

# TESTAMENTARY SYSTEM. CB

property sequestrated may, at the discretion of the court, be applied to the purpose for which such judgment, decree, decision or order, was given.

IV. And be it enacted, That the act of assembly for instituting orphans courts, and every supplement or act in addition thereto, shall be and are hereby repealed from the time when the operation of this act is to commence.

V. And be it enacted, That this act shall operate and be in full force from and after the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ next, and shall continue in force until the end of the year one thousand eight hundred and three.

By the HOUSE of DELEGATES, December 26, 1796.

ON motion, ORDERED, That the bill, entitled, *An act for the encouragement of learning in the several counties of this state, and to establish an uniform system of education, be published with the laws of this session, for the consideration of the people.*

By order,

W. HARWOOD, Clk.

An ACT for the encouragement of learning in the several counties of this state, and to establish an uniform system of education.

WHEREAS institutions for the liberal education of youth, in different parts of this state, would have beneficial effects in training up and continuing a succession of able and virtuous men for discharging the various offices and duties of public and private life: And whereas many who would wish to give their children such education have it not in their power, for want of convenient schools where the rudiments of such education might be had at a moderate expence,

II. Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That a grammar school shall be founded in each county of this state, at which youth may be instructed in the learned languages, and the arts and sciences; and the seven persons in each county herein after named are hereby appointed and constituted visitors and directors of the several county schools in their respective counties, and by the name of Visitors and Directors of such county school, shall have succession, and be able to sue and be sued, implead and be impleaded, in any court of law or equity within this state, and to make and have a common seal, and the same to break and alter when and so often as they shall think fit.

III. And be it enacted, That whenever any visitor or director of any county school appointed by this act, or who may hereafter be appointed in virtue of this act, shall die, resign his seat, or remove out of his respective county, or shall neglect to attend at two several successive semi-annual meetings, the remaining visitors and directors of such county school, or a majority of them, shall assemble and proceed to the election of another visitor and director to fill the vacancy occasioned by such death, resignation, removal, or neglect to attend as aforesaid.

IV. And be it enacted, That the said visitors and directors, or a majority of them, shall have full power and authority to purchase a quantity of land, not exceeding three hundred acres, in the county, and the same to hold to them, and their successors, for ever, in their corporate capacity aforesaid, and thereon to erect such buildings as may be necessary for the carrying into effect the intentions of this act, and to agree with and appoint a person or persons of good moral character and ability as a teacher or teachers of the said school; and the said visitors and directors shall also have power to prescribe such a plan, and lay down such regulations, as they shall judge most necessary for the instruction and improvement of the scholars in their respective schools.

V. Be it enacted, That the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars shall, as a public donation, be semi-annually applied to the payment of the teacher or teachers