

PROCEEDINGS AND REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONERS

FOR THE

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA.

PRESENTED DECEMBER 8, 1818.

Read and referred to a Select Committee:

RICHMOND:

Printed by Thomas Ritchie, Printer for the Commonwealth.

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1818.

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MONTICELLO, Nov. 20, 1818.

SIR,

The Commissioners appointed under the Act of the last General Assembly, for appropriating a part of the revenue of the Literary Fund, and for other purposes, met according to law, at the Rockfish Gap, on the 1st day of August last, and having continued their session by adjournments until the 4th day of that month, agreed to a report, which being signed in duplicates, individually and unanimously, by all the members who attended, they instructed me to transmit to the Speakers of both Houses of the Legislature. In obedience to that instruction, I now inclose one of the said original reports, with a copy of their journal, and of the documents exhibited and left in their possession.

Some of the outstanding subscription papers therein mentioned, have been returned with additional subscriptions to the amount of 2650 dollars, and an additional purchase has been made of 48½ acres of land adjoining the site of the Central College, necessary to the probable extent of buildings, should that be adopted, as proposed by the report, for the site of the University; which circumstances having taken place since the date of the report, I have deemed it a duty to mention as supplementary to it.

I have the honor to be with sentiments of the highest respect and consideration,

Sir, your most obedient
and most humble servant,

TH: JEFFERSON.

*The Honorable the Speaker
of the House of Delegates of Virginia.*

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD.

The Commissioners for the "University of Virginia" having been required by law to meet at the tavern in Rockfish Gap, on the Blue Ridge, on the first day of August, 1818, the following members attended, (to wit;) Creed Taylor, Peter Randolph, William Brockenbrough, Archibald Rutherford, Archibald Stuart, James Breckenridge, Henry E. Watkins, James Madison, Armistead T. Mason, Hugh Holmes, Philip C. Pendleton, Spencer Roane, John McTaylor, John G. Jackson, Thomas Wilson, Philip Slaughter, William H. Cabell, Nathaniel H. Claiborne, Thomas Jefferson, William A. G. Dade, and William Jones, and their appointments being duly proven, they formed a Board, and proceeded to the discharge of the duties prescribed to them by the Act of the Legislature, entitled, "An Act appropriating a part of the revenue of the Literary Fund, and for other purposes."

Thomas Jefferson, Esq. was unanimously elected President of the Board, and Thomas W. Maury appointed Secretary, who appeared and took his seat as such.

The Board proceeded to the first duty enjoined on them, (to wit;) to enquire and report a proper site for the University, whereupon the towns of Lexington and Staunton, and the Central College, were severally proposed; and after some time spent in debate thereon, on motion of Mr. Rutherford; it was

Resolved, That the consideration be postponed for the present.

On motion by Mr. Dade, (who stated it to be his object to ascertain the sense of the Board on the question, whether the Board would visit the several places proposed for the site of the University, at the same moment that he himself was opposed to the adoption of such resolution,) that when this Board adjourns, it shall be to Lexington, in the County of Rockbridge; it was unanimously decided in the negative.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Select Committee of six members be appointed by ballot to consider and report on all the duties assigned to this Board, except that relating to the site of the University, and a committee was appointed of Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Madison, Mr. Roane, Mr. Stuart, Mr. Dade, and Mr. Breckenridge.

On a motion by Mr. Stuart, that when the Board adjourns, it shall be to the town of Staunton, in the County of Augusta, it was decided in the negative.

On motion, *Resolved*, That when this Board adjourns, it will adjourn till 9 o'clock, on Monday morning.

And the Board was accordingly adjourned till 9 o'clock on Monday morning.

MONDAY, August 3d, 1818.

The Board having met according to adjournment,

On the motion of Mr. Roane, *Resolved*, That the Board will now proceed to declare its opinion which of the three places proposed, to wit; Lexington, Staunton, or the Central College, is most convenient and proper for the site of the University of Virginia, and on a call of the votes nominally, Mr. Breckenridge, Mr. Pendleton, and Mr. J. McTaylor, voted for Lexington; Mr. Stuart and Mr. Wilson for Staunton; and Mr. Creed Taylor, Mr. Randolph, Mr. Brockenbrough, Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Watkins, Mr. Madison, Mr. Mason, Mr. Holmes, Mr. Roane, Mr. Jackson, Mr. Slaughter, Mr. Cabell, Mr. Claiborne, Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Dade, and Mr. Jones voted for the Central College. So it was resolved that the Central College is a convenient and proper place for the site of the University of Virginia.

Resolved, That this declaration of the opinion of the Board be referred to the committee appointed on Saturday, with instructions that they include it with the other matters referred to them, and report thereon; and that they retire forthwith to prepare and make their report.

Whereupon the Committee withdrew, and after some time returned to their seats, and delivered in their report, which

having been considered, and sundry amendments made thereto, was, upon the question put, passed by the unanimous vote of the Board.

Resolved, That the Secretary prepare without delay, two fair copies of the said report, to be signed each by every member present, and, to be forwarded by the President, one of them to the Speaker of the Senate, and the other to the Speaker of the House of Delegates.

And the Board adjourned to to-morrow morning, 9 o'clock.

TUESDAY, August 4th, 1818.

