

issue as in other cases, unless otherwise agreed, subject to the right of either side to move to set aside the verdict or for a new trial, and such judgment shall have all the effect and incidents of other judgments at law.

An. Code, sec. 54. 1904, sec. 54. 1888, sec. 53. 1888, ch. 410.

58. Parties may after action docketed at any time before judgment, by consent and order of the court, state any question or questions of law in a special case for the opinion of the court without any pleading.

See sec. 133.

An. Code, sec. 55. 1904, sec. 55. 1888, sec. 54. 1888, ch. 410.

59. The parties may, if they think fit, enter into agreement in writing, filed in the cause, that, upon the judgment of the court being given in the affirmative or negative of the question or questions of law raised by such special case, or any of them, a sum of money fixed in said agreement by the parties, or to be ascertained by the court, or in such manner as the court may direct, shall be paid by one of the parties to the other of them, either with or without the costs of the action, and the judgment of the court may be entered for such sum as shall be so agreed or ascertained, with or without costs as the case may be; and execution may at once issue on such judgment, unless otherwise agreed, or unless stayed according to law on appeal or error, and such judgment shall have all the effect and incidents of other judgments at law; in case there shall be no agreement with regard to costs, they shall be governed by the law applying to costs in other actions at law.

An. Code, sec. 56. 1904, sec. 56. 1898, ch. 241.

60. The "next friend," or *prochein ami*, who shall have brought any suit at law for the benefit of any infant or infants, shall have authority to compromise and settle said suit and the cause of action; provided, that whenever such "next friend" shall not be a parent of the infant or a person standing in *loco parentis*, the consent of such parent or other person shall first be had and obtained; and if both parents be dead and there be no other person having the care and custody of the infant, the authority of the orphans' court of the city or county in which such suit has been brought shall be requisite to give validity to the proposed compromise or settlement; but such authority shall never be granted except upon written application therefor by such "next friend" setting forth under oath all the facts of the case and the reasons why such compromise or settlement is deemed to be for the best interest of the infant. This section shall apply to suits brought by the State of Maryland for the use of infants as equitable plaintiffs, as well as to suits brought by infants as plaintiffs by their "next friend."

Under this section, the next friend of an infant has authority to compromise and settle a suit. *Clark v. Southern Can Co.*, 116 Md. 92.

See art. 93, sec. 270.