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# PAPERS

PRESENTED TO PARLIAMENT BY HIS  
MAJESTY'S COMMAND,

CONTAINING

AN ABSTRACT OF

## ACTS

PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURES OF

THE WEST INDIA COLONIES,

SINCE THE 15th MAY, 1823,

FOR IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF SLAVES.

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1826.

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**TITLES of all Acts passed by the Legislatures of the Slave Colonies since 15th May, 1823, and containing any provisions for promoting the Religious Instruction of the Slaves, or the better observance of the Sabbath, distinguishing the names of the Colonies, the dates of the Acts, the numbers of the Sections in which such provisions are contained, and the general tenor and effect of such provisions, and specifying whether the same Acts have been allowed or disallowed by, or are now under the consideration of the King in Council.**

**The Titles of all Acts passed by the said Legislatures since 15th May, 1823, and containing any provisions respecting the admissibility of the Evidence of Slaves, distinguishing and specifying as before.**

**The Titles of all Acts passed by the said Legislatures since 15th of May, 1823, and containing any provisions respecting the Marriage of Slaves; distinguishing as before.**

**The Titles of all Acts passed by the said Legislatures since 15th May, 1823, and containing any provisions for facilitating the Manumission of Slaves; distinguishing as before.**

**The Titles of all Acts passed by the said Legislatures since 15th May, 1823, and containing any provisions for preventing the Sale of Slaves detached from the Estates of their Owners; distinguishing as before.**

**The Titles of all Acts passed by the said Legislatures since 15th May, 1823, and containing any provisions for preventing the Separation of Slaves from their Relations; distinguishing as before.**

**The Titles of all Acts passed by the said Legislatures since 15th May, 1823, and containing any provisions for enabling Slaves to acquire property; distinguishing as before.**

**The Titles of all Acts passed by the said Legislatures since 15th May, 1823, and containing any provisions respecting the office of Protector and Guardian of Slaves.**

**And, The Titles of all Acts passed by the said Legislatures since 15th May 1823, and containing any provisions for restraining or regulating the Punishments of Slaves by their Masters, or those having authority from their Masters; distinguishing, as before; viz., Jamaica—Barbadoes—Bahamas—Grenada—Tobago—St. Vincent—Dominica—St. Kitts.**



# ABSTRACT

## OF THE ACTS PASSED IN THE WEST INDIA COLONIES

SINCE THE 15TH MAY, 1823,

FOR IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF SLAVES.

## JAMAICA.

TITLE.	DATE.	HOW DEALT WITH.	
An Act to prevent Levies on Slaves on Saturday.	16th Dec. 1824.	Under considera- tion.	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Provisions for promoting the Religious Instruction of the Slaves, or the better Observance of the Sabbath.</i></p> <p>AFTER a preamble reciting that, in these times of general distress, many planters are greatly indebted, and by reason of such debts are unable to allow their Slaves to go abroad upon any other than the Sabbath-day; And whereas it is expedient to render the Sabbath as much as possible a day of rest and for religious worship; And whereas it would be right that Slaves should be protected on some other day in the week besides Sunday from being taken or levied upon for debt, under any process issued out of any of the courts of justice in this island, or by collecting-constables for taxes; it is enacted that from and after the first day of January next, it shall not be lawful to make any levy upon any Negro or other Slave on Saturday, and that they shall be exempt from all such process, and also from levies by collecting constables for taxes on that day the same as on Sunday.</p> <p>[N. B. <i>This Act is not divided into numbered sections.</i>]</p> <p>It shall be part of the duty of each rector in the island, to appropriate a certain portion of time on each Sunday, either before or after the performance of divine worship, for the instruction of every free person, and of every Slave who may be willing to be baptized and instructed in the doctrines of the Christian religion; and such rector shall, during such portion of time, attend in his church for the performance of this part of his duty.</p> <p>The rectors and curates of the several parishes in the island shall, besides their accustomed ministerial duties, visit and attend some one or other of the estates or plantations, workhouses, hospitals, and gaols, and to all patients and prisoners in such hospitals, workhouses, and gaols in their respective parishes, as the bishop for the time shall order and direct, for the purpose of affording instruction to the Slaves belonging to the said estates and plantations, or confined in the said workhouses, hospitals, and gaols, in the doctrines of the Christian religion, and also of baptizing or marrying any of such</p>
An Act to consolidate and amend the several Laws relating to the Clergy of this Island, and to invest the Bishop of Jamaica with Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.	21st Dec. 1825.		

## JAMAICA.

TITLE.	DATE.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions for Promoting the Religious Instruction of the Slaves, or the better Observance of the Sabbath.
An Act to consolidate and amend the several Laws relating to the Clergy of this Island, and to invest the Bishop of Jamaica with Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.	21st Dec. 1825.	Under consideration.	<p data-bbox="669 274 1341 399">Slaves, provided that the consent and approbation of the person in possession of the estate or plantation so intended to be visited, shall be first had and obtained for that purpose.</p> <p data-bbox="669 433 1341 1124">After a preamble reciting that, by an Act passed in the fifty-seventh year of King George the Third, provision was made for the appointment by the governor of curates for the several parishes of this island, to propagate the gospel among the Slaves of the island, and to instruct them in the tenets of the Christian religion, it is enacted, that the several curates of the island appointed, or to be appointed, by the governor, shall be allowed the sum of five hundred pounds current money, to be paid quarterly by the receiver-general, on the production of a certificate under the hand of the bishop, stating therein that such curate has actually and <i>bonâ fide</i> resided in the parish, and well and truly, either himself or by some other minister officiating in his behalf, attended to and performed the several duties appertaining to his office as curate, during the whole time for which payment shall be required, every such certificate to be left with the receiver-general of this island for the time being. [Here follow provisions respecting the absence of the curates from the island.]</p> <p data-bbox="669 1147 1341 1499">In every church and chapel, on every estate or plantation, and at every workhouse, hospital, and gaol which the rectors and curates shall be in the habit of visiting, a book shall be kept by the minister officiating, in which shall be entered an account of the times of his attendance for the performance of his ministerial duties, and the numbers or parties of Slaves whom he may have on that day baptized or married, which book shall be at all times open to the inspection of the bishop, or of those whom he may appoint,</p> <p data-bbox="669 1521 1341 1646">No fee or reward whatever is to be taken by any minister, in the several parishes of the island, from any Slave, for the performance of any duty by the act prescribed.</p> <p data-bbox="669 1680 1341 1873">Every curate who shall, without the written authority of the rector of the parish, perform any surplice duty, or receive any fee, reward, or gratuity, for any surplice duty, except the parties be Slaves, shall forfeit and pay to the rector of the parish the sum of twenty pounds for each offence.</p> <p data-bbox="669 1896 1341 2190">The curate of each parish shall at all times reside in the parish whereof he shall be curate, and shall at all times perform divine service, and preach, either himself or some other minister officiating in his behalf, once at least on every Lord's day, in the chapel, or, for want of a chapel, in such other place as shall be provided and appointed for the purpose by the justices and vestry of the parish (accidental or temporary cases of sickness and other inevitable</p>

## JAMAICA.

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TITLE.	DATE.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions for promoting the Religious Instruction of the Slaves, or the better Observance of the Sabbath.
An Act to consolidate and amend the several Laws relating to the Clergy of this Island, and to invest the Bishop of Jamaica with Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.	21st Dec. 1825.	Under consideration.	<p>prevention excepted); and every such curate shall moreover, once in every week, at a day and hour to be by him for that purpose appointed, attend for a reasonable space of time, not less than one hour, in his chapel, or, in default of a chapel, in such other place as shall be provided and appointed for divine worship as aforesaid, in order to perform the duties of his function relating to the catechism and instruction in the Christian religion, and shall accordingly perform such duties towards all persons, free or slave (accidental and temporary cases of sickness and other inevitable prevention excepted), and that without fee or reward.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Provisions respecting the Marriage of Slaves.</i></p> <p>AFTER enacting that it shall be lawful for every minister of the established church, whether he be in priest's or deacon's orders, to solemnize marriage, and after reciting that it is expedient that every facility should be given and every encouragement afforded to the Slave population of this island to marry, it is enacted that it shall be lawful for the several curates of this island to marry Slaves, either on the estates to which they belong, or at the chapel or other place appointed as aforesaid for divine worship; and the banns of marriage of such Slaves shall be duly published in the churches or chapels of the respective parishes in which the Slaves to be married shall reside, provided the consent in writing of the proprietor, attorney, or manager of the estate or estates on which such Slaves reside shall have been previously had and obtained, and shewn to the rector or curate, which is declared to be a sufficient authority.</p> <p>A separate book shall be kept in each parish, in which entries shall be made by the rector, of all christenings, marriages, and burials of Slaves solemnized by him or the curate; but it shall not be requisite to transmit copies thereof to the registrar of the diocese.</p> <p>The curate of each parish shall, at the end of every three months, make a return, on oath, to the rector of the parish, of all baptisms, marriages, and burials which shall have been solemnized by him, and every such rector shall thereupon enter, in the register-book of the parish, every such baptism, marriage, or burial, according to such return.</p> <p>[N. B. <i>This Act is not divided into numbered sections.</i>]</p>