The Board met according to adjournment.

The Secretary according to order, produced two fair copies of the report of the Committee, as amended and agreed to by the Board, which were then signed by the attending members.

On motion of Mr. Roane, seconded by Mr. Breckenridge, *Resolved unanimously*, "That the thanks of this Board be given to Thomas Jefferson, Esq. for the great ability, impartiality, and dignity, with which he has presided over its deliberations."

The question being then put,

Resolved, That this Board is now dissolved.

(Signed)

TH: JEFFERSON.

Attest,

TH: W. MAURY, *Secretary*.

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REPORT.

The Commissioners for the University of Virginia, having met, as by law required, at the Tavern in Rockfish Gap on the Blue Ridge, on the first day of August of this present year 1818, and having formed a board, proceeded on that day to the discharge of the duties assigned to them by the Act of the Legislature intituled an "Act appropriating part of the revenue of the Literary Fund, and for other purposes," and having continued their proceedings by adjournment from day to day, to Tuesday the fourth day of August, have agreed to a report on the several matters with which they were charged, which report they now respectfully address and submit to the Legislature of the State.

The first duty enjoined on them was to enquire and report a site in some convenient and proper part of the State, for an University, to be called the "University of Virginia."

In this enquiry they supposed that the governing considerations should be the healthiness of the site, the fertility of the neighbouring country, and its centrality to the white population of the whole State: for, although the Act authorised and required them to receive any voluntary contributions, whether conditional or absolute, which might be offered through them to the President and Directors of the Literary Fund, for the benefit of the University, yet they did not consider this as establishing an auction, or as pledging the location to the highest bidder.

Three places were proposed; to wit, Lexington in the County of Rockbridge, Staunton in the County of Augusta, and the Central College, in the County of Albemarle: each of these was unexceptionable as to healthiness and fertility. It was the degree of centrality to the white population of the State which alone then constituted the important point of comparison between these places: and the Board, after full enquiry, and impartial and mature consideration, are of opinion that

the central point of the white population of the State is nearer to the Central College, than to either Lexington, or Staunton, by great and important differences; and all other circumstances of the place in general being favorable to it as a position for an University, they do report the Central College in Albemarle, to be a convenient and proper part of the State, for the University of Virginia.

2. The Board having thus agreed on a proper site for the University to be reported to the Legislature, proceeded to the second of the duties assigned to them, that of proposing a plan for its buildings; and they are of opinion that it should consist of distinct houses or pavilions, arranged at proper distances on each side of a lawn of a proper breadth, and of indefinite extent in one direction at least, in each of which should be a lecturing room, with from two to four apartments for the accommodation of a Professor and his family; that these pavilions should be united by a range of Dormitories, sufficient each for the accommodation of two Students only, this provision being deemed advantageous to morals, to order, and to uninterrupted study; and that a passage of some kind under cover from the weather should give a communication along the whole range. It is supposed that such pavilions on an average of the larger and smaller, will cost each about 5,000 dollars, each dormitory about 350 dollars, and hotels of a single room for a refectory, and two rooms for the tenant necessary for dieting the Students will cost about 3,500 dollars each. The number of these pavilions will depend on the number of Professors, and that of the Dormitories and hotels on the number of Students to be lodged and dieted. The advantages of this place are, greater security against fire and infection; tranquility and comfort to the Professors, and their families thus insulated; retirement to the Students, and the admission of enlargement to any degree to which the institution may extend in future times. It is supposed probable that a building of somewhat more size in the middle of the grounds may be called for in time, in which may be rooms for religious worship under such impartial regulations as the visitors shall prescribe, for public examinations, for a library,

for the schools of music, drawing, and other associated purposes.

3. 4. In proceeding to the third and fourth duties prescribed by the Legislature of reporting "the branches of learning, which should be taught in the University, and the number and description of the professorships they will require," the Commissioners were first to consider at what point it was understood that University education should commence? Certainly not with the Alphabet, for reasons of expediency and impracticability, as well as from the obvious sense of the Legislature, who, in the same Act make other provision for the primary instruction of poor children, expecting doubtless that, in other cases, it would be provided by the parent, or become perhaps a subject of future, and further attention for the Legislature. The objects of this primary education determine its character and limits.—These objects would be,

To give to every citizen the information he needs for the transaction of his own business.

To enable him to calculate for himself, and to express and preserve his ideas, his contracts and accounts in writing.

To improve by reading, his morals and faculties.

To understand his duties to his neighbours, and country, and to discharge with competence the functions confided to him by either.

To know his rights; to exercise with order and justice those he retains; to choose with discretion the fiduciaries of those he delegates; and to notice their conduct with diligence, with candor and judgment.

And, in general, to observe with intelligence and faithfulness all the social relations under which he shall be placed.

