## STATE OF NEW-YORK.

No. 381.

## IN ASSEMBLY,

April 29, 1847.

G. O. No. 388.

[Brought in by Mr. DEVELIN, on notice—read twice and referred to the committee on colleges, academies and common schools; reported on favorably by Mr. BURCHARD from said committee, and committed to a committee of the whole.]

## AN ACT

Authorizing the Board of Education of the city and county of New-York, to establish a Free Academy in said city.

The People of the State of New-York represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

- 1 Section 1. The board of education for the city and county of New-York
- 2 shall have power to establish a free academy in the city of New-York, when-
- 3 ever the said board of education at any regular meeting thereof, by a ma-
- 4 jority of all the members thereof, shall by resolution declare it expedient to

5 do so, for the purpose of extending the benefits of education gratuitously, to
6 persons who have been pupils in the common schools of the said city and coun7 ty of New-York.

§ 2. Upon a decision being made by the said board of education as pro-2 vided in the first section of this act, determining it expedient to establish in 3 the city of New-York such free academy, it shall be lawful for the said board 4 of education at any regular meeting thereof, to proceed in such manner as 5 said board of education shall by resolution prescribe to establish such free 6 academy; and unless a place deemed by said board to be a suitable site 7 therefor be appropriated by the common council of the said city and county 8 to that purpose, to purchase a site therefor, and erect, finish, and fit up a 9 suitable building or buildings, the erecting, finishing, and fitting up of which 10 said building or buildings, shall be done by contract or contracts to be made 11 with the said board of education. The said board of education shall give at 12 least twenty days' notice in three public newspapers published in the said city. 13 that the said board will, on or before a day to be specified in said notice, 14 receive sealed proposals for erecting, finishing, and fitting up the build-15 ing or buildings provided for in this section, in conformity with plans and 16 specifications to be prepared by the said board prior to publishing said notice; 17 at the expiration of which time the said board shall open said proposals, and 18 enter into a contract or contracts with such person or persons as shall offer 19 or bid to erect, finish and fit up said building or buildings at the least sum, 20 or sums; and shall give security in a bond to the said board to the satis-21 faction of the said board, for the faithful performance of his or their contract 22 or contracts; but nothing herein contained shall be construed to preclude 23 the said board of education from making such contract or contracts, with

29 education, shall raise and collect by tax upon the inhabitants of said city and 31 emy, purchase a site therefor, and defray the expense of erecting, finishing 32 and fitting up a suitable building or buildings as above mentioned, and the 34 notice, at the same time, and in the same manner as the contingent 37 rected to raise by loan, in anticipation of the raising and collecting of the 42 vided.

\$ 3. The board of supervisors of the said city and county of New-York, a shall annually raise and collect by tax upon the inhabitants of said city and county, at the same time and in the same manner as the contingent charges of the said city and county are raised and collected, such sum as the said board of education shall by resolution declare to be necessary in addition to other means which may be appropriated to them therefor, for the maintegrand and support of the said free academy, and to keep the said building or

- 8 buildings in proper condition, and to make all needful repairs of the same
- 9 The title to all real property with the building or buildings to be erected
- 10 thereon, purchased by virtue of this act, shall be vested in the mayor, alder-
- 11 men and commonalty of the city and county of New-York; and the title to
- 12 all personal property purchased by virtue of this act for use in said free
- 13 academy, and in the management of the same, shall be vested in the said
- 14 board of education.
- 1 . § 4. All moneys required to be raised by virtue of this act, shall on
- 2 being raised as hereinbefore provided, be deposited for the safe keeping
- 3 thereof, in such place in the said city as may be designated by the said com-
- 4 mon council, to the credit of the said board of education, and shall be drawn
- 5 out only in pursuance of a resolution or resolutions of the said board, by
- 6 drafts signed by the president, and countersigned by the clerk of the said
- 7 board, payable to the order of the person or persons entitled to receive such
- 8 moneys.
- 1 § 5. The said free academy shall be under the supervision, management
- 2 and government of the said board of education. The said board of educa-
- 3 tion shall from time to time, make all needful rules and regulations, to fix
- 4 the number and compensation of teachers and others to be employed therein;
- 5 to prescribe the preliminary examination, and the terms and conditions on
- 6 which pupils shall be received and instructed therein, and discharged there-
- 7 from; to direct the course of studies therein, and to provide in all things for
- 8 the good government and management of the said free academy, and for the
- 9 purchase of the books, apparatus, stationery, and other things necessary and
- 10 expedient to enable the said free academy to be properly and successfully

