

APPRAISERS.

When the inventory shall be finished, the appraisers shall certify the same under their hands and seals, and a certificate of their having taken the oath or affirmation shall be thereunto annexed. *Ibid.* § 6.

The appraisers to give notice to (at least) two persons interested in the administration, if within three miles of the place where the estate is to be appraised. *Ibid.* § 7.

The appraisers to deliver the inventory to the executor, administrator, &c. *Ibid.* § 6.

Property coming to the possession of an executor, &c. not mentioned in the said inventory, shall be appraised by appraisers appointed by any justice of the peace, or judge of any orphans court, within two calendar months from the discovery. *Ibid.* § 10.

Every guardian appointed by the orphans court, having the care of a real estate, shall, within three months after executing his bond, procure the estate to be viewed and reported on by two persons not related to either party, and appointed by the orphans court. *Ibid.* ch. 12, § 6.

An oath to be taken by the appraisers to appraise the same without favour, &c. *Ibid.*

The appraisers shall examine the estate, and estimate the annual value, including any slaves, working beasts, and stock and utensils thereon, belonging to the orphans, and proper to be leased with the land. *Ibid.*

They shall set down in writing what dwelling-houses, out-houses, orchards, gardens, meadows, enclosures, and other improvements, are on the land, and the condition thereof, and what proportion of the land is, (in their estimation,) in woods. *Ibid.*

They shall certify the whole under seal, and annex a certificate of their appointment, and having taken the oath aforesaid, which shall be returned by the guardian to the orphans court within three months as aforesaid. *Ibid.*

No sheriff or constable shall summon any appraisers on laying a writ of *feri facias* issued by any justice of the peace on the property of any debtor, or on any superseas on such judgment. 1799, ch. 86.

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Every orphan child, (the profits of whose estate are not sufficient for its maintenance,) may be bound by the orphans court as an apprentice, males till the age of twenty-one, and females till the age of sixteen. 1793, ch. 45, § 2.

The contract to include reasonable education, and, if practicable, some useful art or trade to males, and suitable cloathing and maintenance. *Ibid.*

The court may also bind out in like manner,

Children suffering through the extreme poverty of their parents,

The children of beggars,

Illegitimate children, and

The children of persons out of the state, where a sufficient sustenance is not afforded. *Ibid.*

Directions for consulting the parents, &c. *Ibid.*

When the orphans court is not in session, any two justices of the peace may bind out children in the same manner. 1794, ch. 47, § 1.

The contract to be approved by the orphans court, and recorded as prescribed in the 6th section of the act of 1793. *Ibid.*

Fee to the justices for taking such contract. *Ibid.* § 2.

Any one or more of the justices of the peace may take children who are destitute or suffering, or the children of beggars, and place them with some person till the meeting of the orphans court. 1793, ch. 45, § 3.

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The expence to be defrayed by the county. *Ibid.*

A father may bind out his children as apprentices, boys till twenty-one and girls till sixteen years of age, the terms to be expressed in the indenture. *Ibid.* § 4.

The indenture to be lodged with the register of the orphans court within thirty days, and to be recorded. *Ibid.*

The trustees of the poor of any county, or any three of them, empowered to bind out children under their care, giving a preference to tradesmen, and obliging the applicant to sign an indenture, &c. *Ibid.* § 5.

Such indenture to be lodged and recorded in the orphans court. *Ibid.*

Any manufacturer or mechanic may take as an apprentice any male child till the age of twenty-one years. *Ibid.* § 6.

The contract shall specify the age of the child, and the parents, if living, and, if not, the orphans court, shall see the contract within two months, and endorse on it their approbation, if given, and it shall then be recorded therein. *Ibid.*

The county or criminal courts may, on petition in writing, hear and determine any disputes between masters and apprentices. *Ibid.* § 7.

They may fine the master or mistress not exceeding £. 10 for the first offence, and £. 20 for the second. *Ibid.*

They may discharge any apprentice on account of imposition or ill behaviour of the master or mistress, or unreasonableness of the contract, and provide a new master of the same occupation. *Ibid.*

They may direct as to such new contract, and the new master shall be bound as the former was, and shall pay such sum as shall be adjudged by persons to be appointed by the court. *Ibid.*

They may discharge the master or mistress from the contract on account of an incorrigible temper, or ill behaviour of the apprentice, and may award and compel the terms to be performed on either side, in case the contract, whether defective in form or not, has been partly executed. *Ibid.*

Either party may have a trial by jury. *Ibid.* § 17.

The apprentice may be detained in service, till he is discharged, and action may be maintained against strangers. *Ibid.* § 7.

Compensation to be made on an apprentice absconding or running away. *Ibid.*

Penalty on persons harbouring or concealing them, or promoting their running away. *Ibid.* § 8.

On apprentices being cruelly used, any judge or justice may require security of the master or mistress to appear at court, or may take the apprentices away, and put them under the care of some person till court. *Ibid.* § 9.

On an apprentice incurring any fine or penalty and costs, the court shall adjudge the time which he shall serve, on his master's paying such fine, &c. *Ibid.* § 10.

Apprentices not to be carried out of the state. *Ibid.* § 11.

Any justice, on information of such a design, (except by mariners,) may require recognizance of the master, and on refusal, may discharge such apprentice from his service, and provide another master. *Ibid.*

The county courts to charge the grand juries, to inquire into all matters and things that were given in charge to the orphans jury by the act of February, 1777, ch. 8. *Ibid.* § 12.

Apprentices, (except to tradesmen and mechanics in town,) may be compelled to perform reasonable labour in wheat, rye, and hay harvests, unless the contract shall be otherwise. *Ibid.* § 13.

The widow of a master empowered, on certain conditions, to assign the apprentice to some other person of the same trade. *Ibid.* § 14, 15.

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