To instruct the mass of our citizens in these their rights, interests and duties, as men and citizens, being then the objects of education in the primary schools, whether private or public, in them should be taught reading, writing and numerical arithmetic, the elements of mensuration (useful in so many callings,) and the outlines of geography and history; and this brings us to the point at which are to commence the higher branches of education, of which the Legislature re-

quire the developement : those, for example, which are to form the Statesmen, Legislators and Judges, on whom public prosperity, and individual happiness are so much to depend :

To expound the principles and structure of government, the laws which regulate the intercourse of nations, those formed municipally for our own government, and a sound spirit of Legislation, which banishing all arbitrary and unnecessary restraint on individual action shall leave us free to do whatever does not violate the equal rights of another :

To harmonize and promote the interests of agriculture, manufactures and commerce, and by well informed views of political economy to give a free scope to the public industry :

To develop the reasoning faculties of our youth, enlarge their minds, cultivate their morals, and instil into them the precepts of virtue and order :

To enlighten them with mathematical and physical sciences, which advance the arts and administer to the health, the subsistence and comforts of human life :

And generally to form them to habits of reflection, and correct action, rendering them examples of virtue to others, and of happiness within themselves.

These are the objects of that higher grade of education, the benefits and blessings of which the Legislature now propose to provide for the good and ornament of their country, the gratification and happiness of their fellow citizens, of the parent especially and his progeny on which all his affections are concentrated.

In entering on this field, the Commissioners are aware that they have to encounter much difference of opinion as to the extent, which it is expedient that this institution should occupy. Some good men, and even of respectable information, consider the learned sciences as useless acquirements ; some think that they do not better the condition of man ; and others, that education, like private and individual concerns, should be left to private and individual effort ; not reflecting that an establishment, embracing all the sciences which may be useful and even necessary in the various vocations of life, with the buildings and apparatus belonging to each, are far beyond

the reach of individual means, and must either derive existence from public patronage or not exist at all. This would leave us then without those callings which depend on education, or send us to other countries, to seek the instruction they require. But the Commissioners are happy in considering the statute under which they are assembled as proof, that the Legislature is far from the abandonment of objects so interesting; they are sensible that the advantages of well directed education, moral, political and economical, are truly above all estimate. Education generates habits of application, of order and the love of virtue; and controuls, by the force of habit, any innate obliquities in our moral organization. We should be far too from the discouraging persuasion, that man is fixed, by the law of his nature, at a given point; that his improvement is a chimæra, and the hope delusive of rendering ourselves wiser, happier or better than our forefathers were.—As well might it be urged, that the wild and uncultivated tree, hitherto yielding sour and bitter fruit only, can never be made to yield better: Yet we know that the grafting art implants a new tree on the savage stock, producing what is most estimable both in kind and degree. Education, in like manner, engrafts a new man on the native stock, and improves what in his nature was vicious and perverse, into qualities of virtue and social worth; and it cannot be, but that each generation, succeeding to the knowledge acquired by all those who preceded it, adding to it their own acquisitions and discoveries, and handing the mass down for successive and constant accumulation, must advance the knowledge and well-being of mankind, not *infinitely*, as some have said, but *indefinitely*, and to a term which no one can fix or foresee. Indeed, we need look back only half a century, to times which many now living remember well, and see the wonderful advances in the sciences and arts which have been made within that period. Some of these have rendered the elements themselves subservient to the purposes of man, have harnessed them to the yoke of his labours, and effected the great blessings of moderating his own, of accomplishing what was beyond his feeble force, and of extending the comforts of life to a much enlarged

circle, to those who had before known its necessities only.— That these are not the vain dreams of sanguine hope, we have before our eyes real and living examples. What, but education, has advanced us beyond the condition of our indigenuous neighbours? and what chains them to their present state of barbarism and wretchedness, but a bigotted veneration for the supposed superlative wisdom of their fathers, and the preposterous idea that they are to look backward for better things and not forward, longing, as it should seem, to return to the days of eating acorns and roots, rather than indulge in the degeneracies of civilization? And how much more encouraging to the achievements of science and improvement, is this, than the desponding view that the condition of man cannot be ameliorated, that what has been, must ever be, and that to secure ourselves where we are, we must tread, with awful reverence, in the footsteps of our fathers. This doctrine is the genuine fruit of the alliance between church and state, the tenants of which, finding themselves but too well in their present position, oppose all advances which might unmask their usurpations, and monopolies of honours, wealth and power, and fear every change, as endangering the comforts they now hold. Nor must we omit to mention, among the benefits of education, the incalculable advantage of training up able councillors to administer the affairs of our country in all its departments, Legislative, Executive and Judiciary, and to bear their proper share in the councils of our National Government; nothing more than education, advancing the prosperity, the power and the happiness of a nation.

Encouraged therefore by the sentiments of the Legislature, manifested in this statute, we present the following tabular statement of the branches of learning which we think should be taught in the University, forming them into groupes, each of which are within the powers of a single professor :

I. <i>Languages Ancient,</i>	{ Latin, Greek, Hebrew.
II. <i>Languages Modern.</i>	{ French, Spanish, Italian, German, Anglo-Saxon.
III. <i>Mathematics Pure.</i>	{ Algebra, Fluxions, Geometry, Elementary, " Transcendental, Architecture, Military, " Naval.
IV. <i>Physico-Mathematics.</i>	{ Mechanics, Statics, Dynamics, Pneumatics, Acoustics, Optics, Astronomy, Geography.
V.	{ Physics or Natural Philosophy. Chemistry. Mineralogy.
VI.	{ Botany, Zoology.
VII.	{ Anatomy, Medicine.
VIII.	{ Government, Political Economy, Law of Nature and Nations, History, (being interwoven with Politics and Law.)
IX.	{ Law Municipal.
X.	{ Ideology, General Grammar, Ethics, Rhetoric, Belles Lettres and the Fine Arts.

