

ty, or the major part of them, at their meetings at the times by this act directed, or oftener, if by them required.

C H A P. XXII.

XIV. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said overseer may compel and oblige any of the said poor, beggars, vagrants and vagabonds, or offenders, in his alms and work-house, if of a sufficient ability, to work and labour, and the produce of their labour he is hereby directed and empowered to sell, and apply the money arising from such sale to their maintenance and support.

And compel the poor to work, &c.

XV. AND BE IT ENACTED, That upon complaint made, that any person, from his or her disorderly conduct, gives disturbance to his or their neighbourhood, and is likely to become chargeable to the said county, it shall and may be lawful for any one magistrate of the said county, if upon hearing the party he shall judge the complaint to be well founded, to commit such disorderly person, residing within the said county, to the said work-house, for any time not exceeding three months, unless he or she shall find security, at the discretion of the magistrate aforesaid, in any sum not exceeding thirty dollars, for his or her good behaviour during the space of six months; and also upon complaint, and due proof made by the overseer of the said alms and work-house, to any one trustee, that any vagrant, vagabond or beggar, in the work-house, hath behaved and demeaned him or herself in a disorderly manner, or hath refused or neglected to do and perform his or her daily labour or task, or hath refused or neglected to obey, keep and observe, any of the ordinances, rules and by-laws, of the said corporation, to order and direct such moderate and proper correction, not exceeding fifteen lashes for any one offence, to be given to such offender, as the nature of the case may require.

Disorderly persons may be committed, &c.

XVI. AND BE IT ENACTED, That it shall and may be lawful to and for any of the said trustees to direct and appoint, under their hand in writing, what poor shall be received into the alms and work-house of said county; and it shall and may be lawful for any one justice of the peace for the said county, and for any person authorized and appointed by such justice, to apprehend, or cause to be apprehended and committed to the said work-house, any vagrants, vagabonds, beggars, and other idle, dissolute and disorderly persons, found loitering or residing in said county, who follow no labour, trade, occupation or business, and have no visible means of subsistence whereby to acquire an honest livelihood, there to be kept at hard labour for any time not exceeding three months; and the overseer of such alms and work-house shall be obliged to receive any poor appointed as aforesaid to be received, and any vagrant, vagabond, beggar, and other idle, dissolute and disorderly person, so as aforesaid committed.

Trustees to direct what poor shall be received, &c.

XVII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That every person who shall be received into the said alms and work-house, and there receive relief, shall, upon the shoulder of the right sleeve of the uppermost garment of every such person, in an open and visible manner, wear the following badge, to wit: The letters P. W. cut in red or blue cloth, as by the overseer of the poor shall be directed and appointed; and if such poor person shall neglect or refuse to wear such mark or badge as aforesaid, and in manner as aforesaid, it shall and may be lawful for any one of the trustees of such county to punish every such offender for every such offence, either by ordering his or her usual allowance to be abridged, suspended or withdrawn, and kept to hard labour for any number of days not exceeding twenty, as to the said trustee shall seem meet; and if any overseer of the poor shall receive into his said alms and work-house, or shall support, any such person, not having and wearing such badge or mark as aforesaid, and be thereof convicted upon the oath of one or more credible witnesses or witnesses, he shall forfeit and pay the sum of thirty dollars.

Poor, &c. to wear a badge, &c.

XVIII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That whosoever shall presume, either to set up a booth, stall, or other convenience for the selling of strong liquors, on the land purchased for the use of the said alms and work-house, or shall commit any kind of trespass thereon, or shall sell or dispose of any strong liquor, or other matter or thing whatsoever to, or purchase any matter or thing whatsoever from, any poor, or other person entertained in the said alms and work-house, shall, for every such offence, forfeit and pay the sum of forty dollars.

Penalty on keeping booth, &c.

XIX. AND BE IT ENACTED, That all sheriffs, constables, and all other officers and ministers of justice, shall be aiding and assisting to the said trustees for the poor in the said counties, and to all such officers as shall be employed by them, as by this act is directed, in the execution and performance of the said service.

Sheriffs, &c. to aid trustees, &c.

XX. AND BE IT ENACTED, That if any person or persons shall, at any time or times, be sued or prosecuted for any matter or thing by him or them done and executed in pursuance and execution of this

General issue pleadable, &c.