

relating to the Manumission of Negroes or Molattoe Slaves we think its hard to restrain any Master or Owner to set free a well deserving Negroe or Molattoe Slave, for Probity in such Persons is by that Means discouraged no Master or Owner being at Liberty otherwise to recompence the good Actions of a well deserving Slave therefore we cannot agree to that Clause but lest any Prejudice may happen by such Manumission we are willing to add a Clause imposing a Fine of a thousand Pounds of Tobacco on all free Negroes and Molattoes that shall entertain or harbour any Servant or Slave for every Night or twenty four Hours to be recovered by Bill Plaint &^{ta} one half thereof to the King &^{ta} for the Use of the Free Schools of this Province; and the other half to the Use of the Party grieved and if such offending free Molattoe or Negro has not Estate sufficient immediately to satisfy such Penalty he shall be sold for and towards satisfying the same as aforesaid by the Justices of the respective County Courts that hear and determine the said Bill &^{ta} And also another Clause imposing a Fine of five thousand Pounds of Tobacco on any Minister, Magistrate or other Person or Persons whatsoever that shall marry any Negroe whether bound or free or any Molattoe Slave to any white Person the said Fine to be recovered as aforesaid and to be to the Use of the Free Schools to which we pray your Honours Concurrence

L. H. J.
P. 557

Signed p Order Tho^s Macnemara Clk. Ho. Del.

The Indorsement from the Council on the Back of the Bill relating to the ordering and regulating the Militia brought down in the Morning by Col^o Addison being considered and debated the following is returned in Answer thereto Viz.

By the House of Delegates
May the 24th 1715

May it please your Honours,

On Reading and debating your Indorsement on this Bill as to that Part that proposes a Clause to impose a Fine on Persons that refuse to accept of Military Commissions from the Governor or Commander in Chief of this Province for the Time being we are unwilling to agree to such a Clause few psons being to be found or instanced that refused the same at any Time heretofore; but as to that Part that proposes a Fine to be imposed on any comⁿ Officer that shall refuse or neglect to appear at any Muster or Training unless his Excuse be admitted by the Field Officers, we are willing to agree to a Clause to lay a Fine on every Captain, Lieutenant Cornet and Ensign so refusing or neglecting to appear, two hundred