Some of the terms used in this table, being subject to a difference of acceptation, it is proper to define the meaning and comprehension intended to be given them here :

Geometry Elementary, is that of straight lines and of the circle.

Transcendental, is that of all other curves ; it includes of course *Projectiles*, a leading branch of the military art.

Military Architecture, includes fortification, another branch of that art.

Statics, respect matter generally, in a state of rest, and include Hydrostatics, or the laws of fluids particularly, at rest or in equilibrio.

Dynamics, used as a general term, include Dynamics Proper, or the laws of solids in motion, and Hydrodynamics, or Hydraulics, those of fluids in motion.

Pneumatics, teach the theory of air, its weight, motion, condensation, rarefaction, &c.

Acoustics, or Phonics, the theory of sound.

Optics, the laws of light and vision.

Physics, or Physiology, in a general sense, mean the doctrine of the physical objects of our senses.

Chemistry, is meant, with its other usual branches, to comprehend the theory of agriculture.

Mineralogy, in addition to its peculiar subjects, is here understood to embrace what is real in Geology.

Ideology, is the doctrine of thought.

General Grammar, explains the construction of language.

Some articles in this distribution of sciences will need observation.

A Professor is proposed for ancient languages, the Latin, Greek and Hebrew particularly, but these languages being the foundation common to all the sciences, it is difficult to foresee what may be the extent of this school—at the same time no greater obstruction to industrious study could be proposed than the presence, the intrusions, and the noisy turbulence of a multitude of small boys ; and if they are to be placed here for the rudiments of the languages, they may be so numerous, that its character and value as an University, will be merged in those of a grammar school. It is therefore greatly to be wished, that preliminary schools, either on private or public establishment, could be distributed in districts through the

State, as preparatory to the entrance of students into the University. The tender age at which this part of education commences, generally about the tenth year, would weigh heavily with parents in sending their sons to a school so distant as the central establishment would be from most of them. Districts of such extent as that every parent should be within a day's journey of his son at school, would be desirable in cases of sickness, and convenient for supplying their ordinary wants, and might be made to lessen sensibly the expense of this part of their education. And where a sparse population would not, within such a compass, furnish subjects sufficient to maintain a school, a competent enlargement of district must, of necessity, there be submitted to. At these district schools or colleges, boys should be rendered able to read the easier authors, Latin and Greek. This would be useful and sufficient for many not intended for an university education. At these too might be taught English grammar, the higher branches of numerical arithmetic, the geometry of straight lines and of the circle, the elements of navigation, and geography to a sufficient degree, and thus afford to greater numbers the means of being qualified for the various vocations of life, needing more instruction than merely menial or prædial labor; and the same advantages to youths whose education may have been neglected until too late to lay a foundation in the learned languages. These institutions, intermediate between the Primary Schools and University, might then be the passage of entrance for youths into the University, where their classical learning might be critically completed, by a study of the authors of highest degree. And it is at this stage only that they should be received at the University.—Giving then a portion of their time to a finished knowledge of the Latin and Greek, the rest might be appropriated to the modern languages, or to the commencement of the course of science, for which they should be destined. This would generally be about the 15th year of their age, when they might go with more safety and contentment to that distance from their parents. Until this preparatory provision shall be made, either the University will be overwhelmed with the grammar

school, or a separate establishment under one or more Ushers for its lower classes, will be advisable, at a mile or two distance from the general one; where too may be exercised the stricter government necessary for young boys, but unsuitable for youths arrived at years of discretion.

The considerations which have governed the specification of languages to be taught by the Professor of modern languages, were, that the French is the language of general intercourse among nations, and as a depository of human science, is unsurpassed by any other language, living or dead: that the Spanish is highly interesting to us, as the language spoken by so great a portion of the inhabitants of our continents, with whom we shall probably have great intercourse ere long; and is that also in which is written the greater part of the early history of America: The Italian abounds with works of very superior order, valuable for their matter, and still more distinguished as models of the finest taste in style and composition: and the German now stands in a line with that of the most learned nations in richness of erudition, and advance in the sciences. It is too of common descent with the language of our own country, a branch of the same original Gothic stock, and furnishes valuable illustrations for us. But in this point of view, the Anglo-Saxon is of peculiar value. We have placed it among the modern languages, because it is in fact that which we speak, in the earliest form in which we have knowledge of it. It has been undergoing, with time, those gradual changes which all languages, ancient and modern, have experienced; and even now, needs only to be printed in the modern character and orthography, to be intelligible, in a considerable degree, to an English reader. It has this value too above the Greek and Latin, that while it gives the radix of the mass of our language, they explain its innovations only. Obvious proofs of this have been presented to the modern reader, in the disquisitions of Horne Tooke; and Fortescue Aland has well explained the great instruction which may be derived from it towards a full understanding of our ancient common law, on which as a stock, our whole system of law is engrafted.

