

CHAPTER XVII.

AN ACT ALLOWING STATE PRISON CONVICTS A PORTION OF THEIR EARNINGS.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota :

Convicts to receive compensation for good conduct.

SECTION 1. All convicts confined or who shall hereafter be confined in Minnesota state prison, and who shall become entitled to a diminution [diminution] of their term of sentence by good conduct while in prison, in accordance with an act passed by the legislature of Minnesota and approved February 19th, 1869, shall after the passage of this act, in addition to said diminution [diminution] of term for good conduct, be entitled to and receive compensation for the same number of days to which they are so entitled at the same price per day that the state receives for the labor of said convicts.

A correct account to be kept.

SEC. 2. It shall be the duty of the warden of said prison to keep a correct account of all time, and all moneys so earned by said convicts, and at the end of each quarter when payments are made for prison labor to deduct from the amount before paying the same over to the state the several amounts due the convicts under the provisions of this act, and place the same to the credit of the several convicts to whom it belongs, in a book kept for that purpose.

In case family in needy condition, how fund disposed of.

SEC. 3. When it can be ascertained that the family of any such convict is in a needy condition, it shall be the duty of the warden by and with the consent and advice of the prison inspectors, to pay the money on [or] such a portion thereof as may be deemed necessary to said family, taking vouchers therefor, and the warden shall keep a correct account of all convict money so received and disbursed by him, and make a full exhibit of the same in his annual report to inspectors.

When convict has no family, fund how disposed of.

SEC. 4. In case any such convict has no family, or that it cannot be ascertained that his or her family are needy, then the several amounts due convicts under this act shall be placed to their several credits, and when the amount so due any convict shall have reached the sum of

ten dollars, it shall be the duty of the warden to place the same in a savings bank to be designated by the prison inspector to the credit of said convict.

SEC. 5. When any such convict is discharged from prison, either by expiration of sentence or pardon, it shall be the duty of the warden to pay over to said convict all moneys so due with the interest which has accrued thereon taking proper vouchers therefor.

When fund turned over to convict.

SEC. 6. When the amount of money so due any convict at the time of his discharge shall have reached the sum of twenty-five dollars or more, said convict shall be debarred from receiving any money from the state at the time of his discharge other than the sum so saved.

When convict debarred from receiving money from state.

SEC. 7. If after any convict has become entitled to a diminution [diminution] of sentence and compensation therefor under the provisions of this act, such convict shall conduct himself badly, so that infringement of prison rules are recorded against him, it shall be discretionary with the prison inspectors to deprive such convict of the whole or a part of such diminution [diminution] and compensation, to which he or she had previously been entitled.

When liable to forfeiture.

SEC. 8. All amounts so forfeited by convicts shall enure to the state of Minnesota, and shall be by the warden credited to the earnings of the prison.

All forfeits to enure to the state.

SEC. 9. When any convict shall die in prison leaving money or other valuables to his or her credit to the amount of ten dollars or more, it shall be the duty of the warden to pay the amount so due to the heirs or administrators of such deceased convict when they can be found, and in case no heirs or administrators can be found the warden shall advertise in some weekly paper printed at the capitol for six weeks in succession, at the death of such convict, stating the amount due such convict, the expense of such advertising to be paid from the money belonging to such deceased convict.

How fund disposed of in case of death of convict.

SEC. 10. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

When act to take effect.

Approved March 9, 1874.