TITLE.	DATE.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions for facilitating the Manumission of Slaves.
An Act for removing Impediments to the Manumission of Slaves by Owners having only a limited Interest.	16th Dec. 1824.	Under consideration.	<p>AFTER a preamble reciting that it sometimes happens that persons in possession of Slaves, by reason of their having only an interest for life or other limited freehold estate in such Slaves, or by limitations, trusts, or other legal impediments, are prevented from giving an effectual manumission to such Slaves, although desirous so to do; and it is proper that owners should possess in all cases the power of rewarding fidelity and good conduct in their Slaves, by manumission, where the same can be effected without prejudice to the rights of other persons; it is enacted that any person having legal or equitable estate for life, or for other freehold interest in and being in the actual possession of any Slave, and who shall be desirous or consenting that such Slave shall be made free, shall be entitled to make an application to the custos of the parish where such Slave shall reside, and in case such custos shall be related to the party applying, or interested in the matter, then to some other magistrate, and shall deliver a written statement, verified upon the oath of the applicant, or in case of absence, of his attorney, stating the nature and extent of the interest of such person, and the different rights, claims, and limitations, to which such Slave is subject, and the impediments which prevent such Slave being manumitted in the ordinary manner, and such custos or other magistrate shall associate to himself two other magistrates disinterested in the matter, and shall inquire into the merits of the application, and if such application shall appear to the said magistrates, or any two of them, to be well founded, three indifferent persons shall be appointed as valuers, one of whom to be named by the party applying, and another by the person or persons entitled in remainder, or otherwise interested, and appearing before the said magistrates, and the third to be nominated by the said magistrates; and in case no other person or persons shall appear before the said magistrates having an interest in the said Slave, then two of the said valuers shall be appointed by the said magistrates, and such three persons shall inquire into the value of the Slave so intended to be manumized, and shall make their report in writing under their signatures to the said three magistrates, provided that before such custos or other magistrate shall entertain such application, it shall be made appear to him that notice has been given in the three county newspapers, for three weeks successively, of the intention to make such application, stating the name of the person applying, the name of the Slave, the place where such Slave has been resident for the last twelve months, and the time when such application is intended to be made; and it is further enacted, that when such valuation shall be reported and approved of, the said custos or other magistrate and his associates, shall give an authority to the Receiver-General, to</p>

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TITLE.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions for facilitating the Manumission of Slaves.
An Act for removing Impediments to the Manumission of Slaves by Owners having only a limited Interest.	16th Dec. 1824.	Under consideration.	<p>receive the amount of the valuation, and to place the sum when paid to the credit of the person or persons interested in the said Slave; and the said amount shall bear an interest of six per cent., payable out of the public funds, so long as the same shall remain in the hands of the Receiver-General. And it is further enacted, that the Receiver-General shall give to the party paying in the amount, a certificate that the same has been paid to him, and upon the production of such certificate to the said custos or other magistrate and his associates, they are again to meet and to give an order for the manumission of the said Slave in manner following. [Here follows the form of the order of manumission.]</p> <p>The order of manumission, together with the valuation, and the Receiver-General's certificate, annexed thereto, shall be entered in the office of the Secretary of the island, and be recorded in a separate book for manumissions, and shall not be delivered out except under an order of the Court of Chancery or Supreme Court, but shall be kept in the said office as original documents, and a certified copy of the same shall be received as evidence in all courts, and be of the same force as the originals. [Here follow provisions for disposing of the amount of the valuation among the persons entitled to it.]</p> <p>After a preamble reciting that it is now required by law, in all cases of manumission by deed, that a bond should be given to the churchwardens of the parish for payment of an annuity of five pounds for the maintenance of any Slave intended to be manumized, and that such bond is in many cases unnecessary, it is enacted that it shall not be necessary to give such bond to the churchwardens, provided that in lieu thereof the Slave intended to be manumized shall be produced to the magistrates and vestry of the parish where such Slave shall reside, or it shall be otherwise shewn, to their satisfaction, that the manumission is not given for the purpose of relieving the owner from the obligation of maintaining an aged or infirm Slave, a certificate whereof shall be given by the clerk of the vestry, and shall be annexed to and entered in the Secretary's office with the deed of manumission.</p>
An Act to enable Slaves to receive Bequests of Money or other personal Estate.	21st Dec. 1825.	Under consideration.	<p>AFTER a preamble reciting that all legacies to Slaves are void by law, and executors are thereby prevented from paying the same, although they have sufficient assets for that purpose, without first obtaining the sanction of the persons interested in the estate of their testator. And that it is expedient that the owners of Slaves or other persons should have it in their power to reward the fidelity of Slaves, or to make them a bequest as a reward for their services or good conduct: It is enacted that from and after the passing of this Act, any pecuniary bequests or legacy of a chattel to a Slave</p>

## JAMAICA.

TITLE.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provision for facilitating the Manumission of Slaves.
An Act to enable Slaves to receive Bequests of Money or other personal Estate.	21st Dec. 1825.	Under consideration.	<p>shall be deemed to be a valid and legal bequest or legacy, and the executor shall be authorized to pay the amount of such legacy, or to deliver such chattel to such Slave. Provided that nothing therein contained shall be deemed to authorize the institution of any action or suit at law, or in equity, for the recovery of such legacy; or to make it necessary to make any Slave a defendant to a suit in equity.</p> <p>It does not appear from the documents received at this department, that any act has been passed by the Legislature of Jamaica since the fifteenth of May one thousand eight hundred and twenty-three, containing any provisions respecting the admissibility of the evidence of Slaves—for preventing the sale of Slaves detached from the estates of their owners—for preventing the separation of Slaves from their relations—for restraining or regulating the punishments of Slaves by their masters, or those having authority from their masters—provisions for enabling Slaves to acquire and enjoy property—Nor any provisions respecting the office of protector and guardian of Slaves.</p>

## BARBADOES.

TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions respecting the admissibility of Evidence of Slaves.
<p>An Act to repeal several Acts and Clauses of Acts, respecting Slaves, and for consolidating and bringing into one Act the several Laws relating thereto, &amp; for the better ordering and government of Slaves, &amp; for giving them further Protection and Security for altering the Mode of Trial of those charged with capital, and other Offences, and for other Purposes.</p>	<p>25th March, 1825.</p>	<p>Reserved for revision and amendment by the Legislature.</p>	<p>If any white, free black,<sup>s</sup> or free coloured person, shall sell, barter, or give to any Slave or Slaves, any gunpowder, warlike or mischievous weapon or weapons, or any poison, noxious or destructive drug, substance, or thing, and the same shall be established to the satisfaction of any two justices of the peace; the said justices are hereby authorized and empowered to set a fine upon the person so offending, in any sum not exceeding the sum of fifty pounds current money; but if such offence cannot be fully proved, and the Slave to whom any such gunpowder, warlike or mischievous weapon or weapons, or such poison, noxious or destructive drug, substance, or thing, was or were alleged to have been sold, bartered, or given by any such person, shall be produced before the said justices, and shall make a particular, consistent, and probable statement of all the circumstances of such sale, barter, or gift, the party accused shall thereupon be considered guilty of the offence, and be convicted in a penalty not exceeding the sum of fifty pounds as aforesaid, unless such party shall by his own oath, or the oath or oaths of some credible witness or witnesses, prove that he did not sell, barter, or give to such Slave, any such gunpowder, warlike or mischievous weapon, or weapons, or any such poison, noxious or destructive drug, substance, or thing, as aforesaid; and it is enacted, that if on the trial of any offender, under the provisions of this clause, it shall appear to the said justices, upon clear and positive testimony, that such offender knew that such gunpowder, warlike or mischievous weapon, or weapons, or such poison, noxious or destructive drug, substance, or thing, so by him or her sold, bartered, or given, to any Slave, was or were for any mischievous and illegal purpose or purposes, the said justices shall forthwith commit such offender to the common gaol of this island, there to remain, without bail or mainprize, until such offender can be tried at the Court of Grand Sessions, and who, on the conviction thereof, at the said Court of Grand Sessions, shall suffer death without benefit of clergy, or transportation for life, as the court in its discretion shall think fit to inflict.—Section 49.</p> <p>From and after the passing of the Act, the evidence of Slaves shall, as heretofore, be taken and received in all cases against each other.—Section 60.</p>

TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions for facilitating the Manumission of Slaves.
<p>An Act to repeal several Acts and Clauses of Acts respecting Slaves, and for consolidating and bringing into one Act the several Laws relating thereto, &amp; for the better ordering and government of Slaves, &amp; for giving them further Protection and Security for altering the Mode of Trial of those charged with capital and other Offences, and for other Purposes.</p>	<p>25th March, 1925.</p>	<p>Reserved for revision and amendment by the Legislature.</p>	<p>If any Slave shall discover, and give information of any evil designs or plots of any other Slave, or of any free person or persons, of any description whatsoever, for the beginning, encouraging, or keeping up, of any mutiny, insurrection, or rebellion; or of the possession or concealment by any Slave of any gunpowder, or mischievous or warlike instruments, for the purpose of insurrection or rebellion, whereby the accused thereof should be convicted, every such Slave, so causing such conviction as aforesaid, shall be appraised at his or her full value, not exceeding two hundred pounds current money, by the jury before whom the accused may be tried; and the court shall make certificate thereof to the treasurer of the island, requiring him to pay, and he is directed to pay, the value of such Slave to the owner thereof. And it is enacted, that such Slave, so making such discovery, and giving such information as aforesaid, shall, on full conviction of the accused as aforesaid, be declared free, and shall accordingly from thenceforth be absolutely free to all intents and purposes whatsoever, and shall, at the public expense, be sent wherever his or her wishes may point out, and be paid the annual sum of ten pounds current money from the public treasury; but should such Slave prefer remaining in his or her owner's possession to be freed, such Slave shall, in that case, annually, and every year, be paid the sum of twenty-five pounds current money, from the public treasury, during his or her natural life.—<i>Section 48.</i></p>
			<p>Every Slave who, in the time of invasion, by any foreign enemy, or other attempt to be made in the island, or in case of rebellion, shall engage and courageously behave in battle, or who shall by any means kill or destroy one or more of the enemy or rebels, shall, upon the report thereof, supported by the oath of any two credible white persons, before the commander-in-chief of the island for the time being, be rewarded at the public expense, in such manner as the legislature may think fit to direct: and should the legislature conceive that such Slave should be rewarded with freedom, it shall and may be lawful for them to declare such Slave free, and have the value of such Slave ascertained and paid to the owner thereof, from the public treasury, not exceeding the sum of one hundred pounds current money. <i>Section 50.</i></p>
			<p>If any Slave shall commit any capital or other offence against the provisions of the present or any other act of this island, and such Slave shall thereafter be manumitted and set free from slavery, such Slave shall nevertheless be tried in like manner, and be subject and liable to the same punishment for any such offence, as if he had not been so manumitted and set free, but still continuing in slavery. Provided always, that if the offence committed by</p>

