

Liber B.L.C. away with and embezel the Goods of their Masters or Owners, by carrying them to such Entertainments, and to commit many grievous Disorders and Irregularities against the Peace of his Lordship, and his good Rule and Government, and to the great Damage and Disquiet of many of his Majesty's liege Subjects within this Province: For preventing which Evils for the future;

Be it Enacted by the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary, by and with the Advice and Consent of his Lordship's Governor, and the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly, and the Authority of the same, That if any Person or Persons, after the End of this Session of Assembly, shall wittingly or willingly entertain any Servant or Servants, Slave or Slaves, unlawfully absenting him, her or themselves from his, her or their Master, Owner or Overseer, or permit or suffer them to be about their Houses or Plantations during the Space of one Hour, or longer, such Person or Persons so entertaining such Servant or Servants, Slave or Slaves, or permitting or suffering them to be about their Houses or Plantations, shall forfeit and pay at the Rate of One hundred Pounds of Tobacco for every Hour each Servant or Slave shall be by him, her or them so entertained or permitted or suffered to be about his, her or their House or Plantation as aforesaid, to be recovered in a summary
 [Entertain- ing of Servants and Slaves.]
 [Penalty.] Way, before a single Magistrate, with Costs, if the Penalty does not exceed Six hundred Pounds of Tobacco; and if it does exceed Six hundred Pounds of Tobacco, then to be recovered by Action of Debt, Bill of Indictment, Plaint or Information, in the County Court where the Offence shall be committed, wherein no Essoin, Protection, Wager of Law, or above one Imparlance, shall be allowed; the one half whereof shall be applyed to the Use of the public School of the County wherein such Forfeiture shall happen, and the other half to the Party grieved, provided he or she shall
 p. 454 prosecute for the same within three Months next after the Offence committed, otherwise to the Informer or him or them who shall sue for the same; Provided such Suit be commenced within twelve Months after such Offence committed.

And be it further Enacted, That if it shall appear to any Magistrate, before whom any Conviction for Breach of this Act shall be had, that the Offender is unable to pay or give good Security for the Penalty aforesaid, it shall and may be lawful for such Magistrate to punish such Offender by Whipping on the bare back with such Number of Stripes, not exceeding thirty-nine for any one Offence, as to him shall seem meet, and to require Security for the good Behaviour of such Offender for and during the Term of six
 [If unable to pay the Fine then to be whipt.]
 [In case one Servant or Slave entertains another then to be punished by Whipping.]
 Months then next following.

And be it further Enacted, That if any Servant or Slave shall wittingly or willingly harbour or entertain any other Servant or Servants, Slave or Slaves, unlawfully absent from his, her or their