

LAWS AND REGULATIONS

FOR THE

RECEPTION OF CHILDREN

INTO

ST. VINCENT'S ORPHAN ASYLUM,

IN THE

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,

AND

FOR THE PROTECTION AND WELFARE OF SUCH CHILDREN
UNTIL THEY BECOME OF AGE, ACCORDING TO LAW.

WASHINGTON:

PRINTED BY JOHN T. TOWERS.

1849.

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LAW AND REGULATIONS

REGISTRATION OF CHARITIES

ST. VINCENT'S ORPHAN ASYLUM

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

FOR THE PROTECTION AND WELFARE OF SICK ORPHANS
WHILE THEY REMAIN OF AGE, ACCORDING TO LAW

WASHINGTON:
PUBLISHED BY JOHN S. TAYLOR
1853

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RECEPTION OF CHILDREN

INTO

Washington, D.C.

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UNTIL THEY BECOME OF AGE, ACCORDING TO LAW.

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LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE SAINT VINCENT'S ORPHAN ASYLUM IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

"SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That William Matthews, Matthew Deagle, Peter S. Shreiber, Thomas Carberry, and William Hickey, and their successors in office, are hereby made, declared, and constituted a corporation and body politic, in law and in fact, to have continuance forever, under the name, style, and title of Saint Vincent's Orphan Asylum."

"SECTION 3. *And be it further enacted,* That the said Corporation, by the name and style aforesaid, be and shall be hereafter capable in law and equity to sue and be sued, to plead and be impleaded, within the District of Columbia, and elsewhere, in as effectual a manner as other persons or corporations can sue or be sued; and that they shall adopt and use a common seal, and the same to use, alter, or exchange at pleasure; that they may appoint such officers as they shall deem necessary and proper, to assign them their duties, and regulate their compensation, and to remove any or all of them, and appoint others, as often as they shall think fit; and the said Corporation shall make such by-laws as may be useful for the government and support, and for the general accomplishment of the objects of the said Asylum, as hereinafter mentioned, and not inconsistent with the laws of the United States, or the laws in force in the District of Columbia, for the time being, and the same to alter, amend, or abrogate at pleasure."

"SECTION 5. *And be it further enacted,* That, with the consent and approbation of the parent, guardian, or friends, who may have the care of any male or female child, or where a child may be destitute of any friend or protector, the same may be received into Saint Vincent's Orphan Asylum, under such regulations as may be made by the By-Laws, and there protected, instructed, and supported; and they shall not thereafter be withdrawn, or be at liberty themselves to withdraw from the Asylum, without the consent or dismissal of the Corporation aforesaid, until, if a male, he shall have attained the age of twenty-one years, or, if a female, the age of eighteen years; but, up to the ages aforesaid respectively, they shall

remain subject to the direction of the said Corporation, unless they may, by the same, be exonerated from service previous to attaining those ages respectively; and the said Corporation shall have the power to bind any child under their care, for the purpose of acquiring a knowledge of some useful trade, occupation, or profession, under such conditions as may be determined by the By-Laws, a copy of which conditions shall be delivered to, and they shall be binding on every person to whom any child may be so bound; that there may also be established, in connection with Saint Vincent's Orphan Asylum, schools for the daily attendance of children whose parents or guardians are or may be unable to pay for their instruction, or whose parents or guardians may contribute towards the support of the Asylum, under such regulations as may be made in the By-Laws."

Passed both Houses of Congress and approved, 25th February, 1831, by

ANDREW JACKSON,
President of the United States.

BY-LAWS
ADOPTED
BY THE TRUSTEES
OF
SAINT VINCENT'S ORPHAN ASYLUM,
IN
PURSUANCE OF LAW.

BY-LAW No. 11. Female day scholars may be received into the school attached to the Asylum, whose parents are unable to pay for their instruction, or whose parents may contribute in some manner towards the support of the Asylum; and applications may be made for this purpose through a Manager or the Governess of the Asylum, and candidates may be received or rejected by the President, in conformity with the regulations of the Board, as the circumstances of each case may justify or require.

BY-LAW No. 13. The Trustees of Saint Vincent's Orphan Asylum will, at all times, consider themselves perfectly free to receive or reject applications for admission of children into the Asylum, according to their judgment and discretion, and, as the Institution under their care is not of the nature of a public Hospital, Infirmary, or Lazaretto, they cannot, in justice to the true objects of the Institution, nor consistently with the safety of the little orphans under their care, receive into the Asylum children afflicted with permanent disability or disease, or those having malignant, loathsome, or contagious diseases.

BY-LAW No. 14. The conditions on which orphan children, male or female, may be received into Saint Vincent's Orphan Asylum shall be as follows, to wit:

No male or female child shall be received into Saint Vincent's Orphan Asylum, without the full consent and approbation of the parent, guardian, or friend who may have the care of such child, nor shall any child be so received who may be destitute of any relation, friend, or protector, without the knowledge of the Mayor of Washington, or of a Judge or Justice of the Peace, who will, to the best of his knowledge and belief, certify to the age of the child, and who may be willing to certify either that, to the best of his knowledge and belief,

such child has no parent, guardian, or friend having any natural or legal care of such child, or that such relations, if any there be, are unknown.

