

# CHAPTER 93.

## POOR AND PAUPERS.

AN ACT Relating to Poor and Paupers.

*Be it enacted by the Council and House of Representatives of the Territory of Wyoming:*

SECTION 1. The board of county commissioners of each county in this Territory, are hereby vested of [with] entire and exclusive superintendence of the poor in their respective counties.

County commissioners to have superintendence of the poor.

SEC. 2. Any poor person, being a resident of this Territory, may receive such relief as the case may require, out of the county treasury, and the county commissioners may either make a contract for the necessary maintenance of the poor in such cases, or appoint such agent, or agents, as they may deem necessary and qualified to oversee and provide for the same.

Poor person may receive relief, how.

County commissioners may make contract for support of poor.

SEC. 3. When any non-resident of this Territory, or any other person not coming within the definition of a pauper, shall fall sick in any county in this Territory, not having money or property to pay his board, nursing, or medical attendance, the county commissioners, upon notice thereof, shall provide such assistance as they may deem necessary, by contract or otherwise; and if such person shall die, said commissioners shall cause to be given to such person decent burial. And said *commissions* [commissioners] shall make such allowance for board, nursing, medical attendance and burial expenses as they may deem just and equitable; *Provided*, That claims of [for] such services shall be presented and acted upon in the same manner as other claims against the county. *Provided further*, That said commissioners may, in their discretion, contract with some suitable person, or persons, for such services, in the case of all sick persons coming within the provisions of this section.

County com'rs shall provide for sick, when.

Proviso.

Further proviso.

SEC. 4. When application is made by any pauper to the county commissioners of any county in this Territory for relief, it shall be necessary for said commissioners to require of said pauper satisfactory evidence that he has been a resident of said county for ninety days immediately preceding the day upon which said application is made, and if such evidence is satisfactory, said commissioners may, in their discretion, provide the relief specified in this act, but if the contrary appears, they may provide for the

County com'rs required to have satisfactory evidence of residence of pauper.

transportation of such pauper from this Territory, or may provide for his relief.

Each county to care for its own poor.

SEC. 5. If any person shall become chargeable in any county in which he did not reside at the commencement of the ninety days aforesaid, he shall be cared for by the county commissioners of the county where he may be found. And it shall be the duty of the county clerk of said county to send notice by mail to the county clerk of the county in which such person has his permanent residence, that said person has become chargeable as a pauper, and requesting the authorities of said last named county, to remove said pauper forthwith, and to pay the expenses incurred by reason of the care aforesaid. If any such pauper, by reason of sickness or disease, or through neglect of the proper authorities aforesaid to remove him, or if, through any cause, he cannot be removed, then the county taking charge of such pauper may, by civil action, sue for, and recover from the county to which such pauper belongs, the sum expended for [and] on behalf of such pauper, and in taking care of the same.

Importation of paupers, or persons likely to become a public charge, forbidden.

SEC. 6. If any person shall bring and leave, or cause to be brought and left, any pauper or paupers in any county in this Territory, wherein such pauper or paupers do not lawfully reside, or shall bring and leave, or cause to be brought and left, in any county in this Territory, any persons who from any disability will become chargeable upon said county, with intent to make such pauper or paupers a county charge, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars, nor less than twenty-five dollars.

Penalty.

County, town, or city authorities prohibited from transporting pauper into other county. Proviso.

SEC. 7. The county, town, or city, authorities of any county, town or city in this Territory, are hereby prohibited from either directly or indirectly transporting any pauper into any other county of this Territory, except as provided in this act; *Provided*, That the provisions of this section shall not apply to the transportation of any pauper out of this Territory, through any county thereof.

Money or property of electors in a county, how disposed of.

SEC. 8. If at the time of, or after, the death of any person in any county of this Territory, in whose behalf money shall have been expended by said county, it shall appear that he died possessed of money or property not exceeding one hundred dollars in value, the county commissioners of said county shall take possession of said money and property, and shall immediately thereafter cause the relatives of such deceased person, if known, to be notified of the amount expended by said county in his behalf, and also of the possession and description of said money and property; and if said relatives pay the amount so expended, said money and property shall be delivered to the relative or relatives making such payment; but if they refuse or fail to pay said amount within a reasonable time, then said commissioners shall sell said property, or cause the same to be sold.

Surplus, after  
paying expenses,  
how disposed of.

SEC. 9. If the amount realized from such sale shall be more than sufficient to pay the expenses incurred by said county, the county commissioners thereof, shall, after deducting the amount of such expenses, pay such debts of said deceased person that may be due residents of this Territory, as would have a prior claim if

said property had been administered upon in the probate court of said county; the residue, if any, together with the amount of expenses aforesaid, shall be paid by said commissioners into the county treasury of said county.

SEC. 10. If any person, required under section two of this act, to support any relative therein mentioned, shall appeal from a judgment rendered thereunder, the appeal bond in such case shall, in addition to the usual conditions of such bonds, be conditioned that the principal therein will, if said judgment is affirmed, pay all expenses incurred by said county in behalf of such relative between the rendition of such judgment and the affirmation thereof. Irrelevant.

SEC. 11. The board of county commissioners of any county in this Territory may, if they deem it best for the interests of the county, cause to be built or provided in their respective counties, work-houses for the accommodation and employment of such persons as may from time to time become a county charge, and such work-houses and paupers, shall be under such rules and regulations as the county commissioners may deem just and proper. Co. commissioners may provide work-houses.

SEC. 12. All money collected under the provisions of this act, shall be paid into the treasury of the proper county for the use of said county. Money collected to be paid into county treasury.

SEC. 13. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage. In force.

Approved, December 11th, 1875.