

XIV. **And** forasmuch as the Right to Administration of the Goods of Persons intestate, may fall upon Persons under the Age of Seventeen Years; **it is hereby Declared,** That as they are within like Reason, so they are within like Law with Infant Executors.

C H A P.  
XXXIX.  
Infant Administrators the same.

XV. **Sixth.** That every Female Orphan shall be accounted of full Age to receive her Estate, at the Age of Sixteen Years, or Day of Marriage, which shall first happen.

Female Orphans to be of Age at 16, &c.

XVI. **Seventh.** That all Negroes and other Slaves, after the transmitting the Estate to the County Courts as aforesaid, shall be appraised to the Guardian or Trustees, and preserved by them, and be employed to the said Guardians or Trustees Use and Benefit; and the like Number of Slaves, and of the like Ability of Body, be returned to the said Orphans, out of their Increase, or otherwise, at their full Age by this Law limited. And if any of the said Slaves be grown aged, or otherwise impotent, or be lamed, and that the Increase will not make the original Stock good, as to the Number and Ability of Body, that then they shall be again appraised by the said County Courts, and the Guardians or Trustees shall pay to the Orphans so much Money or Tobacco, as the County Courts shall adjudge the Orphan's Stock of Negroes then, to be of less Value than they were at the Time of their first Appraisalment and Delivery of their said Slaves to the said Guardians or Trustees. But in case no Guardian, or other Person, will, upon those Terms, accept of those Slaves; then it shall and may be lawful for the said several and respective County Courts to put the said Slaves out upon other Terms, to any other Person, so that the said original Stock of Slaves be not sold, nor any of their Increase, but in the best Manner preserved for the Orphans 'till they come to their several Ages by this Act limited and appointed; to the Intent they may have their first Stock made good to them, in Number, Value, and Ability of Body, if it may be.

Slaves to be appraised to the Guardians, and paid to the Orphan in Specie.

But if aged, or impotent, may be re-appraised by the Court, &c.

or put out so as they and their Increase may best be preserved to the Orphans. See farther in 17-29, ch. 24, §. 6.

XVII. **Eighth.** That all Servants for Years be likewise returned in Kind to the Orphans at their full Age, (*That is to say,*) the same Number, of the same Age and Sex, and by like Number of Years to serve, and of the same Ability of Body, as near as can be estimated, as the Servants were when received by the Guardian or Trustee.

Servants for Years, to be returned in Kind.

XVIII. **And** to the End that after an Account or Distribution made as aforesaid, the Balance of such Account, or the Distribution of such Balance, may not be neglected to be transmitted to the several and respective Justices of the County Courts, as before is directed; **Be it Enacted,** by the King's most excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent aforesaid, That if such Judge for Probate of Wills, Commissary or Commissaries General, shall not, within Three Months after such Account made up, exhibited and passed in his Office, or after Distribution made by him as aforesaid, transmit the Balance or Account thereof, as before by this Act is directed, to the several and respective Justices of the County Courts where the Estate shall be and remain, he or they shall forfeit and pay to our Sovereign Lord the King, his Heirs and Successors, the Sum of Ten Thousand Pounds of Tobacco; of which one Moiety for the Support of Government of this Province, the other Moiety to him or them that shall sue for the same; to be recovered by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint or Information, wherein no Essoin, Protection, or Wager of Law to be allowed.

The Commissary-General shall send the Balance of Accounts passed, or Distribution made by him, to the respective County Courts within 3 Months, on Penalty of 10000<sup>lb</sup> Tobacco.

XIX. **Ninth.** Whereas every Administrator, in an Inventory, inserts what Debts are sperate, and what Debts are desperate, the Judge for Probate of Wills shall transmit those desperate Debts of the Estate unto the several and respective Justices of the County Courts where the Estate shall lie, to the End the said Justices may inquire, whether the Administrator hath, by Fraud

Desperate Debts to be committed by the County Court, to the Guardian, &c. who shall