

Authority given to compromise.

54 A. 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."

Approved April 7, 1898.

CHAPTER 242.

AN ACT to authorize the Mayor and Council of Rockville to issue bonds to an amount not exceeding ten thousand five hundred dollars, to pay certain certificates of indebtedness heretofore issued by said Mayor and Council, and the cost of erecting a plant to supply the town of Rockville with Electric Lights.

Issue bonds.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That the Mayor and Council of Rockville be and it is hereby authorized to issue bonds in the name of said municipal corporation to an amount not exceeding ten thousand five hundred dollars; the bonds issued under the provisions of this Act shall be issued in sums of not less than one hundred dollars and not more than five hundred dollars each; and each of said bonds shall be payable twenty years after date to the bearer; and shall bear interest in the meantime at the rate of four per centum per annum, payable semi-annually, according to the tenor of the coupons of said interest to be attached to said bonds; and the bonds to be issued under the provisions of this Act, are hereby exempted from all taxation for any purpose; provided, however, that said bonds shall not be sold for less than par on the face value thereof, in cash current money; provided said bonds shall not be issued until the Mayor and