

such Master, Mistress, Owner or Owners of such Slave or Slaves his, her or their Executors or Administrators, shall provide sufficient Food and Cloathing for such Slave or Slaves during the continuance of this Act; and not suffer such Slave or Slaves to depart or wander, contrary to the Intent and true Meaning of this Act. Provided, That if any Slave or Slaves shall run away or abscond from the Service of his or her Master, Mistress, Owner or Owners, such Running-away and Absconding, shall not be construed, deemed or taken to be a Departing and Wandering, within the Intent and Meaning of this Act.

AND to the End, that hereafter there may be an uniform and regular Manner of granting Freedom to Slaves, it is enacted, that where any Person or Persons possessed of any Slave or Slaves within this Province, who are or shall be of healthy Constitutions, and found in Mind and Body, capable by Labour to procure to him or them sufficient Food and Raiment, with other requisite Necessaries of Life, and not exceeding Fifty Years of age, and such Person or Persons possessing such Slave or Slaves as aforesaid, and being willing and desirous to set free or manumit such Slave or Slaves, may by writing under his, her or their Hand and Seal, evidenced by two good and sufficient Witnesses at least, grant to such Slave or Slaves their Freedom: And that any Deed or Writing, whereby Freedom shall be granted or given to any such Slave, which shall be intended to take place, in future, shall be good to all Intents, Constructions and Purposes whatsoever from the Time that such Freedom or Manumission is intended to commence by the said Deed or Writing, so that such Deed and Writing be not in Prejudice of Creditors, and that such Slave, at the Time such Freedom or Manumission shall take place or commence, be not above the Age aforesaid, and be able to work, and gain a sufficient Livelyhood and Maintainance according to the true Intent and Meaning of this Act; which Instrument of Writing shall be acknowledged before one Justice of the Peace of the County wherein the Person or Persons granting such Freedom shall reside; which Justice shall indorse on the Back of such Instrument, the Time of the Acknowledgment, and the Party making the same; which he or they, or the Parties concerned, shall cause to be entered among the Records of the County Court, where the Person or Persons granting such Freedom shall reside within Six Months after the Date of such Instrument in Writing.

AND the Clerk or Clerks of the respective County Courts within this Province shall, immediately upon the Receipt of such Instrument, indorse the Time of his receiving the same, and shall well and truly enrol such Deed or Instrument in a good and sufficient Book in Folio, to be regularly alphabeted in the Names of both Parties, and to remain in the Custody of the said Clerk or Clerks for the Time being, among the Records of the respective County Courts; and the said Clerk or Clerks shall on the Back of every such Instrument, in a full legible Hand, make an Indorsement of such Enrolment. And also of the Folio of the Book,