

ant woman (*Archives* XLIX, pp. 538-545; 234-5; *ibid.* LI, pp. 121-128). Not all masters or overseers were cruel and heartless to their servants. Sometimes they treated them fairly, and even took care of them when they were ill. Richard Carter of Talbot County, gentleman, going out of the Province, left Peter Dennis of the same county, planter, to manage his estate. Peter agreed with one of the servants, Francis Story, to give him a share of a corn and tobacco crop for his labor. This was in itself more than usually considerate. More than that, when the servant fell ill, manager Peter called a physician for him. Francis had a "Virulent coroded Ulcer in his legg, & another in his arm & a complicated distemper regnant in his body, which afforded a certaine malevolent & Venomous humour to feed the said ulcerous sores And the said Peter . . . knowing the said Charles [Howell] to be a Chirurgion, & to use & practice the same art of a Chirurgion in Talbott County aforesaid in consideracon that the said Charles him the said ffrancis would attend & the sores of him the said ffrancis would dress & endeavour to heale & cure, & to the same would apply such meanes druggs Unguents Emplaisters & remedyes for the cureing of the said sores & distemper as to him the said Charles should seem meet, & giveing the said ffrancis due attendance for administring of the same" promised to pay Doctor Charles "what for the same he should reasonably deserve". The doctor looked after the sick servant from June 1676 to January 1677. The inward distemper he cured and the sores in arm and leg he cured, too, so that Francis could take care of the crop as he was supposed to do. Howell submitted to the Court a particular of the "meanes druggs Unguents Emplaisters Phisick skill cuning & attendance" he had used; and he said he deserved 3000 pounds of tobacco, but, he said, Peter had refused to pay him. When, on April 12, 1678, the case came to trial, Howell appeared but Peter Dennis came not but made default. Thereupon the Court gave Howell the tobacco he asked as damages, and gave him also 544 pounds for his costs. But the boy Francis had been cured (*post*, 42, 135, 181, 294-295).

Servants were people; they were also property, treated like any other part of a man's personal estate. Richard Perry was said to have received from Jarvis Ballard one barrel of mackerel, six barrels of salt, eleven barrels of molasses, ninety-six gallons of rum and one man-servant (*post*, p. 178). Garret Van Sweringen bought from Casper Herman a grey gelding, for which he agreed to pay 2600 pounds of tobacco. When Van Sweringen did not pay, Herman sued, and the Court gave him the 2600 pounds (*post*, pp. 408-409). In exactly the same way, Eliza Greene sold a servant woman, Eliza Martindale, to Dennis Sulevant for 800 pounds of tobacco, with a warrant that the woman would serve him for eighteen months. Six months later, the chancellor freed her from Sulevant's service, though he had paid the tobacco. Greene had warranted the servant woman's time for eighteen months but she refused to make good when the chancellor found the woman free. So Sulevant sued Mrs. Greene. When, on April 10, 1678, the case came to trial, the defendant pleaded not guilty, but the plaintiff said he would make no further prosecution. For this he was nonsuited, and Eliza Greene recovered against him her costs of 1007 pounds of tobacco (*post*, pp. 296-299).