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OF THE

TERRITORY OF MINNESOTA,

PASSED AT THE SECOND SESSION OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,

COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 1851.

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CHAPTER 22.

OF THE SUPPORT OF BASTARDS.

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When justice to issue warrant against person accused of being father of bastard.

Proceedings on return of warrant with accused in

custody.

Sec. 1. On complaint being made to any justice of the peace, by any female who shall be delivered of a bastard child, or who shall be pregnant with a child, which, if born alive might be a bastard, accusing any person of being the father of such child, the justice shall take such complaint in writing, under the oath of such female, and shall thereupon issue his warrant against the person accused, directed to the sheriff

or any constable of his county, commanding him forthwith to bring such

accused person before the justice to answer such complaint.

Sec. 2. On the return of such warrant, if the accused be in custody, or shall appear, the justice shall proceed to examine the complainant under oath, respecting the cause of the complaint; and such accused person shall be allowed to ask the complainant when under oath, any questions necessary for his justification or defence; and such questions and the answers with every part of the proceeding, shall be reduced to

writing by said justice.

When justice may discharge accused.

Sec. 3. If such accused person shall pay, or secure to be paid to the female complaining, such sum or sums of money, or other property as she may agree to receive in full satisfaction, and as shall be approved by the commissioners of the county; of which agreement and approval the justice shall make a memorandum upon his docket; and if the accused shall also enter into bonds with sufficient surcties to be approved by the justice, to the commissioners of the county in which such female shall reside, and their successors in office conditioned to secure and indemnify such county from all charges, for the maintenance of such child, and shall also pay all expenses, if any incurred by such county, for the lying in, and support and attendance upon the mother of such child during her sickness, and the costs of prosecution; then the justice shall discharge such accused person.

When justice to bind over accused, or commit him to fail, &c. SEC. 4. In case any person accused as aforesaid, does not comply with the provisions of the preceding section, the justice before whom the complaint shall be made, shall bind such person in a recognizance, with one or more sufficient sureties to be approved by the justice, in a sum not less than one hundred dollars, nor more than five hundred dollars, to appear at the next term of the district court for the proper county, to answer the said complaint and to abide the order of said court thereon; and on his neglect or refusal to find such security, the justice

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SUPPORT OF BASTARDS:

shall cause him to be committed to the jail of the county, there to be held to answer to such complaint at the next term of such court; and such justice shall thereupon certify the examination so taken before him, and shall return the same, and all process and papers in the case, to the clerk of said court.

Sec. 5. If, at the next term of said court, the complainant shall not when cause shall have been delivered or shall not be able to attend, or if at any time there recognizance reshall be any other sufficient reason therefor, the court may order a continuance of the cause from term to term, as shall be judged necessary; and upon such continuance, shall order the renewal of the recognizance, and when renewed, the same shall remain in full force until final judgment: Provided, That if the sureties in the recognizance shall at any term of said court, object to being any longer held liable, or if the court shall, for any cause deem it proper, such court may order a new recognizance to be taken, and the defendant shall stand committed until he give such new recognizance.

Upon the trial of the cause, the mother of the bastard shall SEC. 6. be admitted as a witness, unless she shall have been convicted of a crime which would by law render her incompetent, as a witness in any other suit; and the issue shall be whether the accused is guilty or not guilty; and if he shall be found guilty, or if he shall admit the truth of the accusation, he shall be adjudged to be the father of such child, and shall stand chargeable with the maintenance thereof, in such sum or sums, or in such manner as the court may direct, and the payment of all the costs of prosecution; and the examination taken before the justice, shall in all cases be read to the jury, when the reading of the same shall be demanded by the accused.

ted to give bond or be committed to

Mother to be a wit-

When father

maintenance of

Sec. 7. The person so adjudged to be the father of such child, shall The person convicgive bonds to the commissioners of the proper county, with sufficient sureties to the satisfaction of the court for the performance of such order, and also for the payment of all expenses incurred by such county, for lying in and attendance upon the mother of such child, during her sickness, and also for the care and support of such child prior to the giving of such bond; and in case he shall neglect or refuse to give such bond and pay the costs of prosecution, he shall be committed to the jail of the county, there to remain until he shall comply with the order of the court, or until he shall be discharged therefrom as provided by law.