## BARBADOES.

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TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions <i>for facilitating the Manumission of Slaves.</i>
An Act to repeal several Acts and Clauses of Acts respecting Slaves, and for consolidating and bringing into one Act the several Laws relating thereto, and for the better ordering and government of Slaves, and for giving them further Protection and Security for altering the Mode of Trial of those charged with capital and other Offences, and for other Purposes.	25th March 1825.	Reserved for revision and amendment by the Legislature.	<p>any such Slave be a minor offence, only subjecting such Slave to be whipped, such Slave shall not be liable to be punished for the same as a Slave, unless complaint thereof be made to some justice of the peace within one month after such offence shall be committed.—<i>Section 61.</i></p> <p><i>Provisions for restraining or regulating the Punishments of Slaves by their Masters, or those having Authority from their Masters.</i></p> <p>AFTER a preamble, reciting that it is highly expedient to restrain owners and other persons having the government and direction of Slaves, from indiscriminately, wantonly, and cruelly exercising the power they possess over their Slaves, and that, as the cruelty of punishment by flogging necessarily depends much more upon the manner of inflicting it, than upon the number of stripes, it is therefore deemed most conducive to the ends of humanity to trust to the discretion and good feelings of the justices before whom complaints of such offences shall be made, it is enacted that if any person shall hereafter commit any wanton act or acts of cruelty towards any Slave, or if the same shall be committed by his direction or order, or with his knowledge, privity, or consent, or shall wantonly, maliciously, and cruelly whip, beat, or bruise any Slave, or keep in confinement, without sufficient food and support, any Slave, or shall suffer, permit, cause or procure the same to be done, whether such Slave may or may not belong to him, such person shall be summoned before any two justices of the peace, to answer for the offence, and such justices are ordered, on conviction thereof, to impose a penalty on the person so offending, not exceeding twenty-five pounds, according to the nature of the offence.—<i>Section 44.</i></p> <p>It shall be lawful for any justice of the peace, and he is required, upon complaint or information of any offence aforesaid being made or given to him by any person whomsoever, whether such person be a white, free coloured, or free black person, or a Slave, to summon the offender, and such Slave so alleged to have been cruelly punished, and all such witnesses as may be material to prove the said offence, and to take down the examination of such offender in writing, and also the state, appearance, marks, and condition of the Slave, and all other circumstances that may be necessary to prove the fact, and to join to him some other justice of the peace, and to examine into the alleged offence, which if proved to their satisfaction, they shall set a fine on the offender not exceeding twenty-five pounds currency each, for every Slave so cruelly punished as aforesaid, whether such Slave or Slaves may or may not belong to such offender: but if such offence cannot be fully proved, and the Slave so alleged to have been cruelly punished shall be produced before the said justices, and if the marks</p>

TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions for restraining or regulating the Punishments of Slaves by their Masters, or those having Authority from their Masters.
<p>An Act to repeal several Acts and Clauses of Acts respecting Slaves, and for consolidating and bringing into one Act the several Laws relating thereto, and for the better ordering and government of Slaves, and for giving them further Protection and Security, for altering the Mode of Trial of those charged with capital and other Offences, and for other Purposes.</p>	<p>25th March 1825.</p>	<p>Reserved for revision and amendment by the Legislature.</p>	<p>or traces of recent flogging, laceration, or punishment shall appear on the person of such Slave; and if such Slave shall, before the said justices, declare such marks or traces to be the consequence of such cruel and unlawful punishment or correction, and being duly examined by the said justices, shall make a particular, consistent, and probable statement of all the circumstances attendant on such cruel and unlawful punishment, then, and in every such case, the party accused shall thereupon be considered guilty of the offence, and be convicted in any sum not exceeding the penalty aforesaid, unless such party shall, by his oath, or by the oath of some credible witness or witnesses, prove that the punishment (of which the marks or traces may be apparent) was not inflicted by him, or by his procurement, or with his knowledge or consent. Provided always, that if any Slave shall make complaint of any such offence as aforesaid, and, upon the hearing thereof before the said justices, the same shall appear to them to be frivolous, vexatious, or unfounded, the said justices are directed and required to order every such Slave to be whipped, not exceeding thirty-nine stripes.—Section 44.</p> <p>If any white or free person shall maim, mutilate, or dismember, or cause to be maimed, mutilated or dismembered, any Slave, whether such Slave may or may not belong to him, he shall for every such offence be prosecuted at the Court of Grand Session, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by fine and imprisonment, or either as the court shall think fit; and it shall be lawful for the judge and justices of the said Court of Grand Session, and they are required to order and adjudge such Slave, if maimed, mutilated, or dismembered by his owner, or by the direction of such owner, to be delivered to, and taken possession of, by the treasurer of the Island, to be by him forthwith sold to some person of good and humane repute, for the best price that can be obtained for the same, and the money arising by such sale, to be paid over to the late owner of such Slave, unless there be any debt or debts affecting the said Slave, in which case the money shall be paid to the creditor or creditors, of his owner in due priority. If any owner guilty of any of the offences in this clause mentioned, shall be only tenant for life, in such case the estate for life shall be forfeited, and the person next in remainder shall forthwith be entitled to the possession of such Slave, and may enter and take possession of him accordingly, subject nevertheless in the hands of such remainder-man, to all encumbrances affecting the life-estate of such offender, and for a second offence, the party shall forfeit the possession of the whole of his property in lands and Slaves, and the same shall become vested in certain trustees, to be appointed by the governor and council, to be thereafter by the said trustees conducted for the benefit of such owner and his creditors, and all others in-</p>

## BARBADOES.

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TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions for restraining or regulating the Punishments of Slaves by their Masters, or those having Authority from their Masters.
An Act to repeal several Acts and Clauses of Acts respecting Slaves, and for consolidating and bringing into one Act, the several Laws relating thereto, and for the better ordering and government of Slaves, & for giving them further Protection and Security, for altering the Mode of Trial of those charged with capital and other Offences, & for other Purposes.	25th March 1825.	Reserved for revision and amendment by the Legislature.	<p>interested therein: but if such offender shall be tenant in fee-simple, and he shall so desire it, such property in lands and Slaves shall be sold by an order of the governor and council, and the purchase-money thereof, paid to the creditors, (if any) of such owner, and if there be no such creditors, then to the owner for his use; but if such offender shall be only tenant for life, in such case the property shall be vested in trustees as aforesaid, during the life of such tenant, and the person so offending, shall, for the second offence, be rendered incapable of holding the possession, or having any control, management, or direction whatsoever, over Slaves.—<i>Section 44.</i></p> <p>All punishments by whipping prescribed by this Act, as also all private punishments by or under the orders of the owners or proprietors of Slaves or other persons lawfully authorized thereto, shall be inflicted with the like instrument, and in the like manner now in use and practice in His Majesty's navy and army, and in no other manner whatsoever, except in private punishments where a milder instrument may be preferred and used; and where the punishment of female Slaves by whipping shall be necessary, the same shall be inflicted on the shoulders only of any such female Slave, and in a decent manner without any unnecessary exposure of the body of any such female Slave: and where any female Slave shall be in a state of pregnancy, she shall not on any pretence whatsoever, be punished in any other way than by confinement; and if any person shall offend against the provisions of this clause, every such person shall for every such offence, forfeit the sum of five pounds current money.—<i>Section 45.</i></p> <p>If any person, on any pretence whatsoever, shall fix, or cause to be fixed, any iron collar round the neck of any Slave, whether such Slave be his own property or otherwise; or shall fix, or place, or cause to be fixed or placed, any chains, weights, or irons of any kind, shape, or form whatsoever, on the body or limbs of any Slave, such person shall be prosecuted at the Court of Grand Session, and punished by fine and imprisonment; provided always that nothing in this clause contained shall prevent owners of Slaves from confining refractory and disorderly Slaves, or such as are addicted to run away, in iron or wooden stocks, or secure places of confinement, or by other means of security, so that such Slaves are hereby confined without bodily hurt; and all and every the justices of the peace of this island are hereby authorized, directed, and empowered, on information of such offence, and view of such Slaves, to order such collar, chains, weights, and irons, to be immediately taken off from the Slave or Slaves bearing the same. Provided also, and to the end that runaway and refractory Slaves may be fully punished, be it further enacted, that the owner or possessor of any run-</p>



TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions for restraining or regulating the Punishments of Slaves by their Masters, or those having Authority from their Masters.
<p>An Act to repeal several Acts and Clauses of Acts, respecting Slaves, and for consolidating and bringing into one Act, the several Laws relating thereto, and for the better ordering &amp; government of Slaves, &amp; for giving them further Protection and Security, for altering the Mode of Trial of those charged with capital and other Offences, &amp; for other Purposes.</p>	<p>25th March, 1825.</p>	<p>Reserved for revision and amendment by the Legislature.</p>	<p>way or refractory Slaves or Slave shall and may send him, her, or them to the chain-gang by the said Act directed to be formed, to be kept at work for any term not exceeding six months at any one time; and if such owner or possessor can make it appear to the satisfaction of any justice of the peace, upon his own oath, or the oaths of any credible witness or witnesses, that such the improper conduct of such Slave or Slaves was not occasioned for the want of food or clothing, or from cruel treatment, such owner, proprietor, or possessor shall be allowed and paid out of the public treasury of the island the sum of sevenpence halfpenny per day, for each and every day that such Slave shall work in said gang; provided always that the expense of feeding all such Slaves as shall be sent to the chain-gang for punishment as aforesaid, shall be defrayed out of the public treasury of the island.—Section 46.</p> <p>If any Slave shall run away or absent himself from the service of his owner, or other person having the lawful charge of such Slave; or if any Slave shall misbehave himself to his owner, or other person having the lawful charge of him, and such owner, or other person as aforesaid, shall think fit to prefer a complaint for the same before any justice of the peace, instead of exercising his or her authority on the occasion, such justice to whom any such complaint shall be made, is directed to hear and determine the same, and, upon conviction thereof, to sentence such Slave to be whipped at the discretion of the said justice, not exceeding thirty-nine stripes, or to be worked in the chain-gang for any time not exceeding six months.—Section 54.</p> <p>Provisions for enabling Slaves to acquire and enjoy Property.</p> <p>If any owner, or other person having the charge of any Slave, shall suffer any such Slave to go at large for the purpose of supporting and feeding himself, or paying hire for himself, or to follow any trade, business, or occupation, for the benefit of such Slave, or for the benefit of such owner, or other person having the charge of such Slave, or for the benefit of any other person or persons whomsoever, the person so offending shall forfeit five pounds current money for every such Slave, one moiety thereof to the use of the informer, and the other moiety to be paid into the public treasury; and in every such case the <i>onus probandi</i>, whether any such Slave do or do not go at large contrary to the true intent and meaning of this clause, shall, where the same cannot be fully proved by the complainant, rest upon the party complained against, but who shall nevertheless be allowed to discharge and absolve himself from the penalty aforesaid, by his own oath, provided always that nothing in this clause contained shall extend to any</p>

