

CHAP. 611. Commissioners shall designate one of the police justices to act in his place.

Amended. SEC. 2. *And be it enacted*, That the sub-title before section 881 of said Article be amended so as to read "Vagrant, Dependent and Vicious Children."

New sections added. SEC. 3. *And be it enacted*, That the following new sections be added to said Article, to follow after section 886 thereof, and to be numbered and known as sections 886 A and 886 B of the said Article, respectively :

Probation officers appointed.

Section 886 A. The Supreme Bench of Baltimore City shall have authority to appoint, and at pleasure remove, in such number as the said Supreme Bench shall from to time deem advisable, persons of either sex of good character, to serve during its pleasure, but without compensation from the city or State, as probation officers for minors as hereinafter provided. Whenever any child under, or apparently under, the age of sixteen years, shall have been arrested or shall be charged with a crime of incorrigible or vicious conduct, or whenever application is made under the provisions of the laws of this State for the commitment of any such child to any reformatory or other institution it shall be the duty of one or more of the said probation officers designated by the Court or magistrate hereinafter next mentioned to make such investigation as may be required by the Court or magistrate having jurisdiction of the case, to be present at the hearing of the case in order to represent the interests of the child and to furnish to the Court or magistrate such information and assistance as may be required, and before and after trial, in the discretion of the Court or magistrate, to have control and custody of the child, subject to the order of the Court or magistrate.

Investigation made into the case.

Section 886 B. At the trial of any such child charged with crime or with incorrigible or vicious conduct, whether before a Court or a magistrate, due investigation shall be made into the circumstances of the case and the surroundings of the child, with special reference to its future welfare. The Court or magistrate, either before trial, with the consent of the child, or its parent or guardian, or after conviction, may in its discretion suspend further proceedings during the good behavior of the child, and place it in the care of any of the probation officers for minors appointed under the preceding section, for such time and upon such conditions as may seem proper. Such probation officers shall have the power to bring such child before the Court or magistrate at any time during the period for which it was committed to his care.

Approved April 11, 1902.