

Statutes  
1878

THE  
GENERAL STATUTES  
OF THE  
STATE OF MINNESOTA,

As Amended by Subsequent Legislation.

PREPARED BY  
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FOURTH EDITION.

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WITH SUPPLEMENTS,  
CONTAINING ALL THE GENERAL LAWS IN FORCE UP TO THE END OF  
THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION OF 1883.

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was cast against the construction of the road designated at the expense of the county, then, and in that case, the said road shall not be constructed at the expense of the county; but at the request of a majority of the freeholders, and persons living on United States lands who have filed their declaratory statement for the same in the proper land office, and residing at the time within one mile of the line of said road as surveyed and marked, it shall be lawful for the county commissioners of the county to cause the road to be opened; and the road may be improved and constructed with private means, and be operated in all respects as is provided by this act for improving, constructing and operating county roads for steam traction transportation, except that no agreement between the board of county commissioners of the county and the person or association of persons operating said road shall be binding. (1870, c. 20, § 11.)

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## CHAPTER XIV.

### THE LAW OF THE ROAD

**SECTION**

1. Persons with vehicles meeting or passing on highway, where to turn.
3. Employment of intemperate drivers.
4. Penalty for violating preceding sections.

**SECTION**

5. Horses not to be left unfastened—penalty.
6. Owners liable to passengers for injuries caused by drivers.

§ 1. **Persons with vehicles meeting to turn to the right.** When persons meet each other on any bridge or road, travelling with carriages, wagons, sleds, sleighs, or other vehicles, each person shall seasonably drive his carriage or other vehicle to the right of the middle of the travelled part of such bridge or road, so that the respective carriages or other vehicles may pass each other without interference.

§ 2. **Driver passing vehicles to turn to the left.** The driver of a carriage or other vehicle, passing a carriage or other vehicle travelling in the same direction, shall drive to the left of the middle of the travelled part of a bridge or road; and if the bridge or road is of sufficient width for the two vehicles to pass, the driver of the leading one shall not wilfully obstruct the same.

§ 3. **Employment of intemperate drivers—penalty.** No person owning or having the direction or control of any coach or other vehicle, running or travelling upon any road in this state, for the conveyance of passengers, shall employ or keep in employment any person, to drive such coach or other vehicle, who is addicted to drunkenness, or to the excessive use of intoxicating liquors.

§ 4. **Penalty for violation of preceding sections.** Whoever offends against the provisions of the preceding sections shall for each offence forfeit a sum not exceeding fifty dollars, and be further liable to any party for all damages sustained by reason of such offence: *provided*, that every complaint therefor shall be made within three months after the offence is committed, and that every action for damages shall be commenced within twelve months after the cause of action accrues.

§ 5. **Horses not to be left unfastened—penalty.** No driver of a carriage or other vehicle, used for the conveyance of passengers, shall leave the horses attached thereto, while any passenger remains in or upon the same, without making such horses fast with a sufficient halter, rope or chain, or without some suitable person to take the charge or guidance of them, so as to prevent their running; and if any such driver violates the provisions of this section, he and his employer,

jointly and severally, shall forfeit a sum not exceeding fifty dollars; but no prosecution shall be commenced therefor after the expiration of three months from the time of committing the offence.

§ 6. **Owners liable to passengers for injuries caused by drivers.** The owners of every carriage or other vehicle running or travelling upon any road or public highway, for the conveyance of passengers for hire, shall be liable jointly and severally to the party injured, for all injuries and damages done by any person in the employment of such owners as a driver, while driving such carriage, whether the act occasioning such injury or damage is wilful, negligent or otherwise.

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## CHAPTER XV.

### RELIEF OF THE POOR.

## SECTION

- 1-3. Support of poor persons by their relatives—by the county.
4. Legal residence.
- 5-6. Powers and duties of county commissioners.
- 7-9. Overseer of poor—appointment—powers and duties.
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11. Overseer to take charge of poor persons.
12. Powers of single commissioner—limit of relief.

## SECTION

13. Conveyance of poor persons to poor-house by sheriff.
14. Paupers without legal settlement.
- 15-17. Support of sick persons—apprenticing of minors—burial of poor persons.
18. Penalty for bringing poor person into county.
19. Tax for supporting poor.
- 20-21. Support of discharged pauper convicts.

§ 1. **Support of poor persons—liability of relatives.** Every poor person who is unable to earn a livelihood in consequence of bodily infirmity, idiocy, lunacy, or other cause, shall be supported by the father, grandfather, mother, grandmother, children, grandchildren, brothers or sisters of such poor person, if they or either of them is of sufficient ability; and every person who fails or refuses to support his father, grandfather, mother, grandmother, child or grandchild, sister or brother, when directed by the board of commissioners of the county where such poor person is found, whether such relative resides in the county or not, shall forfeit and pay to the county commissioners, for the use of the poor of their county, the sum of fifteen dollars per month, to be recovered in the name of the county commissioners, for the use of the poor as aforesaid, before any justice of the peace or any court having jurisdiction: *provided*, that when any person becomes a pauper from intemperance or other bad conduct, he shall not be entitled to any support from any relation except parent or child.

§ 2. **Order in which relatives are liable.** The children shall be first called on to support their parents, if there are children of sufficient ability; if there are none of sufficient ability, the parents of such poor person shall be next called on; and if there are no parents or children of sufficient ability, the brothers and sisters shall be next called on; and if there are no brothers or sisters, the grandchildren of such poor persons shall be called on, and then the grandparents; but married females, whilst their husbands live, shall not be liable to an action.

§ 3. **When county shall support.** When any such poor person does not have any such relatives in any county in this state as are named in the preceding sections, or such relatives are not of sufficient ability, or fail or refuse to maintain such pauper, then the said pauper shall receive such relief as the case may require out of the county treasury; and the maintenance and relief of all such poor persons