## BARBADOES.

13

TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions for enabling Slaves to acquire and enjoy Property.
An Act to repeal several Acts and Clauses of Acts, respecting Slaves, and for consolidating and bringing into one Act the several Laws relating thereto, and for the better ordering & government of Slaves, & for giving them further Protection and Security for altering the Mode of Trial of those charged with capital & other Offences, & for other Purposes.	25 March, 1825.	Reserved for revision and amendment by the Legislature.	Slave who shall be regularly settled in any house, shop, or place, in carrying on any kind of trade or business, for the benefit of his master, provided such Slave be furnished with half-yearly licenses for that purpose by his master.— <i>Section 21.</i>
			If any person shall employ any Slave without first agreeing with the owner or other person having the charge of such Slave, such person so offending shall for every Slave so employed, forfeit five pounds current money; provided always that nothing in this clause contained shall extend to any person who may employ any Slave regularly settled in trade or business, and furnished with such licenses in the manner provided for in the immediately preceding clause of this Act.— <i>Section 22.</i>
			It shall be lawful for any person to apprehend any Slave in whose possession may be found any sugar-canes, sugar, rum, cotton, ginger, aloes, plate, wrought or melted down iron, lead, copper, pewter, brass, tin, or other article or thing of what nature or kind soever, and take from such Slave all such goods and articles, unless he be furnished with a ticket descriptive of the same, and within five days after, to restore the same to the lawful owner (if known) on being paid the sum of ten shillings current money by such owner, as and for the trouble of such person in seizing and taking away the same [Here follow provisions for the disposing of goods so seized, if of a punishable nature.] And every slave so found in the possession of any such articles or things without a ticket descriptive of the same as aforesaid, shall, on conviction thereof before any justice of the peace, be whipped at the discretion of such justice, not exceeding thirty-nine stripes.— <i>Section 23.</i>
			Where any Slave shall plant cotton, ginger, or aloes, to his own use, the same shall be reaped under the immediate inspection of some white person living on the plantation or place to which such Slave shall belong; and if there be no white person living on such plantation or place, then the same shall be reaped under the inspection of some proper white person; and when reaped, the same shall, before being bartered, sold, or disposed of, be inspected by some one or more of the cotton inspectors in like manner as by law they are required to inspect cotton, and certificates thereof given, so as to authorize the same being sold, bartered, or disposed of by the person under whose inspection the same was reaped; making oath before the said cotton inspector, or some one of them, that the said cotton, ginger, or aloes was actually and <i>bonâ fide</i> reaped under his immediate inspection, from the lands or gardens of such Slave or Slaves.— <i>Section 23.</i>
			If any person shall let or hire to any other person's Slave, or suffer such Slave at the instance or

TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions for enabling Slaves to acquire and enjoy Property.
<p>An Act to repeal several Acts and Clauses of Acts respecting Slaves, and for consolidating and bringing into one Act the several Laws relating thereto, &amp; for the better ordering and government of Slaves &amp; for giving them further Protection and Security for altering the Mode of Trial of those charged with capital and other Offences, and for other Purposes.</p>	<p>25th March, 1825.</p>	<p>Reserved for revision and amendment by the Legislature.</p>	<p>on the credit of any other person, to have the use or ordering of any land, house, room, or shed, except in case of sickness, or except with the consent of the owner, or other person having the lawful charge of such Slave, the person so offending, shall pay to the churchwarden of the parish where the offender lives, at the rate of five pounds current money per month for every such Slave, for so long time as he or she shall have the use, ordering, or possession of any such land, house, room, or shed, as aforesaid.—Section 31.</p>
			<p>Provisions respecting the Office of Guardian and Protector of Slaves.</p>
			<p>WHERE any Slave shall be charged with any capital offence, and the owner or other person having the charge of such Slave, shall be the prosecutor, by reason of the offence having been committed against the person or property of such owner, or other person, the senior justice of the court shall engage a solicitor for the accused, and also some proper person as a clerk, for the purpose of taking the minutes of the court upon the trial; and the clerk is to return all such minutes to the crown office, there to be preserved as records: and the solicitor so engaged shall be paid his fees by the treasurer of the island.</p>
			<p>And the clerk shall be paid by the said treasurer the sum of two pounds ten shillings, currency, for each day's attendance on the court.—Section 3.</p>
			<p>It does not appear from the documents received at this department that any act has been passed by the legislature of Barbadoes since the 15th of May, 1823, containing any provisions for promoting the religious instruction of the Slaves, or the better observance of the sabbath; respecting the marriage of the Slaves; for preventing the sale of Slaves detached from the estates of their owner; for preventing the separation of Slaves from their relations.</p>

## BAHAMAS.

TITLE of ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions for promoting the Religious Instruction of the Slaves, or the better Observance of the Sabbath.
<p>An Act to amend, consolidate, and bring into one Act the several Laws relating to Slaves, and for giving them further Protection &amp; Security, and for suspending several Acts and Clauses of Acts therein mentioned, and for other Purposes.</p>	<p>28th Jan. 1824.</p>	<p>Under consideration.</p>	<p>ALL owners, or in their absence their overseers, shall, as much as in them lies, endeavour to instruct their Slaves in the Christian religion, and shall do their endeavour to fit them for baptism and as soon as conveniently may be, shall cause to be baptized, all such Slaves as they can make sensible of a Deity, and of the Christian faith.—<i>Section 9.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Provisions respecting the Admissibility of the Evidence of Slaves.</p> <p>THE evidence of Slave against Slave shall in all cases be received.—<i>Section 59.</i></p> <p>Any Slave wilfully giving false evidence on any trial to be had before any Slave court under the act, shall suffer the same punishment as the person or persons on whose trial such false evidence was given would, if convicted, have been liable to suffer, and such other punishment as the justice shall award, not extending to life or limb.—<i>Section 64.</i></p> <p>All such Negroes, Mulattoes, Mustees, and Indians, as have been Slaves, and have been or shall be made free, shall for all misdemeanours and offences under the degree of felony be tried and adjudged in manner and form directed by the Act for the trial of Slaves, and the evidence of Slaves shall be admitted on such trials.—<i>Section 73.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Provisions respecting the Marriage of Slaves.</p> <p>It shall be lawful for the several incumbents of parishes within the colony, each in his respective parish church or chapel, or for any other minister of the established church, in any such church or chapel, with the permission of the incumbent, or if there be no such incumbent there resident, then of the churchwardens of the parish to which such church or chapel may belong, or in parishes, or on islands, being parts of parishes, whereon there shall be no such church or chapel, then for any such incumbent or other such minister as aforesaid, in any private dwelling there situate, upon every Sunday, and between the hours of eight and twelve in the forenoon of every such day, and without the publication of banns, or asking in church.</p>

TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions <i>respecting the Marriage of Slaves.</i>
An Act to amend, consolidate, and bring into one Act the several Laws relating to Slaves, & for giving them further Protection and Security, and for suspending several Acts and Clauses of Acts therein mentioned, and for other purposes.	28th Jan. 1824.	Under consideration.	<p>or any dispensation, license of marriage, or other faculty or license whatever, save as hereinafter is required, and whether the parties then and there to be married, or either of them shall dwell within the parish to which such church or chapel may belong, or within which such private dwelling is situated, or not marriages between Slaves, and between Slaves and free people who are not within the degrees of consanguinity prohibited by God's law, nor labouring under the legal disabilities of a prior marriage, or want of reason, and who profess the Christian religion, on production to such incumbent, or other such minister, of the consent in writing of the owner or owners of such Slave or Slaves respectively on that behalf first had, and to such incumbent or other such minister addressed. Provided always that no such incumbent or other minister as aforesaid shall celebrate any such marriage, unless the persons to be married shall, fourteen days at least, before the celebration of such marriage, respectively deliver, or cause to be delivered to such incumbent or other minister, a memorandum of the Christian name or names of every such person being a Slave, and the christian name or names, and surname or name by reputation of every such person being free, together with the name or names, and place or places of abode of the owner or owners of every such Slave respectively.—<i>Section 10.</i></p> <p>After a preamble in which it is recited that many of the parishes into which the colony has been divided by law, are without incumbents, and in many cases it hath been found expedient that islands and keys separate from each other, should be united into one parish; and that it is necessary to provide for the celebration of such marriages in such of the said parishes whereof there shall be no such incumbent, and on such islands or keys being parts of parishes whereon no such incumbent shall be actually resident. It is enacted that the power of solemnizing such marriages as aforesaid, which thereby is given to the several incumbents or other ministers as aforesaid, shall under the like rules therein set forth and specified, be exercised by any justice of the peace, or minister of the established church, in any such parish whereof there now is or hereafter shall be no incumbent as aforesaid, or on any island or key (being part of any parish), wherein no such incumbent shall be actually resident.—<i>Section 11.</i></p> <p>In order to preserve the evidence of all such marriages, and to make the proof thereof more certain and easy, and to prevent the forging or counterfeiting of any such consent, it is enacted that all such marriages shall be solemnized in the presence of one credible free witness or more, besides the minister or other person as aforesaid, who shall celebrate the same; and that the minister, or in case there be no minister there resident, the churchwardens of the parish within which any such mar-</p>

