

Chap. 83. An Act to authorize the Secretary of State to audit certain accounts.

The people of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. The secretary of state is hereby authorized to audit the accounts of those who translated the bank law, in accordance with the resolution of 1852, and there is hereby appropriated out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, a sufficient sum to pay for such translation.

Approved, April 2, 1853.

Chap. 84. An Act to provide for levying a State tax.

The people of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Amount to be levied. SECTION 1. There shall be levied and collected for the year 1853, in addition to the two-fifths of one mill on the dollar valuation, by law to be collected for the purpose of paying the interest on the state loans, a state tax of five mills and three fifths of one mill, on the dollar valuation, such entire state tax of six mills on the dollar valuation, to be levied, collected, and paid into the state treasury, as is provided by the revised statutes of this state.

How to be levied. SEC. 2. The supervisors of the respective counties are hereby required to levy the foregoing tax, upon the taxable property in their several counties according to the laws of the state, for the assessment and collection of taxes.

Act to be published. SEC. 3. The secretary of state is hereby required immediately after the passage of this act, to cause the same to be published by the state printer, in a newspaper printed at the seat of government, and transmit to each clerk of the board of supervisors of the several counties of this state, a copy of the newspaper containing this act.

Approved, April 2, 1853.

An Act to provide for the Adoption of Children.

Chap. 85. *The people of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:*

Must petition county judge. SECTION 1. Any inhabitant of this state may petition the county judge, in the county where he or she may

reside, for leave to adopt a child not his or her own by birth.

SEC. 2. If both, or either of the parents of such child shall be living, they, or the survivor of them, as the case may be, shall consent in writing to such adoption; if neither parent be living, such consent may be given by the legal guardian of such child: if there be no legal guardian nor father nor mother, the next of kin of such child within the state, may give such consent, and if there be no such next of kin, the county judge may appoint some discreet and suitable person, to act in the proceedings as the next friend of such child, and give or withhold such consent.

Parents to give consent.
Or next of kin.
Or county judge.

SEC. 3. If the child be of the age of fourteen years or upwards, the adoption shall not be made without his or her consent.

When child may consent.

SEC. 4. No petition by a person having a lawful wife shall be allowed unless such wife shall join therein: and no woman having a lawful husband shall be competent to present and prosecute such petition, unless the husband consent thereto.

Wife of petitioner must give consent.

SEC. 5. If upon such petition, so presented and consented unto, as aforesaid, the county judge shall be satisfied of the identity and relations of the persons, and that of the petitioner, or in case of husband and wife, that the petitioners are of sufficient ability to bring up the child, and furnish suitable nurture and education, having reference to the degree and condition of its parents, and that it is fit and proper that such adoption shall take effect, he shall make a decree setting forth the said facts, and ordering that from and after the date of the decree, such child should be deemed and taken to all legal intents and purposes, the child of the petitioner or petitioners.

Judge to make decree.

SEC. 6. A child so adopted as aforesaid, shall be deemed for the purposes of inheritance and succession by such child, custody of the person, and right of obedience by such parent or parents by adoption, and all other legal consequences and incidents of the natural relation of parents and children, the same to all intents and purposes as if such child had been born in lawful wedlock of such parent or parents by adoption, saving only that such child shall not be deemed capable of taking property expressly limited to the heirs of the body or bodies of such petitioner or petitioners.

Legal consequences and incidents.

SEC. 7. The natural parent or parents of such child,

Parties deprived of all legal rights.

shall be deprived by such decree of adoption, of all legal rights whatsoever as respects such child; and such child shall be freed from all legal obligations of maintenance, and obedience as respects such natural parent or parents.

May take appeal.

SEC. 8. Any petitioner, or any child which is the subject of such petition, by any next friend, may claim and prosecute an appeal to the circuit court, from such decree of the county judge, in like manner and with the like effect, as appeals may now be claimed and prosecuted from order and decree of probate court, saving only that in no case shall any bond be required of, nor any costs awarded against, such child or its next friend so appealing.

Approved, April 2, 1853.

An Act regulating the terms of the County Court of the County of Ozaukee.

Chap. 86.

The people of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. The terms of the county court, of the county of Ozaukee, shall hereafter be held on the first Monday in January, April, July and October, in each year.

SEC. 2. This act shall take effect from and after its publication.

Approved, April 2, 1853.

Chap. 87.

An Act for the preservation of Fish.

The people of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Seine or net not to be used.

SECTION 1. It shall not be lawful for any person or persons to draw or use any seine or net, in any of the inland lakes situated within the limits of this state for the purposes of taking or catching fish: *Provided*, Such lake shall contain an area of less than twelve square miles.

Proviso.

Gill net to be used.

SEC. 2. It shall not be lawful for any person or persons, to use or set any gill net, for the purpose of taking or catching fish in any of the inland streams, or watercourses within this state, whereby the free pas-

