

vered by action of debt, each party to have the benefit of appeal to the county court, and one-half thereof to be applied to the informer, and the other half to the use of the county; and if any negro or mulatto shall remove from this state, and remain without the limits thereof for a space longer than thirty consecutive days, unless before leaving the state he deposits with the clerk of the county in which he resides, a written statement of his object in doing so, and his intention of returning again, or unless he shall have been detained by sickness or coercion, of which he shall bring a certificate, he shall be regarded as a resident of another state, and be subject, if he return, to the penalties imposed by the foregoing provisions upon free negroes and mulattoes of another state, migrating to this: *Provided*, that nothing contained in this act shall prevent any free negro or mulatto from visiting Liberia and returning to the state whenever he may choose to do so.

Appeal provided.

Negroes removing and remaining out of the state 30 days regarded as aliens.
Exceptions.

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted*, That nothing in the two preceding sections hereof, shall be construed to extend to any free negro or mulatto that may be engaged in navigating any ship, vessel or boat under a white commander, or any wagoner or hired servant travelling with his master or employer, or such as may lawfully come into this state, and be detained by sickness or other casualty.

Those engaged in navigation, wagoners and travelling servants, &c. excepted.

SEC. 4. *And be it enacted*, That it shall not be lawful from and after the first day of June next, to import or bring into this state, by land or water, any negro, mulatto, or other slave, for sale, or to reside within this state; *Provided*, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to alter or annul any of the acts now in force, in relation to the rights of non-residents to remove to or from, or employ their slaves upon their islands in the Potomac river; and any person or persons offending, shall forfeit for every such offence, any negro, mulatto, or other slave, brought into this state contrary to this act; and such negro, mulatto, or other slave, shall be entitled to freedom, upon condition that he consent to be sent to Liberia, or to leave the state forthwith; otherwise such negro, or mulatto, or other slave, shall be seized and taken and confined in jail by the sheriff of the county, where the offence is committed; which sheriff shall receive ten dollars for every negro, mulatto, or other slave so brought into this state, and forfeited as aforesaid, and seized and taken by him, to be recovered in an action of debt, in his own name, before any justice of the peace, as small debts are recovered, from the person or persons so offending; moreover, said sheriff shall receive five dollars for such negro, mulatto, or other slave, actually confined by him in jail, and the usual prison fees now allowed by law; and any person or persons so offending under this act, shall be punished by indictment in the

Prohibition against bringing slaves into this state.

Exceptions.

Any slave so brought is forfeited and entitled to freedom. On condition of leaving the state.

Must be committed, &c.

Compensation to sheriffs.

Further penalty for the offence.