> When and how person imprisoned may be discharged.

Sec. 8. Any man who shall have been imprisoned ninety days, for having failed to comply with the orders of the district court, as provided in this chapter, shall have the benefit of the law for the relief of prisoners committed on execution, issued on a judgment recovered in a civil action, provided he shall procure the like notification of his intention to take the oath prescribed by the said law, to be served on the complainant, if still living within this territory, and also upon the chairman of the said board of commissioners; such notification to be served at least fifteen days before the time appointed for taking the oath.

Sec. 9. The mother of such child, and the said board of commis- The mother may resioners respectively, may at any time after the liberation of such pris- after he is liberaoner on taking said oath, recover by action any sum of money which tedought to have been paid to them respectively by him, in pursuance of

Sec. 10. When the mother of a bastard child commences any such when commissionproceedings, and fails to prosecute the same, the commissioners of the ers may prosecute proper county, or any person interested in the support of such bastard, menced by mother: may prosecute the proceedings commenced by the mother, to final judgment.

Sec. 11. If any female shall be delivered of a bastard child, which

such order of the court.

SHOWS AND EXHIBITIONS.

When commissioners may apply to justice to inquire into case of bastardy. shall be a public charge, or likely to become a public charge, or shall be pregnant of a child, likely to be born a bastard and to become a public charge, the board of commissioners of the county where such female shall reside, or any of them may, upon application for aid in supporting such child by the mother thereof, or if they deem proper without such application, apply to some justice of the peace of the same county to make inquiry into the facts and circumstances of the case.

Justice to examine female and issue warrant.

SEC. 12. Such justice shall examine such female on oath respecting the father of such child, the time when, and the place where she was begotten with child, and such other circumstances, as the justice may deem necessary for the discovery of the truth; and shall thereupon issue his warrant to apprehend the reputed father; and the same proceedings shall be thereupon had, as if complaint had been made by such female, as prescribed in the foregoing provisions of this chapter, and with the like effect; any warrant issued under the provisions of this chapter, may be executed in any part of this territory, and in all cases, said commissioners and the accused may require the attendance of such female to testify, the same as witnesses in other cases.

Commissioners may compromize with putative father. Sec. 13. The commissioners of any county in this territory, shall have power to make such compromise and arrangement with the putative father of any bastard child in such county, relative to the support of such child, as they shall deem equitable and just; and thereupon, may discharge such putative father from all liability for the support of such bastard.

CHAPTER 23.

OF PUBLIC SHOWS AND EXHIBITIONS.

SECTION

 Board of commissioners may license and regulate shows and exhibitions.

2. Penalty for setting up show or exhibition

SECTION

without license.

3. The authorities of cities or villages may grant licenses.

Board of commissioners may license and regulate shows and exhibitions. SEC. 1. It shall be the duty of the board of county commissioners at any meeting to tax the price for which a license may be granted for theatrical exhibitions, public shows, and such other exhibitions, as they may deem proper, to which admission is obtained on payment of money, upon such terms and conditions as they shall think reasonable, to be paid in such manner as they shall at such meeting prescribe, and may regulate the same in such manner as they shall think necessary, for the preservation of order and decorum, and to prevent any disturbance to the public peace.

Penalty for setting up show or exhibition without ilcense. Sec. 2. Any person who shall set up or exhibit any such exhibition or show, without a license, first obtained as provided in the preceding section, or contrary to the terms and conditions of such license, or while such license is suspended, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding two hundred dollars. Any company, person or persons, traveling for the purpose