It will form the first link in the chain of an historical review of our language through all its successive changes to the present day; will constitute the foundation of that critical instruction in it, which ought to be found in a Seminary of general learning; and thus reward amply the few weeks of attention which would alone be requisite for its attainment. A language already fraught with all the eminent science of our parent country, the future vehicle of whatever we may ourselves achieve, and destined to occupy so much space on the globe, claims distinguished attention in American education.

Medicine, where fully taught, is usually subdivided into several professorships; but this cannot well be without the accessory of an hospital, where the Student can have the benefit of attending clinical lectures, and of assisting at operations of surgery. With this accessory, the seat of our University is not yet prepared, either by its population, or by the numbers of poor, who would leave their own houses, and accept of the charities of an hospital. For the present therefore, we propose but a single Professor for both Medicine and Anatomy. By him the elements of medical science may be taught, with a history and explanations of all its successive theories from Hippocrates to the present day: and anatomy may be fully treated. Vegetable pharmacy will make a part of the botanical course, and mineral and chemical pharmacy, of those of mineralogy and chemistry. This degree of medical information is such as the mass of scientific Students would wish to possess, as enabling them, in their course through life, to estimate with satisfaction the extent and limits of the aid to human life and health, which they may understandingly expect from that art, and it constitutes such a foundation for those intended for the profession, that the finishing course of practice at the bed-sides of the sick, and at the operations of surgery in a hospital, can neither be long nor expensive. To seek this finishing elsewhere, must therefore be submitted to for a while.

In conformity with the principles of our constitution, which places all sects of religion on an equal footing, with the jealousies of the different sects in guarding that equality

from encroachment and surprise, and with the sentiments of the Legislature in favor of freedom of religion manifested on former occasions, we have proposed no Professor of Divinity; and the rather, as the proofs of the being of a God, the creator, preserver, and supreme ruler of the universe, the author of all the relations of morality, and of the laws and obligations these infer, will be within the province of the professor of ethics, to which adding the developements of these moral obligations, of those in which all sects agree, with a knowledge of the languages, Hebrew, Greek and Latin, a basis will be formed common to all sects. Proceeding thus far without offence to the constitution, we have thought it proper at this point, to leave every sect to provide as they think fittest, the means of further instruction in their own peculiar tenets.

We are further of opinion that, after declaring by law that certain sciences shall be taught in the University, fixing the number of professors they require, which we think should at present be ten, limiting (except as to the Professors who shall be first engaged in each branch,) a maximum for their salaries, (which should be a certain but moderate subsistence, to be made up by liberal tuition fees, as an excitement to assiduity,) it will be best to leave to the discretion of the visitors, the grouping of these sciences together, according to the accidental qualifications of the Professors, and the introduction also of other branches of science, when enabled by private donations or by public provision, and called for by the increase of population, or other change of circumstances; to establish beginnings, in short, to be developed by time, as those who come after us shall find expedient. They will be more advanced than we are, in science and in useful arts, and will know best what will suit the circumstances of their day.

We have proposed no formal provision for the gymnastics of the school, although a proper object of attention for every institution of youth. These exercises with ancient nations, constituted the principal part of the education of their youth. Their arms and mode of warfare rendered them severe in

the extreme. Ours, on the same correct principle, should be adapted to our arms and warfare; and the manual exercise, military manœuvres, and tactics generally, should be the frequent exercises of the students, in their hours of recreation. It is at that age of aptness, docility and emulation of the practices of manhood, that such things are soonest learnt, and longest remembered. The use of tools too, in the manual arts, is worthy of encouragement, by facilitating to such as choose it, an admission into the neighbouring work-shops.—To these should be added the arts which embellish life, dancing, musick, and drawing; the last more especially, as an important part of military education. These innocent arts furnish amusement and happiness to those who, having time on their hands, might less inoffensively employ it;—needing at the same time, no regular incorporation with the institution, they may be left to accessory teachers, who will be paid by the individuals employing them; the University only providing proper apartments for their exercise.

The 5th duty prescribed to the commissioners is, to propose such general provisions as may be properly enacted by the Legislature, for the better organizing and governing the University.

In the education of youth, provision is to be made for: 1. tuition—2, diet—3, lodging—4, government, and 5, honorary excitements. The 1st of these constitutes the proper functions of the professors. 2. The dieting of the students should be left to private boarding-houses of their own choice, and at their own expense; to be regulated by the Visitors from time to time, the house only being provided by the University within its own precincts, and thereby of course, subjected to the general regimen, moral or sumptuary, which they shall prescribe. 3. They should be lodged in dormitories, making a part of the general system of buildings. 4. The best mode of government for youth, in large collections, is certainly a desideratum not yet attained with us. It may well be questioned whether *fear*, after a certain age, is the motive to which we should have ordinary recourse. The human character is susceptible of other incitements to correct con-