## BAHAMAS.

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TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DISPOSED OF.	Provisions respecting the Marriage of Slaves.
An Act to amend, consolidate, and bring into one Act the several Laws relating to Slaves, and for giving them further Protection and Security, and for suspending several Acts and Clauses of Acts therein mentioned, and for other Purposes.	28th Jan-1824.	Under considera- tion.	<p>riage shall have been so celebrated, shall upon application made to him or them by the parties so married, or either of them, his, her, or their owner or owners, register the said marriage in the common register book of christenings, marriages, and burials belonging to such parish respectively, under the penalty of five pounds for every default, provided that in every such register there shall be expressed the date of the consent under which such marriage was celebrated, and the names, place, or places of abode of the parties married, and of his, her, or their owner or owners.—<i>Section 12.</i></p> <p>All marriages so solemnized by any such incumbent minister or justice of the peace, by virtue of any such consent as aforesaid, are hereby declared to be valid, and to all purposes whatsoever (saving always the just right of ownership, which in no case whatever shall be in any wise hurt, prejudiced, straightened, or otherwise affected thereby), as though the same had been solemnized after publication of banns, or by virtue of any dispensation or license of any ordinary judge, or other person having authority to grant the same; and the issue of all such marriages shall be deemed legitimate, provided that the marital authority thus acquired by the husband over the wife, shall in no such case as aforesaid, impugn, diminish, or interfere with the rights or authority of the owner, into, and over his or their Slave, or the issue of such Slave or Slaves, or the duty and services of such Slave or Slaves in any matter whatsoever.—<i>Section 13.</i></p> <p>Provisions for facilitating the Manumission of Slaves.</p> <p>THAT no owner or possessor of any Slave, whether in his own right, or as attorney, guardian, trustee, executor, or otherwise, shall manumit or turn away any such Slave, by reason of such Slave being rendered incapable of labour by sickness, age, or infirmity; and all such manumissions shall be void; and every owner or possessor shall keep every such sick, infirm, disabled, or superannuated Slave, on his estate or premises, and provide such Slave with wholesome necessaries of life, and not suffer any such Slave to be in want thereof, or to wander about and become burdensome to others, under a penalty of ten pounds for every offence, to be recovered before any two justices of the peace, who are to cause any owner or possessor, offending in the premises, or his agent, and such other persons as they shall judge necessary, to be summoned before them, to enable them to judge of the justice of such charge, and to determine whether such owner or possessor ought to incur the aforesaid penalty; and until such trial can be had, the said justices of the peace, on their view, or on the information of any white person, on oath, are required to take up any such wandering sick, aged, or infirm Slave, and to lodge him in the nearest workhouse, or other place of security, there to be</p>

## BAHAMAS.

TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DISPOSED OF.	Provisions for facilitating the Manumission of Slaves.
<p>An Act to amend, consolidate, and bring into one Act the several Laws relating to Slaves, and for giving them further Protection and Security, and for suspending several Acts and Clauses of Acts therein mentioned, and for other Purposes.</p>	<p>28th Jan. 1824.</p>	<p>Under consideration.</p>	<p>clothed and fed, but not compelled to work, at the expense of such owner or possessor, until such trial as aforesaid can be had; and if it shall appear to the said justices, upon such trial, that the party complained of is or are guilty of the offence alleged, and he shall refuse to pay the said penalty, together with the workhouse fees and charges of conviction, the justices are authorized to commit such offender to the next common gaol until he shall pay the same.—<i>Section 3.</i></p> <p>All acts whereby any tax or duty whatever is or hath been imposed on the manumission of any Slave within these islands, are (so far as relates to the imposition of any such tax or duty) suspended during the continuance of the Act. Nothing herein contained shall prevent the public secretary from receiving from the person liable to pay the same, any his lawful fees for the recording of any manumission, or otherwise giving legal effect thereunto.—<i>Section 5.</i></p> <p><i>Provisions for preventing the Separation of Slaves from their Relations.</i></p> <p>At no sale or transfer of Slaves hereafter to be made, whether by private contract or public sale, or by virtue of any mortgage, execution for debt, or other legal process, or otherwise howsoever, shall the husband and wife, or reputed husband and wife and child, or reputed child of such husband and wife, or reputed husband and wife (the said husband and wife, or reputed husband and wife, and the said child, or reputed child of such husband and wife, or of such reputed husband and wife, or of either of them, being the property of the same owner or owners, and the said child being below the age of fourteen years), be sold or transferred the one without the other, or otherwise than in one entire lot, and in one and the same lot, and to one and the same person or persons; nor shall any executor assent to any specific legacy of a Slave, or deliver to any legatee any Slave to him by the testator of such executor specifically bequeathed, in any case wherein the effect of any such assent or delivery would be to separate, or cause to be separated from each other, the husband and wife, or reputed husband and wife, or to separate, or cause to be separated, any child under the age of fourteen years, from his or her parents, or reputed parents, or either of them, contrary to the true intent and meaning of the Act; but such executor, in every such case, after such inventory and appraisement of the goods of his testator, made and returned as by law is required, shall sell or dispose of every such husband and wife, or reputed husband and wife, and every such child, or reputed child, and his or her parents, or reputed parents, or either of them, in one separate and entire lot, and in one and the same lot, and to the same person or persons.—<i>Section 6.</i></p>

## BAHAMAS.

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TITLE OF ACT	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions for preventing the Separation of Slaves from their Relations.
An Act to amend consolidate, and bring into one Act the several Laws relating to Slaves and for giving them further Protection and Security, and for suspending several Acts and Clauses of Acts therein mentioned, and for other Purposes.	28th Jan. 1824.	Under consideration.	<p>If any person, contrary to the meaning of the act, shall wilfully make, or cause to be made any sale of any such Slave or Slaves, or if any executor of any last will shall assent to the specific legacy of any such Slave, or shall deliver to any such legatee the Slave or Slaves, to him so as aforesaid bequeathed, every person so offending shall, for every such offence, forfeit the sum of one hundred pounds. Nothing in the Act contained shall affect any mortgage of Slaves duly made and executed previous to the passing of the Act, and which shall have been duly recorded in the public office in Nassau, on or before the first day of July, one thousand eight hundred, and twenty-four.—<i>Section 7.</i></p> <p>Provisions for restraining or regulating the Punishment of Slaves by their Masters, or those having Authority from their Master.</p> <p>Any owner or other person who shall wilfully mutilate any Slave, or cause or suffer any Slave to be mutilated with his privity or consent, shall be liable to be prosecuted in the general court, and upon conviction shall be punished by fine not exceeding one hundred pounds, and imprisonment not exceeding twelve months for every offence, such punishment is declared to be without prejudice to any action that could be brought by the owner for recovery of damages, for, or on account of the same. And in cases where the owner of any such Slave shall be guilty of any such offence, the court, if it shall deem necessary for the future protection of any such Slave, may declare him to be free. And in all such cases the court may order the fine to be paid to the vestry of the parish to which such Slave belonged, to the use of the said parish, the vestry in consideration thereof, paying to the Slave so made free, an annuity of ten pounds during life.—<i>Section 14.</i></p> <p>If any person shall wantonly or cruelly whip, maltreat, beat, bruise, wound, imprison, or keep in confinement, without sufficient support, any Slave, he shall be subject to be indicted for the same in the general court, and shall suffer such punishment by fine or imprisonment, or both, as the court may think proper to inflict, and such punishment is declared to be without prejudice to any action that may be brought for recovery of damages in case such Slave shall not be the property of the offender.—<i>Section 17.</i></p> <p>And in order to restrain arbitrary punishment, it is enacted that no Slave shall on any account receive more than twenty lashes at any one time, or for any one offence, unless the owner or employer of such Slave, or supervisor of the workhouse, or keeper of the gaol, shall be present, and that no such owner, employer, supervisor, or gaol keeper, shall on any account punish a Slave with more than thirty-nine lashes at one time, and for one offence, nor inflict, nor suffer to be inflicted, any second punishment, on the same day, nor until the delinquent shall have recovered from the effects of any</p>



TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions for restraining or regulating the Punishments of Slaves by their Masters, or those having Authority from their Master.
An Act to amend, consolidate, and bring into one Act the several Laws relating to Slaves, and for giving them further Protection and Security, and for suspending several Acts and Clauses of Acts therein mentioned, and for other Purposes.	28th Jan. 1824.	Under consideration.	<p>former punishments, nor shall any female Slave above the age of twelve years, be punished otherwise than in private, under the penalty of ten pounds for every offence.—<i>Section 18.</i></p> <p>After a preamble, reciting that it is customary for owners to commit their Slaves to the common gaol for slight offences, which are not punishable under this Act, it is enacted that in all cases where any owner or possessor of a Slave, shall send him to gaol for any trivial offence, the provost-marshal, or his deputy, or gaoler, shall forthwith take and receive such Slave into custody, and him or her safely keep until released by the owner, and shall receive for his trouble three shillings, together with one shilling for every day such Slave shall have remained in gaol, provided such Slave shall have been maintained by the provost-marshal.—<i>Section 19.</i></p> <p>After a preamble, reciting that a mischievous practice hath prevailed in some colonies of punishing ill-disposed Slaves, and such as are apt to abscond from their owners, by fixing iron collars with projecting bars or hooks round their necks, it is enacted and declared that such practice is utterly unlawful, and that no person shall on any account whatever, punish any Negro or other Slave, whether his own property or otherwise, by fixing any iron or other collar round the neck of such Slave, or by loading the body or limbs of such Slave with chains, irons, or weights of any kind, other than such as are absolutely necessary for securing the person of such Slave while in confinement, under the penalty of fifty pounds, and any justice of the peace is required on information or view of such offence, to order such collars, chains, irons or weights, to be immediately taken off, under the penalty of one hundred pounds, for every neglect or refusal.—<i>Section 20.</i></p> <p>In all cases where any Slave shall receive sentence of death, or transportation, the jury shall appraise and value such Slave, and the justices shall certify such valuation, provided that such valuation shall not, in any case exceed sixty pounds for any one Slave, and provided also, if it shall appear that the owner or possessor of such Slave had treated him or her with inhumanity, and that necessity or hard usage might have driven such Slave to the commission of the offence of which he or she shall have been convicted; that then and in such case no valuation shall be made, nor certificate granted, and the owner shall not be entitled to receive any allowance whatever for such Slave, from the public.—<i>Section 69.</i></p> <p>Provision for enabling Slaves to acquire and enjoy Property.</p> <p>No Negro or other Slave shall, on any pretence,</p>

TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provision for enabling Slaves to acquire and enjoy Property.
An Act to amend, consolidate, and bring into one Act the several Laws relating to Slaves, and for giving them further Protection and Security, and for suspending several Acts and Clauses of Acts therein mentioned, and for other Purposes.	28th Jan. 1824.	Under consideration.	<p>barter or carry about for sale, or barter any dry goods of any kind whatever, unless by a ticket in writing, of his owner, to that effect, specifying the articles he may have for sale; and in default of such ticket or consent, it shall be lawful for any white person to seize all such goods, and deliver them to the provost-marshal, or his deputy, who shall forthwith sell the same at public auction, and pay the net proceeds thereof into the public treasury.—<i>Section 56.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Provision respecting the Office of Protector and Guardian of Slaves.</i></p> <p>In case any Slave shall suffer any such mutilation as in the Act mentioned, any justice of the peace is required, on view of the fact, to send such Slave to the nearest workhouse, there to be kept, and carefully attended, at the expense of the parish, until such time as there can be a meeting of the justices and vestry of such parish, which justices and vestry are created a council of protection for such Slave, and are required to make a full inquiry respecting his mutilation; and if to them it shall appear proper, shall cause the owner of such Slave to be prosecuted, the expenses of which prosecution are to be paid by the parish where the offence shall be committed. And in case the owner of such Slave shall be able to pay the costs of such prosecution, the churchwardens and vestry are required to commence a suit against such owner, in which they shall recover all costs by them laid out, in such criminal prosecution and civil action: And the keeper of the workhouse, to which such Slave shall have been committed, is required, upon due notice of the meeting of such justice and vestry, to produce such mutilated Slave for their inspection, under the penalty of twenty pounds for every neglect.—<i>Section 14.</i></p> <p>It does not appear from the documents received at this Department, that any Act has been passed by the Legislature of Bahamas since the 15th of May, 1823, containing any provisions for preventing the sales of Slaves, detached from the estates of their owners.</p>

## GRENADA.

TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions for promoting the Religious Instruction of the Slaves, or the better Observance of the Sabbath.
<p>An Act to consolidate all the Laws now in force relating to the Slave Population, for making more effectual Provision for their Maintenance and Protection, and for the Admissibility of their Testimony in certain Cases.</p>	<p>26th April, 1825.</p>	<p>Under consideration, and further amendment expected from the Legislature.</p>	<p>It shall not be lawful for any person whatsoever, to employ their Slaves at any kind of work on Sundays, except domestics, watchmen, stock-keepers, and such Slaves as are employed in potting sugar; provided always that such potting of sugar shall not be performed after the hour of eight o'clock in the morning: nor shall it be lawful for any person to put about, or cause to be worked, any sugar-mill between the hours of ten o'clock on Saturday night and four o'clock on Monday morning, under the penalty in such case of ten pounds currency—<i>Section 8.</i></p> <p>After a preamble, reciting, that by the laws at present in force for regulating the public markets, the hours thereby limited may not afford sufficient time for the sale of provisions, and other articles necessary for the consumption of the inhabitants, it is enacted, that in addition to the time already appointed for holding such markets, the market hours on Thursday throughout the year shall be extended from six o'clock in the morning until six o'clock in the evening.—<i>Section 45.</i></p> <p>No shop or store in any of the towns in this island shall be kept open on Sundays, under a penalty of ten pounds for every offence, provided that nothing therein contained shall extend to prevent the dressing or selling meats, bread, fish, and other necessaries of life on that day by any person.—<i>Section 46.</i></p> <p>All owners or possessors of Slaves and their agents shall, as much as in them lies, endeavour to instruct their Slaves in the principles of the Christian religion, and as soon as conveniently can be, cause to be baptized all such adult Slaves not already baptized as they can make sensible of a duty to God and the Christian faith, and all Slaves hereafter to be born within six months after their respective births, which ceremony the clergymen of the respective parishes wherein such Slaves are resident, shall perform gratis, and attend any Slave in sickness, when their spiritual aid may be required.—<i>Section 4.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Provisions respecting the Admissibility of the Evidence of Slaves.</p> <p>UPON the prosecution of any person for wantonly</p>

## GRENADA.

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TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions respecting the Admissibility of the Evidence of Slaves.
An Act to consolidate all the Laws now in force relating to the Slave Population, for making more effectual Provision for their Maintenance and Protection, and for the Admissibility of their Testimony in certain Cases.	26th April, 1825.	Under consideration, and further amendment expected from the Legislature.	<p>and improperly punishing or confining a Slave, such person being the owner, possessor, or party, under whose immediate charge or protection such Slave may be, the Slave so alleged to be illegally punished, shall and may be produced and examined before the grand jury, and if the grand jury shall find a bill of indictment against the party so accused, it shall be lawful for the court before which such prosecution shall be instituted, to admit such Slave as a competent witness to be examined on the trial of such indictment, notwithstanding such Slave shall be unable to produce to the court the certificates required by the Act to render him a competent witness in the cases thereafter provided for.—<i>Section 14.</i></p> <p>After a preamble reciting that frequent thefts and burglaries have of late taken place, and there is reason to believe that such thefts and burglaries have been committed by free persons, aided and assisted by Slaves, and that it will tend very much to the protection of property and to social order, to admit the testimony of Slaves in certain cases, it is enacted that if any free person shall be found associating with any Slave, gaming, dancing, drinking in tippling houses, or in the commission of any crime or offence, or who shall harbour or employ any runaway Slave, knowing them to be such, the testimony of any Slave shall be received against such free person in all cases, except where the life of such free person may be affected.—<i>Section 44.</i></p> <p>When any person shall be charged or accused of the crime of murder, felony, or other offence, which, under the laws now in force, shall subject any person to suffer death or transportation, it shall be lawful to examine as a witness on his corporal oath, any Slave before any judge, justice of the peace, grand jury, or petty jury, in any court within the islands having cognizance of such crimes; provided always that the Slave produced as a witness shall produce before such judge, justice of the peace, or the court, to which such grand jury or petty jury are summoned, a certificate of his baptism, under the hand of the clergyman of the parish in which he shall have been resident at the time of his baptism, or an extract of the entry of such baptism from the registry of such parish, and also a certificate under the hand of a clergyman, or of the proprietor, or attorney of the proprietor of such Slave produced as a witness, that such Slave is of good character and repute, and that he has been so far instructed in the principles of religion as in the judgment of the party certifying, adequately to understand the nature and obligation of an oath; and provided also that if on examination by the court before which such Slave is produced as a witness, the court shall be satisfied with such certificates, and of the accuracy of the facts therein certified; and provided also, and it is declared, that no white or free person shall be</p>

TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions respecting the Admissibility of the Evidence of Slaves.
<p>An Act to consolidate all the Laws now in force relating to the Slave Population, for making more effectual Provision for their Maintenance and Protection, and for the Admissibility of their Testimony in certain Cases.</p>	<p>26th April, 1825.</p>	<p>Under consideration, and further amendment expected from the Legislature.</p>	<p>convicted of any of the crimes aforesaid on the testimony of any Slave or Slaves, unless two of the Slaves produced as witnesses shall clearly and consistently with each other depose to the same fact or circumstance, and also unless such testimony shall be corroborated by circumstantial evidence to the satisfaction of the court and jury; and provided that no white or free person shall be convicted of any of the crimes aforesaid on the testimony of any Slave or Slaves, unless the person be charged and prosecuted for the same crime within twelve months after the commission thereof; and the clergyman of each parish within the islands, and the island of Carriacou, shall, under a penalty of ten pounds for each name omitted, enter in a book to be kept for the purpose, the names of such Slaves, and the estate or owner to whom such Slaves shall belong, as such clergyman shall baptize, and shall give each Slave so baptized a copy of such entry, which shall be lodged in the Register's Office, for registration, in a book to be kept for that purpose, and in default of such registration no certificate shall be deemed valid; and every Slave omitting to register the certificate shall, during the time the certificate remains unregistered, be disqualified to give evidence before any judge, justice of the peace, grand jury, or petty jury, in any court within the islands.—<i>Section 47.</i></p> <p>When the competency of any person as a witness in any court of justice or other tribunal, shall be disputed on the ground of his or her being a Slave, the party taking such objection shall be bound to prove the slavery of the person so challenged or objected to as aforesaid.—<i>Section 48.</i></p> <p>In case any Slave shall wilfully and corruptly give false evidence on any trial had under the Act, such Slave shall receive such punishment by whipping or otherwise, as the justice or justices trying the cause, or before whom such false evidence is given, shall think proper to direct.—<i>Section 49.</i></p> <p>In all cases where the evidence of Slaves is admitted to be given in any court of justice in the island, by virtue of this Act, a writ of subpœna shall issue under the hand of the secretary of the island, or his deputy, and under the seal of the court in the usual manner, upon the application of any person requiring the testimony of such Slaves, directed to the owner or possessor of such Slave or Slaves, or the person under whose immediate charge such Slave or Slaves may be, requiring him, under the penalty of fifty pounds, to bring and produce, or cause to be brought and produced in court, such Slave or Slaves, for the purposes aforesaid.—<i>Section 53.</i></p>

TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions respecting the Marriage of Slaves.
<p>An Act to consolidate all the Laws now in force, relating to the Slave Population, for making more effectual Provision for their Maintenance &amp; Protection, and for the Admissibility of their Testimony in certain Cases.</p>	<p>26th April 1825.</p>	<p>Under consideration and further amendment expected from the Legislature.</p>	<p>THAT it shall be lawful for any Slave, who may be desirous of intermarrying with any other Slave belonging to the same owner, to apply to any clergyman of the Established Church of England and Ireland, or priest of the Roman Catholic religion, or other person thereto legally authorized to solemnize any such marriage as aforesaid, who are thereby required to solemnize the same; provided that such Slaves shall produce to such clergyman, priest, or other person as aforesaid, a permission in writing from their owner or owners for that purpose; and provided also that such clergyman, priest, or other person shall consider such Slaves to have an adequate knowledge of the nature of the marriage vow.—<i>Section 5.</i></p> <p>Provisions for facilitating the Manumission of Slaves.</p> <p>IF it shall happen that the person committing the offences in the Act mentioned against any Slave being thereof convicted, shall be the owner of such Slave, the court is authorized to direct the provost-marshal, or his deputy, to take possession of such Slave, and to cause him to be forthwith sold to such person as he shall judge proper, and for such price as he shall deem fair, and as can be procured for the same; and such sale by the provost-marshal, or his deputy, shall be sufficient in law to vest the absolute property of such Slave in the purchaser thereof; or the said court, in their discretion, are hereby authorized to declare and adjudge such Slave to be free, and discharged of and from all manner of servitude; and to order any portion of any fine by them imposed upon the owner, or other person in charge of such Slave, to be paid by way of annuity out of the public treasury of the island, for the support of such Slave.—<i>Section 13.</i></p> <p>Whenever any question shall arise, touching the liberty of any person detained or claimed as a Slave, the proof of the slavery shall, in all such cases, lie upon the claimant of such person as a Slave.—<i>Section 48.</i></p> <p>In case any owner of any Slave, on which any mortgage, settlement, lease, or other charge may have been executed, may be desirous to give manumission to any such Slave, it shall be lawful for such owner to manumit the same without the permission of the mortgagee, lessee, or other incumbrancer, or when such permission of such incumbrancer cannot be obtained on substituting another Slave of equal value, in the place of such manumitted Slave; and such owner may apply to any two or more justices of the peace to nominate one or more person or persons, for the purpose of valuing such Slave so proposed to be manumitted and substituted; the justices are required to make such nomination of appraisers, who shall make an impartial appraisement of the Slave so proposed to be manumitted and substituted, and certify the same</p>

TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions for facilitating the Manumission of Slaves.
<p>An Act to consolidate all the Laws now in force relating to the Slave Population, for making more effectual Provision for their Maintenance and Protection, and for the Admissibility of their Testimony in certain Cases.</p>	<p>26th April, 1825.</p>	<p>Under consideration, and further amendment expected from the Legislature.</p>	<p>under their hands to the said justices ; and if it shall appear to the satisfaction of such justices that, the value of the Slave to be substituted is of equal value with the Slave so proposed to be manumitted, they are to grant a certificate of such valuation ; and thereupon such owner shall and may grant such manumission as aforesaid, and the same shall be as valid and effectual, as if such mortgage, settlement, lease, or other charge, did not exist.—<i>Section 51.</i></p>
			<p>Provisions for preventing the Separation of Slaves from their Relations.</p>
			<p>It shall not be lawful for the provost-marshal, or his deputy, or any other person, to levy upon and sell in execution of any judgment, sentence, or decree of any court of justice, or order of any justice of the peace, or other authority whatsoever, any married Slave, having a child, or children, under the age of twelve years, or any female unmarried Slave, having a child, or children, under the age aforesaid, who may be the property of the same person or persons, unless such married Slave or Slaves, child or children, or such unmarried female Slave, and child or children, shall be sold together to the same person or persons ; and if in the execution of any such judgment, sentence, decree, or order, any Slave or Slaves shall be sold separate and apart from their husband, or wife, or child, or children ; or if any such unmarried female Slave and child, or children, shall be sold separate and apart from each other, such sale shall be absolutely null and void to all intents and purposes whatsoever.—<i>Section 50.</i></p>
			<p>Provisions for restraining or regulating the Punishments of Slaves by their Masters, or those having Authority from their Master.</p>
			<p>No owner, manager, or person having the charge of any Slave, having occasion to inflict a punishment on any such Slave beyond fifteen lashes, shall inflict the same without the presence of a person of free condition ; nor shall he inflict, or cause or knowingly suffer to be inflicted on any Slave, any corporal punishment exceeding twenty-five lashes, for any offence on the day on which the same shall be committed, under a penalty of ten pounds ; and no owner, manager, or person having the charge of any Slave, shall inflict, or cause to be inflicted any punishment by flogging for a second offence on the same day on which punishment for a former offence hath been inflicted, nor until the delinquent has recovered from the effects of former punishment, under the penalty of ten pounds for every such excess or repetition of punishment ; provided that in all cases where the owner, manager, or other person having charge of any Slave, shall conceive the fault committed, the same not being cognizable by law, to be of such enormity as to deserve more</p>

## GRENADA.

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TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions for restraining or regulating the Punishments of Slaves by their Masters, or those having Authority from their Masters.
An Act to consolidate all the Laws now in force relating to the Slave Population, for making more effectual Provision for their Maintenance and Protection, and for the Admissibility of their Testimony in certain Cases.	26th April, 1825.	Under consideration, and further amendment expected from the Legislature.	<p>exemplary punishment than is hereinbefore allowed to be inflicted, it shall be lawful for such owner, manager, or such other person as aforesaid, to cause such offending Slave to be carried before any one or more justice or justices of the peace, and such justice or justices is, and are thereby required to hear and examine every such complaint, and to direct such corporal punishment, not extending to life or limb, as the offence shall, in his or their discretion, merit; after which punishment, inflicted by the order of the justices as aforesaid, no further or other punishment whatever shall be inflicted on such Slave for that offence by any person whomsoever, under the like penalty of ten pounds; and the justice before whom such Slave shall be brought, shall enter into a book to be kept for that purpose, the nature of the complaint, and the punishment inflicted by their order; and that every such owner or possessor of Slaves, attached to, and worked upon any plantation, shall keep a record of all the crimes and punishments committed and inflicted upon such plantation, and such record shall be produced when called for, by any justice of the peace, upon any inquiry into any complaint of ill-treatment of such Slaves; provided always that it shall not be necessary to enter into such record any punishment which shall not exceed ten lashes.—Section 10.</p> <p>If any proprietor, manager, or other person having the charge of Slaves, shall, upon any pretence whatsoever, take upon himself to inflict, or cause, or knowingly suffer to be inflicted, on any Slave any heavier, greater, or other kind of corporal punishment than by the Act limited and prescribed, or to inflict punishment at other and different times than in the Act mentioned, such proprietor, manager or other person having the charge of Slaves, shall, for every such offence, be proceeded against by information, or indictment, in a court of criminal jurisdiction, and, if found guilty, shall be punished by fine or imprisonment, or both, at the discretion of the court, wherein such offender shall have been tried and convicted.—Section 11.</p> <p>No Slave shall carry any whip, cat, or other instrument of the like nature, as an emblem of his authority while superintending the labour of any Slave or Slaves upon any plantation; and the person so offending, and every person who shall direct, authorize, instigate, procure, or be aiding, assisting, or abetting in any such illegal use or exhibition of any such whip, cat, or other instrument as aforesaid, shall be adjudged to be guilty of a misdemeanour, and, being thereof convicted, shall suffer such punishment as the court before which such misdemeanour is cognizable, shall in its discretion direct.—Section 12.</p>



TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions for restraining or regulating the Punishments of Slaves by their Masters, or those having Authority from their Masters.
An Act to consolidate all the Laws now in force relating to the Slave Population, for making more effectual Provision for their Maintenance and Protection, and for the Admissibility of their Testimony in certain Cases.	26th April, 1825.	Under consideration, and further amendment expected from the Legislature.	<p>If any owner or possessor of a Slave, or if any person whatsoever, shall wantonly or cruelly cut, wound, maim, or mutilate, or keep in confinement without sufficient support, any Slave, he shall be liable to be prosecuted for every such offence, by information or indictment at any court of criminal jurisdiction, and, upon conviction, shall be punished by fine of not less than one hundred pounds, nor exceeding five hundred pounds, or by imprisonment not exceeding twelve months, or both, at the discretion of the court, for each Slave so injured as aforesaid. And such punishment is declared to be without prejudice to any action that may be brought for the recovery of damages by any loss that shall be sustained by any person interested in such Slave, in case such Slave shall not be the absolute or entire property of the offender.—Section 13.</p> <p>In case any justice of the peace shall receive any complaint or probable intelligence from any Slave, or otherwise, that any Slave has been wantonly or improperly punished or confined, contrary to the true intent and meaning of the Act, it shall be lawful for such justice to associate one or more justices with him, and for such justices to issue their warrant to any constable, ordering him immediately to proceed to the place where such Slave is, and bring him before the said justices, who are authorized to commit the said Slave to the gaol, or such other place as they shall deem proper, until inquiry shall be made into the facts; and if, upon such inquiry, it shall be found that the said complaint is true, the said justices thereupon shall take such measures as to them may seem proper, for the prosecution of the person against whom such complaint is made, and shall direct, by warrant under their hands to be directed to the public treasurer, such allowance to be paid to such Slave as they shall deem sufficient, until such Slave shall be discharged, or otherwise disposed of; but if it shall appear that such complaint was groundless, the said justices shall punish the complainant, and the person giving information thereof, if a free person, by imprisonment, not exceeding thirty days, and if a Slave, by any number of stripes not exceeding thirty-nine, or commitment to hard labour for a period not exceeding thirty days, and the costs and charges of the prosecution of the offender, and maintenance of the injured Slave shall be borne and paid by the public, unless the justice before whom such complaint shall be made shall order and direct otherwise.—Section 15.</p>
			Provisions for enabling Slaves to acquire and enjoy Property.
			AFTER a preamble, reciting that, by the usage of these islands, Slaves have been permitted to acquire, hold, and enjoy personal property, free from

## GRENADA.

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TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions for enabling Slaves to acquire and enjoy Property.
An Act to consolidate all the Laws now in force relating to the Slave Population, for making more effectual Provision for their Maintenance and Protection, and for the Admissibility of their Testimony in certain Cases.	26th April, 1825.	Under consideration, and further amendment expected from the Legislature.	<p>the control or interference of their owners, and that it is expedient that such laudable custom should be continued and established by law, it is enacted that, if any owner of any Slave, or any other person whatsoever, shall unlawfully take away from any Slave, or in manner deprive, or cause him to be deprived of any species of personal property by him possessed, such person shall forfeit the sum of ten pounds over and above the value of any such property so taken away as aforesaid.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Provisions respecting the Office of Protector and Guardian of Slaves.</i></p> <p>If any Slave shall be concerned in any rebellion or rebellious conspiracy, or commit any murder, manslaughter, felony, burglary, or robbery, or willingly set fire to any houses, negro-houses, cane-pieces, grass, or corn-pieces, or break into such houses, out-houses, or negro-houses, in the day-time, no person being therein, and steal thereout, or shall steal any cattle, or shall kill any such cattle, with intent to steal the whole carcass or any part of the flesh thereof, or compass or imagine the death of any free person, and declare the same by some overt act, or commit any other crime which would subject free persons to be indicted for felony, such Slave shall, for such offence, be indicted and tried in the Supreme Court of Judicature of the island, in all respects in the same manner as such free persons, and, upon conviction thereof, suffer death, transportation, or such other punishment as such Slave, if free, would be liable to suffer; and the court shall assign counsel for each prisoner, and the fees and expenses necessarily incurred in the defence of such prosecution shall be chargeable to the public of the island, and the several accounts thereof be rendered annually to the Committee of Public Accounts, and provided for and paid as other accounts against the public.—<i>Section 37.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">It does not appear, from the documents received at this department, that any Act has been passed by the legislature of Grenada, since the 13th of May, 1823, containing any provisions for preventing the sales of Slaves detached from the estates of their owners.</p>

