CONSTITUTION OF MAINE, A. D. 1820.

A general diffusion of the advantages of education being essential to the preservation of the rights and liberties of the people, to promote this important object, the legislature are authorized, and it shall be their duty, to require the several towns to make suitable provision, at their own expense, for the support and maintenance of public schools, and it shall further be their duty to encourage and suitably endow, from time to time, as the circumstances of the people may authorize, all academies, colleges and seminaries of learning within the State.

Article VIII.