

and walls until finished, which, when completed, shall, by said commissioners, be put into the possession and custody of the inspectors herein after appointed, and shall remain in the custody and possession of said inspectors, and their successors, and such other officers thereof, as shall be appointed by the said inspectors, as a public gaol and penitentiary-house for the state of Maryland.

XXVI. And be it enacted, That the commissioners aforesaid, or a majority of them, shall, in their plan of said gaol, cause a suitable number of cells to be constructed in the same, each of which cells shall be six feet in width, eight feet in length, and nine feet in height, and shall be constructed of brick or stone, upon such plan as will best prevent danger from fire, and the said cells shall be separated from the common yard or area by walls of such height, as, without unnecessary exclusion of air and light, will prevent all external communication, for the purpose of confining therein the more hardened and atrocious offenders who shall be sentenced thereto by virtue of this or any subsequent act.

XXVII. And be it enacted, That for the purpose of defraying the expences of erecting, building and completing, the gaol, penitentiary-house and walls aforesaid, the commissioners aforesaid, or a majority of them, shall be and they are hereby authorised to draw on the treasurer of the western shore for the sum of — dollars, to be paid out of any unappropriated monies in the treasury of the shore, who is hereby authorised and empowered to pay the same to the order or orders of said commissioners, or a majority of them.

XXVIII. And be it enacted, That the said cells shall be, and are hereby declared to be, part of the gaol and penitentiary-house aforesaid, and the residue of the said gaol shall be appropriated to the purposes of confining, as well such male convicts sentenced to hard labour as cannot be accommodated in the said cells, as female convicts sentenced in like manner, persons convicted of capital offences, (vagrants, and disorderly persons committed as such, and persons charged with misdemeanors only,) all which persons are hereby required to be kept separate and apart from each other, as much as the convenience of the building will admit, and to be subject to the visitation and superintendence of the inspectors thereof.

XXIX. And be it enacted, That in order to prevent the introduction of contagious disorders, every person infected, or supposed to be infected, with any contagious or infectious disease, who shall be ordered to hard labour in the said gaol, shall be separately lodged, washed and cleansed, and shall continue in such separate lodging until it shall be certified by the attending physician that he or she is fit to be received among the other prisoners, and if such person be a convict, the cloaths in which he or she shall then be cloathed, shall either be burnt, or, at