

said *Francis Nicholson* and Trustees aforesaid, the major part or Survivors of them shall seem expedient from time to time to ordain in the Premises, and that for the uses and purposes aforesaid, they the said *Francis Nicholson* and the Trustees aforesaid, the Survivor or the major part of them shall and may be incorporated into a Body politic by the Name of the Rectors, Governours, Trustees, and Visitors of the Free-Schools of *Maryland*, with full power to plead and be impleaded, to sue and be sued, to defend and be defended, to answer and be answered in all and every Cause, Complaint and Action, real, personal and mixt of whatsoever kind and nature it shall be, whatsoever Courts and Places of Judicature belonging to your Majesty your heirs or Successors, or by from or under your Royal Grant or Authority, and that your Majesty will be graciously pleased to give and grant your special Licence as far as your Majesty sees expedient to the said *Francis Nicholson* Esq^r and the other Trustees aforesaid, that they or any of them, or that any person or persons whatsoever after the said Free-School or Schools is, or are so erected, founded and established or before, may have power to give and grant, assign and bequeath all or any manner of Lands, Tenements, Rents, Services, Portions, Annuity's, Pensions, Inheritances, Franchises and Possessions whatsoever Spiritual or Temporal to the value of fifteen hundred pounds Sterling per Annum besides all Burthens, Reprizals and Reparations to them the said *Francis Nicholson* and other the Governours, Trustees and Visitors of the said Free-Schools of *Maryland*, the major part or Survivors of them incorporate for the uses aforesaid, to them and their Successors for ever.

And further, that the said *Francis Nicholson* and other the Governours, Trustees and Visitors aforesaid the longest Livers and Successors of them, be the true, sole and undoubted Visitors, Trustees and Governours of the said Free-School or Schools in perpetual Succession for ever, to be continued in the way and manner hereafter specified, with full & absolute Power, liberty & authority in making and ordaining such Laws, Orders and Rules for the good government of the said Free-School or Schools, as to them the said Trustees, Governour and Visitors aforesaid and their Successors, shall from time to time according to the various occasions and circumstances seem most fit and requisit, all which shall be observed by the Master, Usher, Tutors and Scholars of the said School, upon the penalty therein contained.

Provided notwithstanding, that the said Rules, Laws and Orders be no ways contrary to your Majesty's Prerogative Royal, nor to the Laws and Statutes of your Kingdom of *England* or Province of *Maryland* aforesaid, or to the Canons and Constitutions of the Church of *England* by Law Established, and that they the said Governours, Visitors and Trustees aforesaid and their Successors, shall for ever be Eighteen Men, and not exceeding Twenty in the whole, to be elected & constituted in the way and manner hereafter specified, of which one discreet and fit person that shall be called Rector of the said Free-School and Schools, and that from time to time, and in all times coming the said Rector shall exercise the said Office during one Year (Death and Legal Disability excepted) and after till some others of the said Visitors and Governours of the said School or Schools shall be duly elected, preferred and Sworn to the said Office, & that from time to time, and at all times coming after the said Year is expired, or after the death of the said Rector, the Year the Visitors or Governours of the said School or Schools or the greatest part of them or their Successors should have power to elect and nominate another discreet and fit person from amongst themselves to be Rector of the said Free-School or Schools, and that he who is so elected, preferred and nominated into the place of Rector as aforesaid shall have power to have, exercise and enjoy the said Office of Rector for one whole Year except before excepted then next ensuing and thereafter until some other Rector of the said School or Schools, shall be duly elected, preferred to and Sworn in the said Office, and to perpetuate the Succession of the said Governours, Rectors and Visitors, and that as often as one or more of the Governours or Visitors of the said School or Schools, shall die or remove himself and family out of this Province into any other Country for good & all; That then and so often, the Rector for the time being and the other Visitors and Governours of the said Free-School and Schools then surviving and remaining within the Province or the major part of them, shall and may have leave to Elect, Nominate and Choose one or more of the principall or better sort