

the term of service to a longer term so as fully to indemnify the master or mistress for all expenses and loss occasioned by the absconding of such servants.

And be it enacted, That upon the application of any master or mistress or other person legally authorised by such master or mistress, to the County court of the county where such master or mistress or their agent may reside, upon the apprehension of such absconding servant, it shall be lawful for such court at its session, or in the recess of the court for any one judge of said court to grant an order for the sale of all the right of the master or mistress in and to said negro or mulatto servant, to any person or persons, within or without this State: Provided, said court or judge shall be of opinion that such absconding of such slave was not occasioned by improper conduct on the part of his owner or owners agent.

And be it enacted, That the said order shall express the term of service of said negro or mulatto servant, and it shall be lawful for the purchaser or purchasers to remove said negro or mulatto servant out of this state, and hold the same to service for and during the term set forth in said order and no longer.

And be it enacted, That upon the passage of any order by the court for the sale of any negro or servant as aforesaid, it shall be the duty of the clerk of the county where such order may pass, to furnish said negro with a copy of the deed of manumission where he may be entitled to his freedom by manumission, under seal of office, and in case said negro or mulatto may be entitled to freedom by will, then and in that case upon application to the Register of Wills where the will shall be recorded, from which said negro derives his freedom, and it shall be the duty of said clerk to make application and the duty of said register to make out for said clerk under seal of office, so much of said will as may be necessary to shew when and on what terms said negro is entitled to his freedom, together with the order of the court directing the sale under seal of office, the expense of which shall be paid out of the purchase money.

And be it enacted, That all laws contrary to the provisions of this act, are hereby repealed.