

No. 530, A.] [Published April 19, 1895.

CHAPTER 206.

AN ACT to provide for the incorporation of societies organized for the purpose of securing homes for orphans, or abandoned, neglected or grossly ill-treated children, by adoption or otherwise, and providing rules for the regulation of the same.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

Homes for neglected children.

SECTION 1. Any corporation heretofore organized or which shall be hereafter organized under the provisions of chapter 86, of the revised statutes of 1878, entitled, "of the organization of corporations," for the purpose of seeking out, receiving and procuring homes in private families for orphans or for homeless, abandoned, neglected or grossly ill-treated children, shall have the power to receive into its charge and under its control by commitment or otherwise and may become the legal guardian of any child under fifteen years of age, residing and being in the state of Wisconsin, who shall be grossly ill-treated by any person or persons having or exercising control over it, or shall have been abandoned, or who shall be without a home, or who shall be surrounded by bad or immoral influences, or who shall be dependent, or whose living parent or parents by an instrument in writing shall assign and commit such child to the care and custody of such corporation; and such corporation is hereby authorized and empowered to procure suitable and proper homes for any and all such children and to give away by adoption or place in families upon written contracts, any and all such children during their minority; and such corporation is hereby constituted the legal guardian of all children committed to or received by

it, and is hereby authorized and empowered, through its duly authorized officers, to consent in the courts of this state to the adoption of any such child by any person or persons, pursuant to the provisions of law, in the same manner and with the same force and effect as such consent could be given by the parent or parents of such child. Such corporation shall have the power and authority to enter into a written contract with any person or persons who shall take or receive any such child from such corporation otherwise than by adoption; and such contract shall provide for the proper care, education and maintenance of such child during his minority and shall specify the amount to be paid to such child at the expiration of the period of such contract; provided, however, that in no case shall such contract contain any provision of a sectarian or political nature regarding the care, custody or education of any such child.

SECTION 2. Such corporation shall in no case charge, or receive from the person or persons adopting any child through such corporation, any compensation therefor, except the actual expense of taking such child to the home of such person or persons and a reasonable fee for preparing and furnishing such papers and documents as may be requisite and necessary to secure the legal adoption of such child by such person or persons; and in no case shall any such person or persons so taking such child as aforesaid, receive from such corporation any compensation for the care, clothing or medical attendance of such child if the same shall be returned to the care and keeping of such corporation.

Shall make no charge except actual expense for taking to home.

SECTION 3. It shall be the duty of such corporation to keep and maintain a careful supervision of all children so placed as aforesaid and require of all persons who have taken or may hereafter take any such child, except such as have been legally adopted, a full report of the condition and welfare of such child, not less frequently than once in each year. And the

Careful supervision to be maintained.

authorized officers and agents of such corporation shall have the right and authority to visit all such persons and families and personally investigate, as often as such corporation shall deem it necessary, the condition and welfare of any child taken either by adoption or otherwise; and, if such corporation shall become satisfied upon a careful and proper investigation that any such child is subjected to vicious or harmful influences, or is seriously lacking in wise and considerate care and attention, then such corporation shall have the authority to require the return of such child to the care and custody of such corporation at its principal office at the expense of the person or persons so required to return the same.

Shall report promptly to state board of control.

SECTION 4. It shall be the duty of the secretary of such corporation to report to the state board of control from time to time and as required, such facts with reference to all children committed to the care and custody of such corporation as such board may require, and upon such blanks as it may prescribe; and the state board of control by its duly authorized officers and agents shall have the right and authority at all times to investigate the homes in which any such children may be placed; in case said board shall at any time determine that any such child is placed in an improper home, or is subjected to vicious and harmful influences, or is not properly cared for, said board may order such corporation to transfer such child to a proper home, and if such transfer shall not be made within thirty days from the time of the service of notice to that effect upon such corporation, the said board may take charge of such child and make suitable provisions therefor.

Rights and powers of the corporation.

SECTION 5. Such corporation shall possess, in addition to the special powers conferred by this act, all the rights and powers conferred upon corporations by chapters 85 and 86, of the revised statutes of 1878 and the acts amendatory thereof, and shall be subject to all the provisions of such chapters applicable thereto.

SECTION 6. All the acts, proceedings and transactions of the "Children's Home Society of Wisconsin" heretofore had on and since the date of its organization, to-wit: The sixth day of December, A. D. 1892, in forming and organizing said corporation and in transacting its business at any time from its organization up to the present time, are hereby fully legalized and declared lawful and valid for all intents and purposes so far as the same are consistent with the laws of the state of Wisconsin and in conformity with the provisions of this act. Former acts legalized.

SECTION 7. No provision of this act shall be construed so as to give any claim to any corporation organized hereunder to any appropriation of moneys from the treasury of the state, No claim for appropriation.

SECTION 8. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved April 12, 1895.

No. 175, S.]

[Published April 22, 1895.

CHAPTER 207.

AN ACT to confer limited, particular rights upon a certain class of towns.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. In any case where a town contained an unincorporated village with a population of not less than one thousand inhabitants, and the qualified electors of the town, at any annual town meeting or at any special town meeting called for that purpose, have adopted a resolution providing for a system of waterworks for the extinguishment of fires and other purposes, and the town board of that Waterworks in unincorporated villages in counties that contain over 100,000. Acts of town board legalized.