Day M'Comas, James Bond, doctor Jacob Hall and doctor Thomas H. Berckhead, be and hereby are appointed trustees for an academy to be erected in Baltimore or Harford county, and that the said trustees shall locate, erect and superintend, the said academy, in the same manner that other trustees are authorized to do under the provisions of this act; and the said trustees are hereby authorized to receive from the treasurer of the western shore the sum of eight hundred dollars annually, at the several times on which the trustees for other academies instituted under this act are entitled to receive the same, and the said monies, when received, to apply, in their discretion, towards the purchase of grounds for the site of said academy, building the same, or payment of tutors therein employed; and the said trustees are also authorized to receive, by donation, any lands or tenements for the use and benefit of said school, provided the same are not in extent more than fifty acres, or personal property in amount not more than two thousand pounds.

Visitors to return an account annually, &c.

V. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the visitors and directors of each of the schools aforesaid shall annually, on or before the twenty-fifth day of November in each year, return to the general assembly an account of all sums by them received in virtue of this act, the names of the persons to whom paid, for what use, as also a state of their respective schools, the name of the teacher or teachers engaged, and the number and names of the scholars actually at said schools, under the penalty of a forfeiture of their donations respectively upon a failure of making the return as aforesaid.

An ACT declaring what shall be evidence in certain cases therein mentioned. Lib. JG. No. 3. fol. 228.

Preamble.

WHEREAS copies of the proceedings of the governor and council, or of the treasury, or of the office of the auditor, are not receivable as evidence: And whereas it is inexpedient that civil officers of government should be frequently obliged to leave their offices and attend to give evidence of matters relating to their offices;

Copies attested to be received, &c.

II. BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That a copy of any of the books, papers, entries or proceedings, of the governor and council, attested by the clerk of the council, and also a copy of any of the books, papers, entries and proceedings, of the treasury, attested by the treasurer, and also a copy of any of the books, papers, entries and proceedings, of the office of the auditor of the state, attested by the auditor, and also a copy of any of the books, papers, entries and proceedings, in possession of the register of the land-office, not being matter of record, and by him attested, shall be received in evidence in any court of law or equity, or before any judge, justice, or other tribunal in this state, in the same manner, and to have the same effect, as if the original