

all intents and purposes whatsoever, as if the Slave giving evidence or testimony was free, baptized, and not under servitude or bondage to any person whatsoever.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that whoever shall hereafter by deed, or will, or by any other ways or means whatsoever manumit, set free, or discharge from Slavery any Negro or other Slave or Slaves, such person or persons shall for the better support of such Negro or Slave, and to prevent their becoming burthensome to the parish in which he, she, or they, shall live or reside, deposit, or direct to be paid into the hands of the churchwarden for the time being of the said parish, for each Negro or other Slave so manumitted, set free, or discharged from Slavery, the sum of fifty pounds current money, to be by the said churchwarden and the vestry of the said parish for the time being improved to the best advantage; and the said vestry shall direct and appoint the sum of four pounds current money for the maintenance and support of such person so manumitted and set free, to be annually paid to him or her; and in case such person or persons shall neglect or refuse to deposit, or direct such sum to be paid for the purpose aforesaid, the same shall by the churchwarden for the time being, immediately after such manumission or freedom be recovered by action in the court of common pleas for the proper precinct, or by a suit in equity against the person or persons, or his, her, or their representative giving such freedom; and be levied on his, her, or their proper estate, which is hereby made chargeable with the payment thereof. And if the said vestry shall, after the payment or recovery of the sum before mentioned, refuse to appoint such annual sum to the said free person, or the same shall not be annually paid to him or her, he or she shall, and is hereby enabled and empowered to recover the said annuity as in case of servants' wages before any justice of the peace, who is hereby directed and required to hear and determine the same, and to proceed thereon against the churchwarden of the said parish for the time being, in manner aforesaid.

Recites the vestry of former law respecting the manumission of Slaves.

The sum of fifty pounds to be paid on the manumitting of a Slave.

The manumitted Slave to receive four pounds per annum.

Mode of recovering the fifty pounds, and also the four pounds per annum.

Churchwarden to proceed to enforce the manumission of Slaves, directed to be paid by will.

Read three times and passed the Council unanimously, and was assented to by his Excellency, this 27th day of February, 1739.

(Signed) WILLIAM DUKE, Deputy Clerk of Council.

Read and passed the General Assembly this 12th day of February, 1739, *nemine contradicente*.

(Signed) EDWARD GROVE, Deputy Clerk of the General Assembly.

(Signed) ROBERT BYNG.

No. 2. (Voucher.)

Barbadoes.—An Act to amend an Act of this Island, entitled "An Act for amending an Act of this Island, entitled an Act for the governing of Negroes, and for providing a proper Maintenance and Support for such Negroes, Indians, or Mulattoes, as hereafter shall be manumitted or set free; as also for preventing certain Inconveniences from them arising to the Inhabitants of this Island."

WHEREAS by an Act of this island, bearing date the twenty-seventh day of February, one thousand seven hundred and thirty-nine, entitled "An Act for amending An Act of this Island, entitled an Act for the the Governing of Negroes, and for providing a proper Maintenance and Support for such Negroes, Indians, or Mulattoes, as hereafter shall be manumitted or set free; as also for preventing certain Inconveniences from them arising to the Inhabitants of this Island," it is enacted that whoever shall hereafter, by deed or will, or by any other ways or means whatsoever, manumit, set free, or discharge from slavery, any Negro or other Slave or Slaves, such person or persons shall for the better support of such Negro or Slave, and to prevent their becoming burthensome to the parish in which he, she, or they shall live or reside, deposit or direct to be paid into the



hands of the churchwarden for the time being of the said parish, for each Negro or other Slave so manumitted, set free, or discharged from slavery, the sum of fifty pounds current money to be by the said churchwarden and the vestry of the said parish for the time being, improved to the best advantage; and the said vestry shall direct and appoint the sum of four pounds current money for the maintenance and support of such person so manumitted and set free, to be annually paid to him or her; which wholesome provision of the said Act, and wise intention of the Legislature are now totally evaded by the artifice and contrivance of persons about to manumit or set free their Slaves, by making a conveyance of such Slave or Slaves intended to be manumitted, to some insolvent person, who immediately executes a deed of manumission by which means the parish is defrauded of the said sum of fifty pounds, and the person so set free, deprived of the said annuity and reduced to necessity of seeking a dishonest means of livelihood: be it therefore enacted by his Excellency David Parry, Esquire, Captain General, Governor and Commander in Chief of this island, Chancellor, Ordinary, and Vice Admiral of the same, the Honourable the Members of His Majesty's Council and the General Assembly of this island, and by the authority of the same, that for the future any person who shall be minded to manumit or set free any Negro or Slave, shall actually deposit or pay into the hands of the churchwarden for the time being of the parish in which such person lives or resides, the sum of fifty pounds current money, and take a receipt or certificate of the said churchwarden for the same, and without such payment, and such receipt, or certificate, the deed of manumission or instrument of writing, shall be as to the purpose of manumitting such Slave void and of no effect, and the said Negro or Slave so intended to be manumitted, shall remain and continue, and to all intents and purposes shall be as such a Slave as if no such deed of manumission, or instrument of writing had been made.

Recites the evading of former law respecting the manumission of Slaves.

Clause 1. The manumission of a Slave, without the payment of £50 declared void.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that if any person shall hereafter by will or other writing direct any Negro or Slave to be manumitted after the death of such person, or at any other future time, and the heir-at-law, executor, or other person so directed to manumit such Slave shall, in order to save the said sum of fifty pounds, and to retain the said Slave in slavery, neglect to pay the sum of fifty pounds, current money, into the hands of the churchwarden of the parish, and to manumit the said Slave within three months after the time appointed for the manumission of said Slave, the said churchwarden may, and he is hereby authorized and required to sue in his own name, in the court of the proper precinct, or proceed by suit in equity, for the said sum of fifty pounds, and as soon as he shall recover and receive the same, he shall execute a deed of manumission in his own name, which shall be effectual to manumit and set free the said Negro or Slave, (anything in this Act before seeming to the contrary notwithstanding.

Clause 2. Churchwarden to proceed to enforce the manumission of Slaves, directed to be paid by will.

Read three times, and passed the Council with the amendments, this twenty-first day of January, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three.

(Signed) FRAS. WORKMAN, Deputy Clerk of the Council.

Read three times, and passed the General Assembly, *nemine contradicente*, the twenty-sixth day of November, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-two.

(Signed) SAM. MOORE, Clerk of the General Assembly.

Assented to by his Excellency, the twenty-second day of January one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three.

(Signed) FRA. WORKMAN, Deputy Secretary.

Read three times, and passed the General Assembly with the amendments, *nemine contradicente*, this twenty-first day of January one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three.

(Signed) SAM. MOORE, Clerk of the General Assembly.