

trust, or to give evidence against any white person, or shall be recorded as competent evidence to manumit any slave petitioning for freedom.

C. H. A. P.
LXVII.

VI. And be it enacted, That no person brought into this state from any of the United States, who is bound to service for a term of years only by the laws of the state from which such person is brought, shall be considered as a slave for life in this state, but such person brought into this state shall serve for the time which the laws of the state from which such person is brought oblige him or her to serve, and no longer.

Persons not to be considered as slaves, &c.

VII. And, whereas negroes or other slaves may have been or may hereafter be carried out of this state during the infancy, or without the knowledge, authority or consent, of the real owners or proprietors of the same, and it is just and reasonable that the said owners or proprietors should be permitted to bring them in again, Be it enacted, That if any negro, or other slave, hath been or may hereafter be carried out of this state by any executor, administrator or guardian, or by any other person or persons, during the infancy or without the consent or authority of the real owner or proprietor of such negro or other slave, it shall and may be lawful for such owner or proprietor, at any time hereafter, to bring the said negro, or other slave, into this state again, and to have and enjoy the said negro, or other slave, as his or her property.

Negroes, &c. carried out may be brought back, &c.

VIII. And be it enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for any citizen and resident of this state, being seized and possessed of an estate of inheritance in his own right, or in the right of his wife, in land lying in any one of the adjoining states, and the owner of any slave or slaves employed or worked on the said land, to remove and bring such slave or slaves within this state, on the land of such owner, for the use and benefit of the owner, his or her legal representatives, and not for sale; provided such slave or slaves hath or have been residents of some one of the said adjoining states before the twenty-first day of April, in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three, or is or are the descendant or descendants of any slave, being residents as aforesaid; and provided also, that a list of such slave or slaves, containing their names, sexes and ages, be delivered, in writing, and signed by the owner, his overseer or agent, to the clerk of the county into which such slave or slaves shall be brought to reside, within three months thereafter, and the said list shall be recorded at the expence of the owner of such slave or slaves so brought into this state; in which list of negroes, so recorded, if title to them be acquired by will, the testator's name, the date of the will, and the place where recorded, shall be inserted, and if the title to them be derived from marriage, the name of the married person from whom the title is derived shall likewise be inserted in said list; and the whole entered on record.

Citizens may remove slaves, &c.

IX. And be it enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for any citizen and resident of any adjoining state, being seized and possessed of an estate of inheritance in his own right, or the right of his wife, in land lying in this state, and the owner of any slave or slaves, residents of any adjoining state before the twenty-first day of April, in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three, or of the descendant or descendants of any slave, being resident as aforesaid; to remove and bring any such slave or slaves into this state, for the purpose of employing or working such slave or slaves on the land of such owner within this state, for the use and benefit of the owners, his or her legal representatives, and not for sale; provided that a list of such slave or slaves be delivered, in writing, containing the names, sexes and ages, of said negroes, and signed by the owner, his overseer or agent, to the clerk of the county in which such slave or slaves shall be first brought to reside, within three months thereafter, and the said list shall contain a certificate as aforesaid, to be recorded at the expence of the owner of such slave or slaves so removed into this state.

Citizens of adjoining states may remove their slaves, &c.

X. And be it enacted, That the power of removing slaves, as above allowed, may be exercised as often as the owner or owners of such slaves shall think proper, on complying with the directions of this act.

As often as they think proper, &c.