

the *Friendless*," instead of sending to the alms-house, female children who are destitute or suffering for want of support, or who may be found begging about the streets of the city, or who are children of beggars.

923. The children thus committed to the care of said corporation shall remain under the care of the corporation, and of the managers thereof, and shall be obedient to the rules, regulation and discipline as apprentices, and be subject to all laws concerning the duties and liabilities of apprentices.

924. The "*Home of the Friendless*," and the managers thereof, may retain the said children under their care until they shall be eighteen years of age, or any shorter period, and may bind them out for a time, not to exceed the age of eighteen years, as apprentices to learn any trade or business, or to learn to be useful in housewifery, or may, under terms proper in the view of the said managers and to be by them stipulated, place them for adoption or as inmates with any families or persons; and the said corporation in the exercise of any of the powers vested in them in this section of binding or placing out said children, shall not be limited to places within this State.

925. All instruments binding or placing out said children shall be in writing signed by the president and at least two managers of said corporation, and by the persons taking the children as apprentices or otherwise, and shall be acknowledged by the persons signing the same before a justice of the peace for Baltimore city, and within six months from the date thereof recorded in the office of the Register of Wills of said city.

926. If any parent or guardian, or any judge of the Orphans' Court of Baltimore city, or any justice of the peace for said city, shall place under the care and control of the "*Home of the Friendless*" any female child under the age of eighteen years, of the description of children hereinbefore mentioned, or as suffering through the extreme indigence or vagrancy or bad habits or neglect of parents, or as being illegitimate or children of persons out of this State, without sufficient sustenance, the said corporation and the managers thereof shall hold and control such children, with power to bind or place them out as hereinbefore provided.