

NEGROES AND SLAVES.

81. The constables of said county shall arrest and bring before a justice of the peace any slave who may be going at large and hiring himself, within their respective districts, and who may not have a fixed home in the family or on the estate of his owner, or be hired to and in the regular employ of another person, by virtue of a contract in writing with his owner.

82. If, upon such slave being brought before him, the justice shall be satisfied that he was going at large, contrary to law, he shall issue an order to the constable to hire such slave for the entire residue of the year in which he was arrested.

83. The several constables shall keep an account of the slaves by them hired out, and the amount of hire received for each, and submit such account, and pay such money to the county commissioners of said county for the use of the county.

84. The county commissioners shall allow the justice before whom any slave may be taken, twenty-five cents, and to the constable two dollars, for every slave taken up and hired out; but in no instance shall the allowance to a constable exceed two-thirds of the amount paid over to the county commissioners.

85. Any constable who shall refuse or neglect to perform the duty imposed on him by section 81 of this article, shall be subject to a fine of not less than three dollars, to be recovered by indictment in the Circuit Court for said county.

86. No slave being a pilot and hiring himself as such shall be subject to the provisions of section 81 of this article, nor shall other slaves be arrested thereunder during twenty days in the time of harvest.

87. The clerk of the Circuit Court for said county shall not grant license to any free negro to sell merchandise in said county, except by the special order of said court, to be passed, on the recommendation of not less than twelve respectable freeholders of the neighborhood in which such negro proposes to carry on his business, and no license to any free negro shall authorize the sale of ardent spirits.