duct, more worthy of employ, and of better effect. Pride of character, laudable ambition and moral dispositions are innate correctives of the indiscretions of that lively age ; and when strengthened by habitual appeal and exercise, have a happier effect on future character, than the degrading motive of *fear*. Hardening them to disgrace, to corporal punishments, and servile humiliations, cannot be the best process for producing erect character. The affectionate deportment between father and son, offers, in truth, the best example for that of tutor and pupil ; and the experience and practice of * other countries in this respect, may be worthy of enquiry and consideration with us. It will be then for the wisdom and discretion of the Visitors to devise and perfect a proper system of government, which, if it be founded in reason and comity, will be more likely to nourish, in the minds of our youth, the combined spirit of order and self respect, so congenial with our political institutions, and so important to be woven into the American character. 5. What qualifications shall be required to entitle to entrance into the University ? the arrangement of the days and hours of lecturing for the different schools, so as to facilitate to the students the circle of attendance on them ; the establishment of periodical and public examinations ; the premiums to be given for distinguished merit ; whether honorary degrees shall be conferred ? and by what appellations ? whether the title to these shall depend on the time the candidate has been at the University, or, where nature has given a greater share of understanding, attention and application, whether he shall not be allowed the advantages resulting from these endowments ; with other minor items of government, we are of opinion, should be entrusted to the Visitors ; and the statute under which we act, having provided for the appointment of these, we think they should moreover be charged with

The erection, preservation and repair of the buildings, the care of the grounds and appurtenances, and of the interests of the University generally ;

* A police exercised by the students themselves, under proper direction, has been tried with success in some countries, and the rather as forming them for initiation into the duties and practices of civil life.

That they should have power to appoint a Bursar, employ a Proctor, and all other necessary agents ;

To appoint and remove professors, two-thirds of the whole number of Visitors voting for the removal ;

To prescribe their duties and the course of education, in conformity with the law ;

To establish rules for the government and discipline of the students, not contrary to the laws of the land ;

To regulate the tuition fees and the rent of the dormitories they occupy ;

To prescribe and control the duties and proceedings of all officers, servants, and others, with respect to the buildings, lands, appurtenances, and other property and interests of the University ;

To draw from the Literary Fund such monies as are by law charged on it for this institution ;

And in general to direct and do all matters and things which, not being inconsistent with the laws of the land, to them shall seem most expedient for promoting the purposes of the said institution ; which several functions they should be free to exercise in the form of bye-laws, rules, resolutions, orders, instructions, or otherwise, as they should deem proper :

That they should have two Stated Meetings in the year, and occasional meetings at such times as they should appoint, or on a special call with such notice as themselves shall prescribe by a general rule ; which meeting should be at the University ; a majority of them constituting a quorum for business ; and that on the death or resignation of a member, or on his removal by the President and Directors of the Literary Fund, or the Executive, or such other authority as the Legislature shall think best, such President and Directors, or the Executive, or other authority, should appoint a successor :

That the said Visitors should appoint one of their own body to be Rector, and with him be a body corporate, under the style and title of the Rector and Visitors of the University of Virginia, with the right as such, to use a common seal ; that they should have capacity to plead and be impleaded, in

all courts of justice, and in all cases interesting to the University, which may be the subjects of legal cognizance and jurisdiction; which pleas should not abate by the determination of their office, but should stand revived in the name of their successors; and they should be capable in law, and in trust for the University, of receiving subscriptions and donations, real and personal, as well from bodies corporate, or persons associated, as from private individuals:

And that the said Rector and Visitors should at all times conform to such laws, as the Legislature may from time to time think proper to enact for their government; and the said University should in all things, and at all times be subject to the control of the Legislature.

And lastly, the Commissioners report to the Legislature the following conditional offers to the President and Directors of the Literary Fund, for the benefit of the University:

On the condition that Lexington, or its vicinity shall be selected as the site of the University, and that the same be permanently established there within two years from the date, John Robinson, of Rockbridge County, has executed a deed to the President and Directors of the Literary Fund, to take effect at his death, for the following tracts of land, to wit:

400 acres on the north fork of James River, known by the name of Hart's bottom, purchased of the late general Bowyer.

171 acres adjoining the same, purchased of James Griggsby.

203 acres joining the last mentioned tract, purchased of William Paxton.

112 acres lying on the North River, above the lands of Arthur Glasgow, conveyed to him by William Paxton's heirs.

500 acres joining the lands of Arthur Glasgow, Benjamin Cambden, and David Edmondson.

545 acres lying in Pryor's Gap, conveyed to him by the heirs of William Paxton, deceased.

260 acres lying in Childers' Gap, purchased of William Mitchell.

300 acres lying also in Childers' Gap, purchased of Nicholas Jones.

500 acres lying on Buffalo, joining the lands of James Johnston.

340 acres on the Cow-pasture River, conveyed to him by general James Breckenridge, reserving the right of selling the two last mentioned tracts, and converting them into other lands contiguous to Hart's bottom, for the benefit of the University: Also the whole of his slaves, amounting to 57 in number: one lot of twenty-two acres, joining the town of Lexington, to pass immediately, on the establishment of the University, together with all the personal estate of every kind; subject only to the payment of his debts, and fulfilment of his contracts.

It has not escaped the attention of the Commissioners, that the deed referred to is insufficient to pass the estate in the lands intended to be conveyed, and may be otherwise defective; but if necessary, this defect may be remedied before the meeting of the Legislature, which the Commissioners are advised will be done.

The Board of Trustees of Washington College, have also proposed to transfer the whole of their funds, viz.

100 shares in the funds of the James River Company.

31 acres of land on which all their buildings stand.

Their philosophical apparatus; their expected interest in the funds of the Cincinnati society; the Libraries of the Graham and Washington societies; and

3000 dollars in cash; on condition that a reasonable provision be made for the present Professors.

