

C H A P.
XV.

incapable of acting, the trustees for the time being then surviving and remaining within the said county, or the major part of them, are hereby authorized and required to elect, nominate and choose, one of the principal and better sort of the inhabitants of the county in the place and room of such trustee, and so to fill up the full number of trustees for such alms and work-house, the which persons so elected and chosen, from time to time, are always to be qualified in the same manner as before by this act is directed.

Penalty on re-
fusal to serve,
&c.

V. **And be it enacted,** That every person by this act appointed as a trustee for the poor, or that shall hereafter be nominated and appointed as such pursuant to the directions thereof, and who shall wilfully refuse or delay to take upon him the said office shall forfeit and pay, for every such refusal or delay, the sum of ten pounds current money; provided, that no member of the general assembly, clergyman, attorney, or practising physician, be obliged to accept of the office of trustee aforesaid, or forfeit as aforesaid for refusing to accept and take upon him the same, and that no judge of the general court, county magistrate or sheriff, or any one who hath not the qualification to be a member of the general assembly, if elected, shall be capable to be chosen or act as a trustee aforesaid, nor shall any person be compellable to serve in less than three years after he has served, or paid the said forfeiture for not serving as a trustee aforesaid.

Trustees to
draw on col-
lector, &c.

VI. **And,** for enabling the said trustees to purchase land, and erect an alms and work-house in the said county, **Be it enacted,** That the said trustees, or the major part of them, be and they are hereby authorized and empowered, from time to time, as occasion shall require, to draw upon the collector of Talbot county for all or any part of the money by this act assessed, levied and collected, as shall remain in his hands, which the said trustees, or the major part of them, shall think necessary, for the uses and purposes mentioned in this act.

To purchase
land, &c.

VII. **And be it enacted,** That the said trustees, or the major part of them, appointed as aforesaid, shall and they are hereby authorized, directed and required, to buy and purchase in fee simple, a quantity of land in the said county, not exceeding thirty acres, or less than twenty-five; and the said trustees, or the major part of them, appointed as aforesaid, are hereby authorized, directed and required, to agree and contract with a workman or workmen to undertake, erect, build, and in a workman-like manner to complete and finish, on the said land when so purchased, good, strong, sufficient, and convenient houses, habitations and dwellings, for the reception of the poor of said county, and of such vagrants, beggars, vagabonds, and other offenders, as shall be committed by virtue of this act, and they shall appropriate one part thereof to be called the alms-house, to and for the reception and lodging of the poor of the said county, and another part or parts thereof to be called the work-house, to and for the reception and lodging of all such vagrants, beggars, vagabonds, and other offenders, as shall be committed by virtue of this act; and the aforesaid land when bought, and the aforesaid houses, habitations and dwellings, when built, shall be and they are hereby enacted and declared to be vested in the said trustees, as their estate and inheritance, for the uses and purposes by this act directed and expressed.

And buy
beds, bedding,
&c.

VIII. **And be it enacted,** That the said trustees, or the major part of them, shall, and they are hereby authorized, directed and required, after the houses, habitations and dwellings aforesaid, shall be completely erected and finished, to buy and purchase, for the use and employment of the poor of the said county, and the vagrants, beggars, vagabonds, and other offenders,