

SECRETARY OF  
Northern Home for Friendless Children, Philadelphia,

SUGGESTING THE NECESSITY OF

LEGISLATION BY OUR STATE,  
TO CONFIRM INDENTURES OF APPRENTICESHIP,

*Executed by the Home to Citizens of this State.*

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*Philadelphia, January 24th, 1863.*

His Excellency, Governor BRADFORD:

SIR:—“*The Northern Home of Friendless Children,*” of this city has indentured a number of its inmates to citizens of your State.

As a matter of mutual advantage to the Institution, the masters and the apprentices, (white,) it is desirable that your Legislature should enact a law recognizing the validity of such indentures, as of like effect with those made between parties, all of whom reside in Maryland. Similar acts doubtless appear upon your statute books, relative to other kindred Institutions of our city; such, perhaps, as the House of Refuge, &c.

If I have sufficiently explained the form of Legislative security desired, I will rely upon your Secretary of State or Attorney General to have such a bill framed and passed as would be agreeable for you to sign.

I send a copy of our last Annual Report which explains the nature of the “Home.”

Very respectfully,  
MCGREGOR J. MITCHESON,  
Sec’y and Att’y for Home.