

At a Court held at Saint Marys the 14th of
July 1652 upon a special Warrant
Present

The Governor Mr. Thomas Walton
Col. Fran. Yardley Mr. Job Chandler

Lawrence Sturkey Esq by
Mr. Thomas Mathews his
Attorney Plaintiff
John Carington Nicholas
Whight Defendants

John Carington and Nicholas
Whight this day appearing upon
an Arrest according to a special war-
rant for that purpose and Mr. Tho^s

Mathews the plaintiffs Attorney on the plaintiffs behalf
claiming them as servants and charging them with Neglect
in those employments whereunto they had been entrusted the
Defendants alledged that they had been discharged of their
Service by Articles of Agreement heretofore made between Tho^s
Copley Esq deceased and them dated the 23rd of december last
whereby in Consideration of their Freedom they were to make
a Crop and to pay unto the said Mr. Copley his Successors or of
his assigns certain quantities of Tobacco at the times therein limited
and that they had pitched a Crop accordingly but that by rea-
son of much Rain the plants had been drowned and that there
had been no neglect on their parts but the defendants expres-
sing themselves..... unable or unwilling to give security for per-
formance of the Covenants on their parts and upon perusal
of the said Articles of Agreement it appearing that the said Mr.
Copley had not absolutely thereby freed the said Carington and
Whight but upon Condition of the performance of the Cove-
nants on their parts therein expressed and the Court being
of Opinion that a Bargain of that nature betwixt the Master
and his Apprentice Servants was of no Validity in Law.....
doth therefore for a finall end of the matter in question.....