A subscription has also been offered by the people of Lexington and its vicinity, amounting to 17,878 dollars; all which will appear from the deed and other documents, reference thereto being had.

In this case also, it has not escaped the attention of the Commissioners, that questions may arise as to the power of the Trustees to make the above transfers.

On the condition that the Central College shall be made the site of the University, its whole property, real and personal, in possession, or in action, is offered. This consists of a parcel of land of 47 acres, whereon the buildings of the College are begun, one pavilion and its appendix of dormitories, being already far advanced, and with one other pavilion, and equal

annexation of dormitories, being expected to be completed during the present season. Of another parcel of 153 acres, near the former, and including a considerable eminence very favorable for the erection of a future observatory. Of the proceeds of the sale of two glebes, amounting to 3,280 dollars 86 cents; and of a subscription of 41,248 dollars, on papers in hand, besides what is on outstanding papers, of unknown amount, not yet returned. Out of these sums are to be taken, however, the cost of the lands, of the buildings, and other works done, and for existing contracts.

For the conditional transfer of these to the President and Directors of the Literary Fund, a regular power signed by the subscribers and founders of the College generally; has been given to its Visitors and Proctor, and a deed conveying the said property accordingly, to the President and Directors of the Literary Fund, has been duly executed by the said Proctor, and acknowledged for record in the office of the Clerk of the County Court of Albemarle.

Signed and certified by the members present, each in his proper hand-writing, this 4th day of August, 1818.

TH: JEFFERSON,

CREED TAYLOR,

PETER RANDOLPH,

WM. BROCKENBROUGH,

ARCH'D RUTHERFORD,

ARCH'D STUART,

JAMES BRECKENRIDGE,

HENRY E. WATKINS,

JAMES MADISON,

ARMISTEAD T. MASON.

HUGH HOLMES,

PHIL: C. PENDLETON,

SPENCER ROANE,

JOHN M. C. TAYLOR,

J. G. JACKSON,

THOS. WILSON,

PHIL. SLAUGHTER,

WM. H. CABELL,

NATHL. H. CLAIBORNE,

WM. A. G. DADE,

WM. JONES.

To all persons to whom these presents shall come, Nelson Barksdale, of the County of Albemarle, Proctor of the Central College within the same County; Greeting;

By virtue of the powers granted to me by certain homologous instruments of writing, signed and executed by the sundry subscribers, contributors and founders of the said College, which several instruments are all of the same tenor, and expressed in these words following, to wit: "Whereas
 "by an Act of the General Assembly for appropriating a part
 "of the revenue of the Literary Fund to the endowment of
 "an University, and for the appointment of commissioners to
 "enquire and report to the Legislature a proper site for the
 "same, 'The said Commissioners are authorized to receive
 'any voluntary contributions, whether conditional or absolute, whether in land, money or other property, which may
 'be offered through them, to the President and Directors of
 'the Literary Fund, for the benefit of the University.' "Be
 "it therefore known, that we the subscribers, contributors
 "and founders of the establishment, of the Central College,
 "near Charlottesville, do hereby authorize and empower the
 "Visitors of the said College, or a majority of them, or the
 "Proctor thereof, to offer through the said Commissioners to
 "the President and Directors of the Literary Fund the said
 "Central College with all the lands, monies, credits and
 "other property thereunto belonging, and of the same to
 "make an absolute conveyance, on condition that the lands
 "of the said College be ultimately adopted by the Legislature
 "as the site of the said University: in witness whereof we
 "have hereunto subscribed our names," (as by the said
 several instruments with the names duly subscribed in the proper hand writing of each subscriber, will more certainly appear; Know ye, that I, the said Nelson Barksdale, Proctor of the said College, by this my deed, indented, sealed and delivered, in consideration of the sum of one dollar to me in hand paid for the use of the said College, and of the condition precedent herein after stated, do give, grant, bargain and sell, offer and convey to the said President and Directors of the Literary Fund, for the benefit of the said University of

Virginia now proposed to be established, all the lands, monies, credits and other property of whatever form, nature or value, to the said Central College belonging, wheresoever the same may be, or in whatsoever hands. To have and to hold the same to the said President and Directors of the said Literary Fund, and their successors, to and for the sole use and benefit of the said University of Virginia: On the condition precedent, that the lands of the said College in the said County of Albemarle be ultimately adopted by the Legislature of this Commonwealth, or by those whom they shall authorize thereto, as the site of the said University of Virginia: which condition being previously fulfilled, this deed is to be in full force, but otherwise to become void and of no effect. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 27th day of July 1818.

NELSON BARKSDALE,

(SEAL.)

Proctor to the C. College.

*Signed, sealed and delivered
in presence of*

FRANK CARR,
JAMES LEITCH,
JAMES BROWN.

*In the office of the County Court of Albemarle, the 27th day of
July 1818.*

This Indenture was produced to me in my office the date above, and acknowledged by Nelson Barksdale, Proctor to the Central College, party thereto, to be his hand and seal, act and deed, and admitted to record according to law.

Teste

ALEX. GARRETT, C. C.

A copy. Teste

ALEX. GARRETT, C. C.

