

Tramps.

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An act to define and suppress tramps.

Approved April 19, 1876.

P. L. 1876, p. 218.

1. That the following-described persons are hereby declared to be tramps: all persons who shall come from any place without this state, or from any city, county, township, borough or place in this state, and have no legal settlement in the places in which they may be found, and live idly and without employment, and refuse to work for the usual and common wages given to other persons for like work in the place where they then are, or shall be found going about from door to door, or placing themselves in the streets, highways or roads to beg or gather alms, and can give no reasonable account of themselves or their business in such places.

Persons declared to be tramps.

2. [Amended by Secs. 9 and 10, *post.*]

3. That whenever, in the judgment of the custodian or custodians of persons committed under the second section of this act, suitable labor cannot be provided in the place to which such persons are committed, it shall be lawful upon their written order, briefly expressed, to bind out and keep any such person to labor in the service of any suitable person or persons, or corporation, by them selected, for a term not exceeding his or her original commitment, as a substitute therefor, and may compel the performance of such labor for the term fixed.

When persons committed may be bound out.

4. That if any person not being in the place in which he usually lives, or has his home, shall apply to any director, overseer, guardian or commissioner of the poor of any county, city, borough, township or district stating that he is desirous to return to his home, but is poor and has not the means to do so, the said director, overseer, guardian or commissioner of the poor, may employ or let out such poor person to labor at some suitable place, to be by them selected and at such wages as shall seem to them just; and when in the opinion of said director, overseer, guardian or commissioner of the poor, such poor person shall have earned a sufficient sum, said director, overseer, guardian or commissioner of the poor shall, with the money so earned, and with such additions thereto from the treasury of the county, city, borough, township or district as they may think reasonable, cause such person to be returned to his home, whether in this state or elsewhere; *provided*, that the expense shall not exceed twenty dollars.

Proceedings to enable poor persons away from home to return.

Proviso.

5. That the custodian or custodians of such persons may, at discretion, discharge such persons at any time within the term of commitment upon not less than ten days' good behavior, or upon satisfactory security that they shall not become a charge upon the public within one year from the date of said discharge.

When persons may be discharged.

6. That the chosen freeholders of the several counties in this state shall have power, upon the recommendation of the court of common pleas of such several counties, to erect and maintain buildings and inclosures suitable for the detention of persons convicted under this act, and such buildings or inclosures shall be under the charge and superintendence of the sheriff of such county, or of the jail warden in such counties as have such officer.

Buildings for detention may be erected and maintained.

7. That for each arrest or commitment made under this act, there shall be paid to the committing magistrate the sum of twenty-five cents, and to the officer making such arrest the sum of fifty cents for their services under the provisions of this act, and no more; and any willful refusal to make

Fees to Justice. P. L. 1877, p. 167.  
Fees to officer making arrest.

Penalty for refusal to make arrest.

Proviso.

Workhouses.

such arrest, on the part of any constable or police officer, shall subject him to a penalty of ten dollars, to be collected as penalties are by law collectible, and shall be paid into the poor fund of the district in which the officer resides; *provided, however*, that the constable or police officer shall be entitled to the actual fare he may have to pay for himself and his prisoner or prisoners in taking them to the county jail.

**8.** That all poorhouses, county farms, houses of correction and other places provided for the keeping of the poor, are hereby declared to be workhouses for the purposes of this act, and it is hereby made the duty of the custodians of such buildings to provide work for such persons and to compel them to work therein when able, not less than six hours per day.

#### Supplement.

P. L. 1881, p. 211.

Approved March 24, 1881.

**9. SEC. 1.** [This section, amending Sec. 2, *ante*, is amended by Sec. 10, *post.*]

An act to amend an act entitled "A supplement to an act entitled 'An act to define and suppress tramps,' approved April nineteenth, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six," which supplemental act was approved March twenty-fourth, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-one.

P. L. 1885, p. 605.

Approved March 22, 1885.

**10. SEC. 1.** That the said supplemental act be and the same is hereby amended so that henceforth said act shall be and read as follows, to wit:

Tramps may be held to labor.

[That if any person shall be found offending in any county, city, township, borough or district in this state against this act, it shall and may be lawful for any constable or police officer of such place, and he is hereby enjoined and required, on notice thereof given him by any of the inhabitants thereof, to apprehend and convey such person to a justice of the peace or other magistrate of such place, who shall examine such person, and may commit him or her, being thereof legally convicted before him by the oath or affirmation of one or more credible witnesses other than the officer making the arrest, to labor upon any county farm or upon the streets, roads and highways of any city, township or borough, or in any house of correction, poorhouse, workhouse or common jail, for a term not less than thirty days, nor exceeding six months; and shall forthwith commit him or her to the custody of the steward, keeper or superintendent of such county farm, house of correction, poorhouse, workhouse or common jail, or to the supervisor or overseer of highways, street commissioners or any other officer or officers having in charge the repairs of any street, road or highway, or overseers of the poor of the respective county, city, borough or township wherein such person shall be found, as in their judgment shall be deemed most expedient.]

### Trespasses.

1. Penalty for trespass upon lands.
2. Damages may be awarded against trespassers after notice posted.
3. Damages may be awarded against trespassers after being forbidden.

4. May be treated as disorderly persons and arrested without warrant, &c.
5. A misdemeanor to remove, deface or alter notices posted.

#### An act to prevent willful trespasses upon lands.

P. L. 1887, p. 16.

Approved February 17, 1887.

Penalty for trespass upon lands.

**1.** That if any person or persons shall unlawfully enter upon any lands not his own, after having been forbidden so to do by the owner or legal possessor of such lands, he shall forfeit and pay for each offense to the owner of said lands or his or her tenant in possession, the sum of three dollars, to be sued for and recovered, with costs, in an action of debt, before any justice of the peace in this state.