

An Acte lymiting Servants tymes

U. H.  
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Whereas certaine differences too frequently arise betwixt Masters and Servants in this Province in and aboute the tyme of Services and Customes often pleaded on both sides in this minority of Seateing for prevençō of the like It is Enacted p. 98  
And be it enacted by the Lord Proprietary with the Consent of the upper and lower howse of this p<sup>r</sup>sent generall Assembly that every Servant transported into this Province after the end of this Assembly being of the full age of twenty and two yeares or vpwards not haueing Indenture or other sufficient testimony for the tearme or tyme of his or her comeing in, such servant shall serue him or her that transported and payd the passage of the said Servant or their Assigns from and after their first Arrivall into this Province the full tyme of foure yeares if Betweene the age of Eighteene and two and twenty yeares such Servant shall Serue five yeares if Betwixt the age of fifteene and Eighteene such Servant shall serue six yeares And any Servant of what age soever vnder fifteene yeares and coming in as aforesaid shall serve till he or she Arrive to the age of one and twenty yeares.

And be it further Enacted that every Master Mistres or Dame Assigne or Trustee of what kind soeuer owneing or keeping any such Servant as aforesaid whether by vertue of transportacō purchase or otherwise shall within three moneths next after the Receiueing such Seruant into their Custody within this Province bring the said Servant into their respectiue County Courte where they doe inhabite And every of the said Courts are hereby authorized to Judge of and determine the age of such Servants soe brought and cause the same to be Entred vpon Record And every Owner as aforesaid neglecting or refusing to bring such Servant or Servants before the Courte as aforesaid shall loose one yeares tyme of Service of the direcçōs aforesaid And if any Master or Servant aforesaid be aggreiued with the determinacō of the Courte He shall within the tyme determined for their Service produce an authentick Certificatt of such Servants age and shall haue remedy accord- p. 99  
ing to the ages aforesaid

And be it further Enacted by the authority aforesaid that noe Indenture made by any Servant during the tyme of Service due by former Indenture or by determinacō of the Courte according to the tenor of this acte shall any wise oblige any Serv<sup>t</sup> for longer tyme then by his first Indentu<sup>t</sup> or determinacō of the co<sup>rt</sup> shall be lymited and appoynted. Provided that this Acte nor anything there in conteyned shall not Giue or be construed to give any Benefitt to any Slaue whatsoever