

to perform his daily task or to obey any of the rules or by-laws of the corporation, said justice may order and direct such moderate and proper correction, not exceeding thirty-nine lashes for any one offence, to be given him, as the nature of the case may require.

17. Any one of the trustees may, in writing, direct what poor shall be received into said alms-house.

18. Any justice of the peace for the county, or any person by him authorized, may apprehend any rogues, vagrants, vagabonds, or other offenders, or idle, dissolute and disorderly persons loitering or residing in the county, who follow no labor, trade, occupation or business, and have no visible means of support, and commit them to said alms-house, there to be kept at hard labor, for any time not exceeding three months.

19. The pains, penalties and forfeitures by this law directed and inflicted, may be recovered in the Circuit Court for Charles county, by action of debt or indictment, one-half to the informer and the other to the use of the alms-house.

20. All sheriffs, bailiffs, constables, and other officers shall aid and assist the trustees of the poor and other officers by them appointed, in the discharge of their respective duties.

21. If any person shall at any time be sued or prosecuted for any thing done in pursuance and execution of this law, he may plead the general issue, and give the special matter in evidence, and if verdict shall be found for defendant, or if the plaintiff be non suit or discontinue, the defendant shall recover treble costs, and if the plaintiff is unable to satisfy them, the attorney who brought the suit shall pay them, unless the plaintiff shall give security therefor, to be approved by the court.

22. The trustees of the poor, aforesaid, shall receive and reject or grant, in their discretion, applications from indigent and distressed persons for out-pensions.

23. The allowance to any one person by said trustees, shall in no case exceed the sum of thirty dollars per annum,* and the gross amount of such allowances, together with the allowance for the support of the inmates of the alms-house, including