

their president, according to the ordinance to be made for that purpose, have full power and authority to direct the principal, vice-principal and professors, to hold public commencements, either on stated annual days, or occasionally, as the future ordinances of the said seminary may direct, and at such commencements to admit any of the students in the said college, or any other persons meriting the same, (whose names shall be severally inserted in the same mandate) to any degree or degrees in any of the faculties, arts and sciences, and liberal professions, to which persons are usually admitted in other colleges or universities in America or Europe; and it is hereby enacted that the principal, or in case of his death or absence, the vice-principal, and in case of the death or absence of both, the senior professor who may be present, shall make out and sign with his name, diplomas, or certificates of the admission to such degree or degrees, which shall be sealed with the public or greater seal of the said corporation or college, and deliver to the graduates, as honourable and perpetual testimonials of such admission; which diplomas, if thought necessary for doing greater honour to such graduates, shall also be signed with the names of the different professors, or as many of them as can conveniently sign the same; provided always, that no student or students within the said college, shall ever be admitted to any such degree or degrees, or have their name inserted in any mandate for a degree, until such student or students have been first duly examined and thought worthy of the same, at a public examination of candidates, to be held one whole month previous to the day of commencement in the said college, by and in the presence of the said visitors and governors, or of such quorum of them, not less than seven, as the ordinances of the college may authorize for that purpose, and in the presence of any other persons choosing to attend the same; and provided further, that no person or persons, excepting the students belonging to the said seminary, shall ever be admitted to any honorary or other degree or degrees in the same, unless thirteen of the visitors and governors, (of whom the president shall be one) by a mandate under their privy seal, and signed by the hands of the whole thirteen, to the principal, vice-principal, and professors directed, have signified their approbation and authority for the particular admission of such person to said degree or degrees.

C. H. A. P.
XXXVII.

XVI. And be it enacted, That the ordinances which shall be from time to time made by the visitors and governors of the said college, and their successors, with an account of their other proceedings, and of the management of the estate and monies committed to their trust, shall, when required, be laid before the general assembly, for their inspection and examination; but in case at any time hereafter, through oversight, or otherwise through misapprehensions and mistaken constructions of the powers, liberties and franchises, in this charter or act of incorporation granted or intended to be granted, any ordinance should be made by the said corporation of visitors and governors, or any matters done and transacted by the corporation, contrary to the tenor thereof, it is enacted, that although all such ordinances, acts, and doings, shall in themselves be null and void, yet they shall not, however, in any courts of law, or by the general assembly, be deemed, taken, interpreted, or adjudged, into an avoidance or forfeiture of this charter and act of incorporation, but the same shall be and remain unhurt, inviolate, and entire, unto the said corporation of visitors and governors, in perpetual succession; and all their acts conformable to the powers, true intent and meaning hereof, shall be and remain in full force and validity, the nullity and avoidance of such illegal acts to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding.

Ordinances to
be laid before
assembly, &c.

XVII. And be it enacted, That this charter and act of incorporation, and every part thereof, shall be good and available in all things in the law,
according

Charter avail-
able in law,
&c.