

founded, may commit such disorderly person to said alms-house for any time not exceeding three months, unless he shall find security, in the discretion of said justice, not exceeding twenty-five dollars, for his good behavior during the space of six months.

19. Upon complaint and due proof made by the overseer of the alms-house to any one trustee that any person in the said alms-house hath behaved in a disorderly manner, or hath neglected or refused to perform his daily labor, or to obey and keep any of the rules, ordinances or by-laws of the said corporation, the said trustee may direct such moderate and proper correction, not exceeding ten lashes, to be given to said offender, as he may think proper.

20. Any one of said trustees, under his hand in writing, may direct what poor shall be received in said alms-house.

21. Any justice of the peace of said county, and any one authorized and appointed by such justice, may apprehend, or cause to be apprehended and committed to the said alms-house, any vagrants, vagabonds, beggars, and other idle, dissolute and disorderly person found loitering or residing in the said county, who follow no labor, trade or occupation, and who have no visible means of subsistence, there to be kept at hard labor for any time not exceeding three months.

22. If any person shall sell or dispose of to, or purchase from, any inmate of said alms-house, any matter or thing whatsoever, he shall forfeit for every offence the sum of twenty-five dollars.

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

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