

The case of William Hide *v.* William Nicholls shows that, even when a man had his transportation paid by someone else, he might well bring in a quantity of goods. Nicholls said he had brought in Hide and another man and three women and several parcels of goods, and he got the Court to order Hide to pay for his passage and go free. Hide and the other man could not agree on the division of the goods, so they left it to an umpire, Charles Boteler. When the goods were replevied from Nicholls, who had taken them as security for the payment of the passage money, they were listed by the sheriff: two swords, two hogsheads, one chest, one trunk, a small cask, a featherbed and a blanket. Considering the small quantity of goods sometimes left to be divided by a will, this is a large store. The umpire gave Hide a hogshead, a hamper of bottles, two swords, a featherbed bolster and a quilt (*ibid.*, 586-588).

George Cooley gave bond to John Ingram to deliver him "two able men servants between the ages of twenty and thirty, and failed either to deliver the men or to pay the 6000 pounds of tobacco according to the bond. Since the bond was for a sum twice the amount of the obligation, two men servants must have been worth 1500 pounds of tobacco apiece (*post*, 237-238). Mark Cordea, late of St. Mary's County, mayor of St. Mary's City, and planter (*ibid.*, pp. 281, 443) was sued by James Nuthall to "render unto him One Negro man betweene the age of fifteen & twenty yeares of Sound and perfect limbs and body which to him he oweth and unjustly deteineth". When the case came to trial, the defendant came not but made default, and the Court decreed that Ingram "recover against the said Marke the negro man as afore-said as also" 840 pounds of tobacco for costs (*ibid.*, 244-245). In a similar case, Ralph Dawson *v.* James Clayland, Dawson recovered, not the manservant he had covenanted for, but 3400 pounds of tobacco debt and 556 pounds more for costs (*ibid.*, pp. 459-460). Two or three other cases came up, in which, like Dawson *v.* Clayland, the plaintiff recovered, not the servants contracted for, but the value they would have had (*ibid.*, pp. 461, 579, 598-599).

Servants, indented or merely transported, could be treated like merchandise, and, as has just been shown, they often were so treated. At this time, however, there seems to have been little of the revolting cruelty that figures in the older records. Captain Thomas Bradnox, whose inveterate malice toward his servant women appears in previous volumes of the *Archives* (volumes XLI, pp. 500 ff.; LIV, *passim*), died late in 1661. There is only one case of the mistreatment of a servant, and oddly enough, it is not certain whether the servant was a man or a women. Marmaduke Semmes had been bound over for abusing and misusing his servant Vertu Avery, but, after the witnesses had all been examined the Court discharged him on payment of his fees (*ibid.*, p. 49).

Nor is there much trouble with runaway servants, though, of course the laws were still in force. As there were penalties against the runaways, so there were other and harder penalties against any persons who aided them. Servants might be sentenced to serve additional time, up to ten times the number of days absent (*Archives*, II, p. 524), or they might be whipped on their bare backs, even if they were women. Free persons who persuaded servants to run away or "entertained" them were subject to both civil and criminal action.