

enclosures, he, she or they shall, upon conviction, pay to the owner or owners thereof the full value of such stock, with costs of suit, and in case the damages claimed or laid shall not exceed fifty dollars, the same shall be recovered before a justice of the peace, in the same manner as other small debts are now recovered.

CHAP. 154.

CHAP. CLV.

A Further Supplement to an Act, entitled, An act for the better regulation of Apprentices. Passed Feb 19 1827

WHEREAS it is represented to the general assembly, that under the act of assembly passed at November session seventeen hundred and ninety-four, entitled, A supplement to an act, entitled, An act for the better regulation of apprentices, justices of the peace, remote from the seat of justice of the counties, and unapprized of the orphans courts being in session, have, during the sessions of said courts, bound out apprentices, agreeably to the terms, regulations and restrictions, prescribed by the act to which this is a further supplement; and it is right and proper, and for the benefit of all parties, that the stipulations of the contracts of apprenticeship so made, should be fulfilled; Therefore,

1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That all contracts of apprenticeship, heretofore made by justices of the peace as aforesaid, during the sessions of the orphans courts of the county in which they reside, be and the same are hereby confirmed and made valid; *Provided always,* that this act shall not be construed to extend to any contract of apprenticeship, so made as aforesaid, which shall not have been approved and recorded agreeably to the sixth section of the law, to which this is a further supplement; *And provided also,* that said contracts shall, in all other respects, be in conformity with the terms, regulations and restrictions, of said original act, and of the several supplements thereto.

2. *And be it enacted,* That at any time after the passage of this act, any two justices of the peace of the county, in which the person to be bound out may reside, shall, and they are hereby empowered, to bind out as an apprentice any child which the orphans court of such county may lawfully bind out, subject to the terms, regulations and restrictions, prescribed by the act of seventeen hundred and ninety-three, chapter forty-five, and of the supplements thereto, to which this is a further supplement; *Provided always,* that the contract of apprenticeship so made shall be approved and recorded agreeably to the sixth section of the said law.

3. *And whereas* it is represented to this general assembly, that the manner of binding apprentices in the several orphans courts in this state is not uniform, and that certain of the said courts use an instrument of writing in the nature of an indenture, and certain other of the said courts use an instrument in the nature of a recognizance, as evidence of the said contract of apprenticeship, in order therefore to prevent any inconveniencies which may hereafter arise therefrom, *Be it enacted,* That the several orphans courts of this state be and they are hereby authorised and empowered, to use an instrument of writing in the nature of an

Certain contracts confirmed

Provides

Two justices authorized to bind apprentices

Proviso

Evidence of contract of apprenticeship