By-Law No. 15. When it may be determined by the Trustees to receive a male or female child into the Asylum, the desire, consent, and approbation of the parent, guardian, relation or relations, or friends, who may have the natural or legal right to the care of such child, that it may be received, shall be expressed and declared by such person or persons, according to a printed form with blanks to be filled up, to be adopted by the Trustees, which shall be so filled up to correspond with the facts in each case, and shall be signed and acknowledged by such person or persons before, and attested by, the Mayor, a Judge or Justice of the Peace within the District of Columbia, and in such instrument shall be stated the day, month, and year, and place of nativity of the child, or should such particulars not be known, or recollected, then such person or persons shall, in good faith, assume and state, according to their best judgment and belief, a particular day and year and place for the nativity of such child, and bind him, or herself, or themselves, respectively, to abide by such assumption, and such establishment of the time of nativity of a child, shall also bind the child under the charge and control of Saint Vincent's Orphan Asylum, unless the time of the nativity of such child shall otherwise be determined by legal evidence. And where a child may be destitute of any parent, guardian, relation, friend, or protector, and such fact should appear to the satisfaction of the Mayor, a Judge or Justice of the Peace of the District of Columbia, then a certificate of the same, under the hand and seal of such officer, assuming and certifying according to a printed form to be adopted by the Trustees, to the best of his judgment, knowledge, and belief, the day, month, and year, and place of nativity of the orphan child, shall be considered evidence that the child is so destitute, as also evidence of the age of the child, and shall bind the child under the charge and control of Saint Vincent's Orphan Asylum, unless the time of the nativity of such child shall otherwise be determined by legal evidence. And no child shall be received into the Asylum unless these conditions be observed and executed, and the papers and proof of the same deposited in the hands of the President of the Board of Trustees.

By-Law No. 16. When a child shall have been received into the Asylum, in pursuance of the foregoing conditions, and in conformity with the law, the same cannot thereafter be withdrawn, or be at liberty to withdraw, nor be disposed of,

nor sent from the Asylum, without violation of law, unless it be done with the consent or dismissal of the Board of Trustees of Saint Vincent's Orphan Asylum, who have the power to dismiss, to exonerate from service, retain in the Asylum, or to bind any child under their care, until, if a male, he be twenty-one years of age, or, if a female, she be eighteen years of age, and, as this duty is one of a very delicate, important, and highly responsible character, as regards the future destinies and welfare of the children who are placed, by law, under the special care of, and who look up to the Trustees for protection, it cannot be faithfully and conscientiously performed without knowing the facts and circumstances peculiar to each case and judging of each upon its own circumstances and merits.

BY-LAW No. 17. When the Trustees shall have determined to bind a child out from the Asylum, the conditions under which such child may be bound shall be as follows, to wit :

The individual who may desire to obtain the services of an orphan belonging to this Asylum shall be of good moral character, and a resident of the District of Columbia, and such person shall enter into a bond and specific agreement, according to a printed form to be adopted by the Trustees, to clothe, in a comfortable and proper manner, to furnish with sufficient wholesome food, to guard and protect by proper care and vigilance the welfare, virtue, and morals of such orphan child, to send such child to his or her church at least on Sundays and holydays of obligation, to employ and instruct such child in some useful occupation to be stated, and to cause such child to be instructed, or to practice, if already instructed, in the knowledge of reading and writing the English language ; and should said Trustees discover that such agreement is not faithfully observed by the person to whom such child is bound, such person shall, on demand of the Trustees, deliver up such child to the Trustees to be bound to another person, or taken to the Asylum, as said Trustees may deem most to the interest and welfare of such child or of the Asylum, and should such agreement have been violated, or should such child have received injury from the neglect, the violence, oppression, or from any act or omission of such person, he or she shall forfeit the amount specified in the bond, and be prosecuted therefor, and for such other penalty as the case may require, by civil or criminal process, in the courts of the United States in the District of Columbia, in the name of the United States, or the Saint Vincent's Orphan Asylum, as the case may require, for the satisfaction of the law, or for the redress, benefit, and protection of such orphan child.

The following printed forms adopted by the Trustees, accompany these By-Laws, to wit :

1. The declaration of the parent, guardian, or relation of a child desiring the admission of such child into Saint Vincent's Orphan Asylum.

2. The declaration or certificate of the Mayor, Judge, or Justice of the Peace to obtain admission of a child into Saint Vincent's Orphan Asylum.

3. The bond and agreement of a person desiring that a child of Saint Vincent's Orphan Asylum be bound to such person.

The Trustees of Saint Vincent's Orphan Asylum.

WILLIAM MATTHEWS, *President.*

JOSEPH VAN HORSEIGH.

JAMES B. DONELAN.

THOMAS CARBERY, *Treasurer.*

WILLIAM HICKEY, *Secretary.*

The Lady Managers of Saint Vincent's Orphan Asylum.

MRS. NEWMAN, *1st Directress.*

MRS. TALBOT, *2d Directress.*

MRS. ANN S. HILL, *Treasurer.*

MRS. STUBBS.

MRS. SUSAN GRAHAM.

MRS. JANET M. C. RIGGS.

MRS. ELLEN A. LEE, *Secretary.*

MRS. FARREN.

MRS. WALTER CLARKE.

The Sister of Charity of Saint Joseph, Governess of Saint Vincent's Orphan Asylum :

SISTER DE SALES.

WASHINGTON CITY, NOVEMBER 28, 1848.

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The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been elected to the office of Justice of the Peace for the year 1880.

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WASHINGTON CITY, January 22, 1880.

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