11 conducted, and to keep the said building or buildings properly repaired and fur-12 nished.

tee of five persons of their own number, who shall, subject to the supervision, control and approbation of the said board, constitute an executive committee for the care, management and government of the said free academy, under the rules and regulations prescribed as aforesaid, whose duty it shall be from time to time to make full and detailed reports to the said board of education, and among other things to recommend the rules and regulations which they deem necessary and proper for the said academy. The board of education may at any regular meeting thereof, by a vote of the majority of all the members of the said board, remove any or all of the members of the said committee, and appoint another person or persons, in the place of the member or members of the said committee so removed.

§ 7. From and after the time when the said free academy shall be established, and the instruction and education of students therein shall have been commenced, on such facts being certified by the said board of education to the Regents of the University of the State of New-York, the said Regents shall pay annually to the said board of education such portion of the literature fund, as by law then in force they shall be directed to assign to the third, fourth, fifth and sixth Senate districts of this State as now constituted, to be expended and applied by the said board of education to the support and maintenance of the said free academy.

1 § 8. The board of education shall annually, on or before the first day of 2 February in each year, make and transmit to the clerk of the common council [No. 381.]

- 3 of the said city and county, and also to the secretary of the board of "The
- 4 Regents of the University of the State of New-York," a report signed by the
- 5 president and clerk of the said board of education, bearing date on the first
- 6 Monday of January, in the year of its transmission, which report shall state.
- The names and ages of all the pupils instructed in such free academy,
- 8 during the preceding year, and the time that each was so instructed.
- 9 2. A particular statement of the studies pursued by each pupil, at the
- 10 commencement of his instruction, and of his subsequent studies, until the date
- 11 of the report, together with the books such student shall have studied in whole
- 12 or in part; and if in part, what portion.
- An account or estimate of the cost or value of the library, philosophical
- 14 and chemical apparatus, and mathematical or other scientific instruments, be-
- 15 longing to such academy.
- 16 4. The names of the instructors employed in the academy, and the com-
- 17 pensation paid to each.
- 18 5. What amount of moneys the board of education has received during
- 19 that year for the support and maintenance of such academy, and from what
- 20 sources; specifying how much from each, and the particular manner and spe-
- 21 cific purposes for which such moneys have been expended.
- 22 6. And such other information in relation to education in said academy,
- 23 and the measures of the board in the management thereof, as the said com-
- 24 mon council, or the Regents of the University of the State of New-York, may
- 25 from time to time require.
  - 1 § 9. The said board of education shall have the powers and privileges of a
  - 2 corporation, so far as to enable it to take and hold, sue for and recover, all
  - 3 personal property, and for any wrongful damage done to any and all personal
  - 4 property, the title whereof may be vested in it by virtue of this act, or which

5 may be entrusted to it, or confided to its care and management, and for all 6 moneys deposited to its credit for the support and maintenance of the said free 7 academy; and by appropriate suit or action, to enforce the performance of any 8 contract or contracts lawfully made by it, or to recover just and lawful dam9 ages for the non-performance thereof.

§ 10. At the election to be held on the first Monday in June next, for the 2 election of school officers, the question whether such academy shall be estab-3 lished according to the provisions of this act, shall be submitted to the people; 4 should there be a majority of votes in its favor it shall be the duty of the board of 5 education, forthwith to take measures to carry the provisions of this act into operation, and should there be a majority of votes against it, then this act shall 7 be void and of no effect. The manner of conducting said election, and ascerstaining the result, shall be prescribed by the common council of the said city 9 and county of New-York.