

and Justice may to know and govern at the parish charges the respective Negroes and their owners
and other of their parish officers to speak about their parish and church matters.

And whatsoever the Negroes themselves and other officers so required to appear
and when to be given at the house shall fail to come and use to attending
and when being yet given or sent at the said Justice that approve or allowed
off these forfeits 500. of the said Justice to be levied by the warrant of distress
from the said Justice to the next Constable and be employed to the use of the
poor of the said parish for the defraying of other parish duties or charges the
Constable to be allowed some amount for his distressing this in case of
refusal to be returned to the Court of the said Justice until he shall perform the same

Dated August 30 1656.

At

An Act for the better ordering and governing of Negroes

Whereas heretofore many good laws and Ordinances have been made for
the governing and regulating and ordering the Negroes slaves in this
Kingdom by many their misdeeds and offences
which yett not with the effect might have been
reasonably expected had the Masters of families and other the Inhabitants
of this Kingdom been so true full of their obedience and compliance with the said
Laws as they ought have been And these former Laws being in many
places imperfect and not fully comprehending the true constitution of this
Government in relation of their slaves their Negroes an unchristianish brutish and
an unchristianish dangerous kind of people to whom if surely in any thing we
may extend the Christian power given us of missionary laws for the
benefit and good of this plantation not being contrary to the Laws
of England this being in all the body of that Law we have to give us
where to walk nor any rule set for how to govern these slaves yett we
will know by the right rule of reason and ord. we are not to leave them to
the Arbitrary rule and outrageous wills of every ill disposed person but
so far to protect them as we see many other goods and Estates and also
somewhat farther as being treated Men though without the knowledge of God
in the world we have therefore upon matters and serious consideration of
the purpose thought good to renew and revise whatsoever was law found

... is useful in the former law of the ...
... to add thereto ...
... for the public safety and may ...
... to the future ...
... and ...
... and for the ...

Chapter 1. Be it enacted published and declared and it is by the ...
... of the ... and by authority of the said ...
... that no ... shall give their ...
... to go out of their plantations except ...
... at home and abroad and then with a ...
... and ...

Section 163 ...
... shall give their ...
... to go out of their plantations except ...
... at home and abroad and then with a ...
... and ...

Section 164 ...
... shall give their ...
... to go out of their plantations except ...
... at home and abroad and then with a ...
... and ...

Chapter 2. It is further enacted ...
... that if any Negro man or
... shall offer any ...
... for his and their first offence by ...
... shall be severely whipped by the ...
... for the second offence of that nature by order of the ...