

faithfulness they have most confidence; therefore, BE IT ENACTED, That where any number of persons belonging to any church or congregation sufficient to build a church or house of worship, and to maintain a minister, shall choose to separate from the church or congregation of which they have hitherto been a part, and to erect a house of worship, and employ a minister for themselves, it shall be lawful for them so to do, and they shall, by their respective name or style, be entitled to all the benefits of this act as aforesaid, any thing in the act for the establishment of vestries for each parish in this state to the contrary notwithstanding, provided only, that all arrears, debts and engagements, contracted, due, or becoming due, while members of the former society, shall be punctually and faithfully discharged.

S H A P.
CXI
Persons may
separate, &c.

XI. AND BE IT ENACTED, That so much of the act for the establishment of vestries for each parish in this state as confers the powers of civil officers of the peace upon churchwardens, be and the same are hereby declared null and void.

Part of an act
declared void.

XII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That this act shall not repeal any part of the act for the establishment of vestries for each parish in this state, except so far as the same is inconsistent with the tenth and eleventh sections of this act.

Not to repeal a
former act, &c.

XIII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That nothing herein contained shall be construed, adjudged or taken, to abridge or affect the rights of conscience or private judgment, or in the least to alter or change the religious constitution or government of any church, congregation or society, so far as respects, or in anywise concerns, doctrine, discipline or worship.

Nor to affect
the rights of
conscience, &c.

C H A P. CXII.

A Supplement to the act, entitled, An act for the relief of sundry insolvent debtors.

Passed 10th of
January, 1803.

WHEREAS the names of John Smith, of the city of Annapolis, William Finn and Benjamin M. M-Caskey, of the city of Baltimore, insolvent petitioners, who are entitled to relief, have not been included in the act to which this is a supplement; therefore,

Preamble

II. BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the benefits resulting from the said act shall be and are hereby extended to the said John Smith, William Finn and Benjamin M. M-Caskey, in as full and ample manner as if their names had been mentioned in the said act, provided that they comply with the provisions of the same.

Benefit extend-
ed, &c.

C H A P. CXIII.

An ACT granting a loan of money to the trustees of Charlotte-Hall school.

Passed 10th of
January, 1803.

WHEREAS it is represented to this general assembly, by the memorial of the trustees of Charlotte-Hall school, that from the number of pupils now at said school great inconvenience is sustained from the want of necessary buildings, and particularly a residence for the principal, and they have prayed a loan of money from the state to obviate such difficulties, and promote the interest of a flourishing seminary; therefore,

Preamble

II. BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the treasurer of the western shore be and he is hereby directed to pay to the trustees of Charlotte-Hall school, or their order, on or before the first day of April next, the sum of one thousand pounds. to be by said trustees applied towards building the most convenient house in their judgment as a residence for the principal of the said school, and for such other purposes as they may think most conducive to the interest and welfare of the same.

Treasurer to
pay, &c.

III. AND, that the said sum, when so paid, shall be returned by the trustees for the time being in the course of ten years, with legal interest annually thereon, and to secure the repayment of the sum aforesaid in the treasury of the western shore, BE IT ENACTED, That on the receipt of the same by the trustees of Charlotte-Hall school, or their order, the title to the whole of the real property now belonging to said school shall be vested in the state of Maryland, subject to redemption on the payment of the sum aforesaid, with legal interest annually thereon.

Title to be
vested, &c.

IV. AND