

CHAPTER 31.

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION THREE (3) CHAPTER NINETEEN (19) OF THE GENERAL LAWS OF ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-FOUR (1874) AS AMENDED BY SECTION FOUR (4) OF CHAPTER FORTY-TWO (42) OF THE GENERAL LAWS OF ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-SEVEN (1877) RELATING TO THE REMOVAL OF INSANE AND IMBECILE PERSONS.

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

SECTION 1. That section number three (3) of chapter nineteen (19) of the General Laws of the year one thousand eight hundred and seventy-four (1874), as amended by chapter forty-two (42) of the General Laws of the year one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven (1877) be amended so as to read as follows: The Governor shall appoint a commission of three doctors, one of whom shall be a member of the State Board of Health, who shall serve for a period of two years or until their successors shall be appointed, who shall constitute a commission whose duty it shall be to visit the several Minnesota hospitals for the insane at least once every six months of each year, or upon the written request of the Governor of the State, and inspect said hospitals as to the sanitary condition and the general management of the same, and also to examine into the mental and physical condition of the patients therein, frequency, manner and cause of punishment, elopements, deaths, and such other matters as may fall within the scope of a thorough hospital inspection, and report in detail to the Governor within ten days after each and every such inspection is made. Said commissioners shall receive their actual expenses and no more, for which the Auditor of State shall draw his warrant on the State Treasurer.

SEC. 2. Should the said commission find, upon visiting either of the said hospitals, any patient or patients whose insanity they have reason to doubt, said commission shall have the authority to remand such patient or patients to the Probate Court, from which they were committed respectively, there to be detained a reasonable time under proper surveillance, when, if such judge shall be satisfied of his or her sanity, he or she shall be discharged by order of said court; otherwise he or she shall be recommitted to the hospital for the insane. *Provided*, That said commission shall have no author-

Commission of
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Powers of
commissioners.

ity to discharge any patient committed to either of the insane asylums in this State and charged with crime.

SEC. 3. It shall further be the duty of said commission to select from the patients of the insane hospitals such idiotic and feeble-minded children and youths who, in their opinion, are proper subjects for training and instruction and transfer the same to the trustees of the asylum for the deaf, dumb and the blind at Faribault.

In reference to
idiotic chil-
dren.

SEC. 4. The trustees of the asylum for the deaf, dumb and the blind are hereby authorized to receive such weak-minded and idiotic children and youths as may be sent them under the provisions of this act, and make provisions for the maintenance of said children and youths, and are required to lease for a term not exceeding two years, a proper building or rooms for the same, and to provide a competent teacher and attendants for said children and youths, and to establish such rules and regulations as may be necessary for the instruction, training and government of said children and youths.

To be received
in asylum

SEC. 5. In case any children and youths so received shall be found, upon trial, incapable of receiving any benefit from such instruction and training, or when in the opinion of the superintendent of said asylum it shall be better for the welfare of any child or youth to be removed from said asylum, the said superintendent shall have full power to remand any such child or youth to the parents thereof or to the board of commissioners of the county from which the child or youth was sent.

Removal from
asylum.

SEC. 6. The sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or so much as may be required for the year one thousand eight hundred and seventy-nine (1879), and the sum of six thousand dollars (\$6,000) or so much thereof as shall be required for the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty (1880), is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State treasury not otherwise appropriated for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of this act; and the State Auditor is hereby required to issue warrants for the money so appropriated in the same manner as warrants are drawn and issued for the support of the deaf, dumb and the blind. *Provided*, That nothing herein contained shall be construed as establishing a permanent institution for the support and education of the persons herein named.

Appropriation.

SEC. 7. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved March 8, 1879.