

charges of transportation thereon, may be submitted to and decided by the board of public works; and the decision of the said board shall be final in all cases submitted to them.

**Minors—Institutions and Societies for the Care and
Protection of.**

1900, ch. 316, secs. 1 and 2. 1904, ch. 77.

240. All bodies incorporated or to be incorporated under the general laws for the purposes of the care, custody, guardianship or protection of minors, generally or of any particular ages or classes, have the power and authority following: (1) To retain children legally committed or confined to them until the age of eighteen years in females and twenty-one years in males; and to discharge such children absolutely before attaining said age whenever the managers of such institutions shall deem such discharge to be beneficial to such children. (2) To permit the return of such children to their parents or other relatives, or to place them out in suitable homes without relinquishing absolutely the custody, control and supervision of the managers, and a record is to be kept of the time of placing out, name and residence of persons with whom placed, and terms and conditions of placing out. And it is the duty of the managers to cause every child so placed out to be visited not less than once in six months in order to inquire into his or her welfare until he or she shall attain the age of eighteen in females and twenty-one in males. And the managers may require the return to the institution of any child under twenty-one years of age so placed with parents or relatives or in other homes whenever they shall deem that the welfare of the child requires such return. (3) To exercise parental authority and control over such children and make all needful provisions as to their care, maintenance and education. (4) To procure the commitment of such children in cases of necessity to reformatory institutions.

The foregoing provisions are not to be understood to affect the power of courts to adjudicate all questions as to the custody of minors, irrespective of any alleged or supposed claim or right of guardianship or custody, or to abridge or affect any corporate rights of any institution, or to prevent the receiving of minors under such limitations, or for such definite periods as any institution may by its regulations direct or prescribe.