

the said Courts and hereby authorized to judge and determine  
 of the ages of such servants so brought and cause the same to be entered  
 upon Record, and every owner as aforesaid neglecting or refusing  
 to bring such servant or servants before the Court as aforesaid shall  
 not only stand to the Determination of the Court but also forfeit  
 the sum of one Thousand pounds of Tobacco to the King and  
 Queen for support of Government for <sup>depriving</sup> ~~preventing~~ the Court  
 of their opportunity of viewing the parties and if any Master or  
 Servant aforesaid be grounded with the Determination of the Court  
 he shall within the tyme determined for their service produce a certifi-  
 -cated Authentick of such servants age and shall have Remedy to  
 the ages aforesaid mentioned, and forasmuch as disputes have formerly  
 arose at what tyme servants tyme of service whether by Indenture  
 or otherwise should be demanded for the better Explanation whereof for  
 the future Be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid that all servants  
 transported into this Province whether by Indenture or otherwise the  
 tyme of service of service of such servant so bound or adjudged  
 as aforesaid shall be deemed from the first Anchoring of the vessel  
 within this Province any Law usage or Custom to the contrary  
 notwithstanding And be it enacted also by the advice Consent and  
 Authority aforesaid that no Indenture made by any servant during  
 the tyme or service due by former Indenture or by Determination  
 according to the tenor of this Act shall any wayes oblige any servant  
 for longer tyme than by his first Indenture or Determination of the  
 Court shall be limited and appointed provided that this Act nor any  
 thing therein contained shall not give or be construed to give any  
 benefit to any slave whatsoever Provided that this Act nor any  
 thing therein contained be repealed or be construed to be repealed an  
 Act made at the Generall Assembly the 13<sup>th</sup> day of April 1674  
 intituled An Act concerning servants that have bastards And for  
 Encouragement of our Neighbouring Colonies of Virginia  
 Delaware and the Northern parts of America for the taking