

the cultivation and improvement of the same; *And Provided* **CHAP. 323.**  
*also*, The names, ages, and sex, of any slaves so removed, shall be recorded in the office of the clerk of the county court of such county in this State, into which the said negroes shall be so removed within thirty days after their removal.

Sec. 5. *And be it enacted*, That it shall be the duty of all justices of the peace in the county, upon information being given them, or any of them, that any negro, mulatto, or other slaves, hath been brought into this State contrary to this act, to issue warrant for any person or persons so offending, in the name of the State of Maryland, and upon any person or persons being brought before him on said warrant, chargeable with the offence aforesaid, to cause any such person or persons to enter into recognizance for her, his, or their personal appearance before the judges of the county court to plead and answer to whatsoever may be there alleged in that behalf, with such penalty in said recognizance as said justice of the peace shall approve; and upon refusal to give such recognizance, such person or persons, so offending, shall be committed to the said jail of the county by said justice of the peace, to be confined until the next meeting of the county court of the county in which said offence shall be committed.

On information of a slave being introduced.

Warrant directed

Recognizance required.

Or committal

Sec. 6. *And be it enacted*, That no free negro or mulatto shall be suffered to keep or carry a firelock of any kind, any military weapon, or any powder or lead, without first obtaining a license from the court of the county or corporation in which he resides; which license shall be annually renewed, and be at any time withdrawn by an order of said court, or any judge thereof; and any free negro or mulatto who shall disregard this provision, shall, on conviction thereof before a justice of the peace, for the first offence pay the cost of prosecution, and forfeit all such arms to the use of the informer; and for the second or any subsequent offence shall, in addition to such costs and forfeiture, be punished with stripes, at the discretion of the justice, not exceeding thirty-nine, or be subject to the penalties of felony.

Negroes forbid to have firelocks, &c.

Without license,

License revokable.

Penalty.

Stripes.

Sec. 7. *And be it enacted*, That it shall not be lawful for any free negro or negroes, slave or slaves, to assemble or attend any meetings for religious purposes, unless conducted by a white licensed or ordained preacher or some respectable white person or persons of the neighborhood, as may be duly authorised by such licensed or ordained preacher, during the continuance of such meeting; and if any such meeting shall be held without being conducted as aforesaid,

Religious meetings of negroes forbid without.

Except attendance &c.