

Liber H. S. nor can be done in most Instances till a considerable time after their  
 No. 1 becoming Orphans by which the Counties are greatly burthened for  
 the Support of such Children and those Children themselves are not  
 so much benefited as they wou'd be by being bound out Apprentices

[Magistrates to bind out Orphans] Be it therefore Enacted by the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary by and with the Advice and Consent of his Lordships Governor and the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly and the Authority of the same that the Justices of the Several and respective County Courts within this Province shall and may bind out every Orphan Child not having or being intituled to a Real or personal Estate the profits or increase whereof is or are sufficient for his or her Maintainance support and education, as an Apprentice to some Mariner Handicraft Tradesman or other person /being a Protestant/ at the discretion of the said Justices until such Orphan Child if a Male shall arrive to twenty one years of Age or if a Female to Sixteen years of Age or day of Marriage which shall first happen in the same manner and upon and under the same Terms Conditions and restrictions as the said County Courts are impowered by any Act of Assembly in such case made and Provided to bind out Orphans as Apprentices where the Balances of their Fathers Estates are Transmitted to such Courts

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[ 'til 21, or 16 years of Age]

[Also Children left by their Father, &c] And be it Further Enacted that the said Justices shall and may upon any Application to them in their respective County Courts, aforesaid for any Allowance for the Support or Maintainance of any Child whose Father hath departed from this Province or removed from the County where he resided without leaving a sufficiency for the Support of his Children, bind out such Child as an Apprentice in the manner aforesaid to any such person for the time and under the Terms Conditions and Restrictions aforesaid. And to the end that Apprentices bound out by virtue of this Act may be Taught their Trades and may not be Rigorously used or Turned to common Labour at the Ax or Hoe.

[Orphan Juries to enquire as to their Usage] Be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid by and with the Advice and Consent aforesaid That the several and respective County Courts and Orphan Juries shall and they are hereby required to give in charge Hear Judge Order Determine and enquire of and concerning apprentices bound out by Virtue of this Act and their Masters in the same manner as they are impowered and required to do by any Act of Assembly heretofore made and now in fforce

[The mother, if Living, to be summon'd] And be it Further Enacted that no Child having a Mother living in the same County shall be bound out Apprentice by Virtue of this or any other Act of Assembly of this Province unless such Mother shall be at the time of such binding out her Child Apprentice present in Court or hath been Summoned to attend such Court on such Occasion or a summons for that Purpose against her hath been returned