Whereas, by an act of the General Assembly for appropriating a part of the revenue of the Literary Fund to the endowment of an University and for the appointment of Commissioners to enquire and report to the Legislature, a proper site for the same, the said Commissioners are authorised "to receive any voluntary contributions whether conditional or absolute, whether in land, money, or other property, which may be offered, through them, to the President, and Directors of the Literary Fund, for the benefit of the University:" Be it therefore known, that we, the subscribers, contributors and founders of the establishment of the Central College, near Charlottesville, do hereby authorise and empower the Visitors of the said College, or a majority of them, or the proctor thereof, to offer, through the said Commissioners, to the President and Directors of the Literary Fund, the said Central College, with all the lands, moneys, credits and other property thereto belonging, and of the same to make an absolute conveyance: On condition, that the lands of the said College be ultimately adopted by the Legislature as the site of the said University. In Witness whereof, we have hereto subscribed our names.

William Mitchell,	John P. Cobbs,
Joel Yancey,	Landon Cabell,
Chas. Johnston,	Thomas J. McClelland,
H. Harrison,	William Cabell,
Richard Pollard,	George Callaway,
Robert Morriss,	John H. Craven,
Thomas Wells,	Frank Carr,
William Garth,	John Minor,
Moses Peregoy,	William Brown,
John Fretwell,	James Clark,
James Madison,	James H. Terrell,
J. H. Cocke,	Ira Harris,
Joseph C. Cabell,	Nelson Barksdale,
Zachariah Nevill,	Garland Garth,
Henry Dawson,	Thomas J. Randolph,
Ro. Rives,	William Woods,
W. C. Rives,	John M. Perry.

Whereas, by an act of the General Assembly for appropriating a part of the revenue of the Literary Fund to the endowment of an University and for the appointment of Commissioners to enquire and report to the Legislature, a proper site for the same, the said Commissioners are authorised "to receive any voluntary contributions whether conditional or absolute, whether in land, money, or other property, which may be offered, through them, to the President, and Directors of the Literary Fund, for the benefit of the University:" Be it therefore known, that we, the subscribers, contributors and founders of the establishment of the Central College, near Charlottesville, do hereby authorise and empower the Visitors of the said College or a majority of them, or the proctor thereof, to offer, through the said Commissioners, to the President and Directors of the Literary Fund, the said Central College, with all the lands, moneys, credits and other property thereto belonging and of the same to make an absolute conveyance: On condition, that the lands of the said College be ultimately ^{opted} by the Legislature as the site of the said University ^{In witness whereof,} we have hereto subscribed our names.

William Mitchell,
 Joel Yancey,
 Chas. Johnston,
 H. Harrison,
 Richard Pollard,
 Robert Morriss,
 Thomas Wells,
 William Garth,
 Moses Peregoy,
 John Fretwell,
 James Madison,
 J. H. Cocke,
 Joseph C. Cabell,
 Zachariah Nevill,
 Henry Dawson,
 Ro. Rives,
 W. C. Rives,

John P. Cobbs,
 London Cabell,
 Thomas J. McClelland,
 William Cabell,
 George Callaway,
 John H. Craven,
 Frank Carr,
 John Miror,
 William Brown,
 James Clark,
 James H. Terrell,
 Ira Harris,
 Nelson Barksdale,
 Garland Garth,
 Thomas J. Randolph,
 William Woods,
 John M. Perry,

George M. Woods,
Daniel F. Carr,
Alexander Garrett,
William Leitch,
James Dinsmore,
James Leitch,
J. W. Garth,
V. W. Southall,
George W. Kinsolving,
William Watson,
John C. Ragland,
Samuel Leitch,
O. Norris,
P. Minor,
Thomas Jefferson,
Jeremiah A. Goodman,
Arthur Whitehurst,
John Walker,
Jesse Garth,
J. Pollock,
John Fagg,
C. Wirtenbaker,
William H. Meriwether,
Allen Dawson,
Hugh Chisholm,
Saml. Carr,
N. H. Lewis,
David Isaacs,
Lewis Tul,
Peter Porter,
N. Bramham,
Samuel L. Hart,
John Winn,
Ira Garrett,
John Jones,
Fras. B. Dyer,
John Watson, L. M.
John Slaughter,

Jo. Bishop,
J. Goss,
Jas. Minor,
Ben. Hardin,
William Dunkum,
Jas. O. Carr,
Drury Wood,
Dixon Dedman,
Clif. Harris,
Charles Brown,
Reuben Maury,
Mann Page,
J. H. Marks,
Francis McGehee,
I. A. Coles,
John Coles,
James Lindsay,
Martin Thacker,
Christopher Hudson,
John Harris,
Richard Woods,
John Dunkum,
Daniel M. Raily,
Thomas Wood,
John F. Carr,
Henry Chiles,
Achilles Broadhead,
Micajah Woods,
Tucker Coles,
Samuel Dyer, Sen.
Thomas Eston Randolph,
Joseph Coffman,
John Hudson,
Elijah Brown,
James Wood,
Thomas W. Maury,
Zachariah Shackelford,

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the original deed, signed by the subscribers whose names are thereto annexed, which was laid before the Board of Commissioners for the University of Virginia, on the first day of August 1818.

TH: W. MAURY,
Secretary to the Board.