## TOBAGO.

TITLE OF ACTS.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	
<p>An Act to repeal an Act intituled "An Act for the good Order and Government of Slaves," and for repealing an Act of this Island, intituled "An Act for the good Order and Government of Slaves, and for keeping them under proper Restraint; for establishing the Method of Trial in Capital Cases, and other Regulations, for the greater Security of that part of the Inhabitants' Property," and to substitute a new Act in lieu thereof.</p>	<p>August 2, 1823.</p>	<p>Left to its operation.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Provisions for promoting the Religious Instruction of the Slaves, or the better Observance of the Sabbath.</i></p> <p>AFTER a preamble, reciting that it is expedient that the Sunday market be abolished, in order that the Negroes may have an opportunity of attending divine worship, and employing themselves in religious pursuits, it is enacted, that from and after the first day of September then next ensuing, the Sunday market shall be abolished, and the public market shall thereafter be holden in the towns of Scarborough and Plymouth, on Thursday in every week.—<i>Section 40.</i></p> <p>From the first day of May to the thirty-first day of December, in every year, all plantation Slaves shall be allowed one day in every week, for the purpose of cultivating their provision grounds. After a preamble, reciting that the usual state of the soil, from excessive drought, between the first day of January and the first of May, renders it unnecessary that the labour of the Negroes should be applied to the cultivation of provisions, while their services are materially important to the gathering in the crop, it is enacted that, during these four months, the proprietor or his representative shall be allowed to exercise his discretion as to the time to be allowed the Slaves for the cultivation of their provision grounds.—<i>Section 41.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Provisions respecting the Admissibility of the Evidence of Slaves.</i></p> <p>The evidence of Slaves shall be admitted on the trial of persons prosecuted in the Slave Court for the trial of capital offences committed by Slaves, and in the court appointed for the trial of offences not capital.—<i>Section 6.</i></p> <p>In case any Slave shall wilfully give any false evidence, in any trial before the court appointed by the act for the trials of Slaves accused of offences not capital, such Slave, being thereof convicted, shall suffer such punishment as the court shall award.—<i>Section 17.</i></p> <p>After a preamble, reciting that it may happen, that in cases of cruelty or other injury to Slaves by white or free persons, no other evidence than that of Slaves can be procured, by reason whereof such cruelty cannot be punished or redressed, it is enacted that, in all cases where any white or free person, or any white or free person acting under</p>

TITLE OF ACTS.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions respecting the Admissibility of the Evidence of Slaves.
<p>An Act to repeal an Act intituled "An Act for the good Order and Government of Slaves," and for repealing an Act of this Island, intituled "An Act for the good Order and Government of Slaves, and for keeping them under proper Restraint; for establishing the Method of Trial in Capital Cases, and other Regulations for the greater security of that part of the Inhabitants' Property," to substitute a new Act in lieu thereof.</p>	<p>August 2, 1823.</p>	<p>Left to its operation.</p>	<p>his authority, is charged with wilful murder, or mayem of, or cruelty to any Slave, it shall be lawful, in case no white or free person was present, or can be produced to prove the facts relating to such imputed murder, mayem, or cruelty, to admit the evidence of two Slaves, to prove the facts and circumstances attending such imputed murder, mayem, or cruelty, and that the concurrent evidence of such two Slaves to such facts and circumstances, if unimpeached as to their credibility, shall have the same effect in point of law as if a white or free person had proved the same facts and circumstances attending such murder, mayem, or cruelty; and the Slave suffering such mayem or cruelty shall be admitted as one of the two evidences.—<i>Section 22.</i></p> <p>Provisions for restraining or regulating the Punishments of Slaves by their Masters, or those having Authority from their Masters.</p> <p>In case any Slave shall be thought by his Master, or person having charge of such Slave, deserving punishment, it shall be lawful to punish him by whipping, not exceeding twenty stripes, or some other correction suitable to the fault; and if any person shall torture or mutilate Slaves, or punish them with cruelty, he shall be punished with fine and imprisonment, in any court of Oyer and Terminer, or other court of criminal jurisdiction in the island.—<i>Section 19.</i></p> <p>Whenever any Master, or person having charge of Slaves, may deem it necessary, for the sake of example, to punish his Slave with a greater number of stripes than twelve, such punishment shall be inflicted in the presence of one white or free person other than the person by whose order such punishment shall be inflicted.—<i>Section 20.</i></p> <p>No driver shall be permitted to punish a Slave but by the express order of the owner or ruler of such Slave, or the manager or overseer under whose direction such Slave may be; and any offence against this clause shall be cognizable by the court of justices and freeholders, and punishable by them.—<i>Section 21.</i></p> <p>Provisions for enabling Slaves to acquire and enjoy Property.</p> <p>After a preamble, reciting that the Negroes have always been in the habit of enjoying their personal property without control, yet, nevertheless, in order that such right may be ascertained by legal provisions, it is enacted, That any Slave in possession of personal property of any description whatever, fairly acquired, shall be entitled to hold and enjoy the same without the let, hinderance, claim, or molestation of any person whatever, and may freely</p>

TITLE OF ACTS.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions for enabling Slaves to acquire and enjoy Property.
<p>An Act to repeal an Act, intituled "An Act for the good Order and Government of Slaves," and for repealing an Act of this Island intituled "An Act for the good Order and Government of Slaves, and for keeping them under proper Restraint; for establishing the Method of Trial in Capital Cases, and other Regulations, for the greater Security of that part of the Inhabitants' Property," and to substitute a new Act in lieu thereof.</p>	<p>August 2nd, 1823.</p>	<p>Left to its operations.</p>	<p>and without control sell, barter, grant, or bequeath the same; and such Slave shall be entitled to bring all actions personal for recovery of his or her personal property; and slavery shall not be a valid plea in abatement or bar of such action, any law, usage, or custom to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding.—<i>Section 27.</i></p>
			<p>Provisions respecting the Office of Protector and Guardian of Slaves.</p>
			<p>After a preamble, reciting that it may often happen that Slaves may be injuriously used by their owners, or persons exercising authority over them in the absence of their owners, or other persons, and may be deterred by apprehension or menace from making complaint thereof, and it is reasonable that they should have some established tribunal to resort to; it is enacted, That the President of the Council, and the Speaker of the House of General Assembly, and the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, shall be the guardians of Slaves, with full power and authority to entertain all complaints made to them by any Slave, for or in respect of any cruelty, ill usage, or violation of the provisions of the Act; and when any complaint shall be preferred to the said guardians, they, or any three of them, shall have power to summon all persons whom they shall judge necessary, to give evidence touching such complaint; and if upon examination of such complaint they shall be of opinion that it is well founded, they shall report the same in writing to His Majesty's Attorney-general, who is forthwith to prosecute the persons complained against for cruelty or ill usage; and if such complaints relate to the violation of any provisions which may be contained in the Act applicable to the maintenance and clothing of Negroes, they are required to proceed against the persons complained of as therein directed, and if the complaint be found frivolous and vexatious, such complaining Slave shall be punished by order of the said guardians.—<i>Section 25.</i></p>
			<p>All owners, renters, or possessors of Slaves shall afford sufficient food to each of their Slaves, either by apportioning to each a sufficient quantity of provision-ground, or by a sufficient daily or weekly allowance of dry provision, with an allowance of salt or pickled fish; and shall give to each of their Slaves good and sufficient clothing once in every year, under a penalty not exceeding ten pounds for every Slave not sufficiently fed, and ten pounds for every Slave not furnished with a sufficient supply of clothes: and such neglect to furnish food and clothing shall be deemed a misdemeanor, and in case the guardians thereby appointed, or any three of them, on complaint made to them, deem such complaint well founded, they or such three of them shall direct the law-officers of the Crown to prosecute the offender for such neglect in the Court</p>

## TOBAGO.

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TITLE OF ACTS.	DATE OF ACTS.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions <i>respecting the Office of Protector and Guardian of Slaves.</i>
<p>An Act to repeal an Act, intituled "An Act for the good Order and Government of Slaves," and for repealing an Act of this Island entitled "An Act for the good Order and Government of Slaves, and for keeping them under proper Restraint; for establishing the Method of Trial in capital Cases, and other Regulations, for the greater security of that part of the Inhabitant's Property, &amp; to substitute a new Act, in lieu thereof.</p>	<p>August 2nd, 1823.</p>	<p>Left to its operation.</p>	<p>of King's Bench and Grand Sessions, and the judges of the said court may order such part of the penalty recovered, as they may think fit, to be expended in food and clothing for the Negro complaining.—<i>Section 24.</i></p> <p>It does not appear from the documents received from this department, that any Act has been passed by the Legislature of Tobago since the 15th May, 1823, containing any provisions respecting the marriage of Slaves, for facilitating the manumission of Slaves, for preventing the sales of Slaves detached from the estates of their owners, or for preventing the separation of Slaves from their relations.</p>

## ST. VINCENT.

TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions for promoting the Religious Instruction of the Slaves, or the better Observance of the Sabbath.
<p>An Act to repeal an Act intituled "An Act for making Slaves real Estate," and the first Clause of an Act intituled, "An Act to appoint Commissioners for the purpose of obtaining an exact Account of the Number of the coloured free People, and Number of Negroes within this Government and its Dependencies, and to ameliorate the Condition of Slaves, and for other Purposes."</p>	<p>15th Dec. 1825.</p>	<p>Under consideration.</p>	<p>No shop or store shall be kept open on Sundays under a penalty of ten pounds; but nothing in the act contained shall extend to the prohibition of dressing or selling meats in taverns, or victualling houses; nor to the sale of meat, fish, bread, and other necessaries of life on that day, so that the same do not take place during the hours appointed and set apart for divine service.—<i>Section 7.</i></p> <p>All owners and possessors, or in their absence the attornies, or persons having the charge and management of Slaves shall, as much as in them lies, promote the instruction of their Slaves in the principles of the Christian religion, and the moral duties of mankind; and shall cause to be baptized all Slaves hereafter to be born, within six months after their respective births, which ceremony the clergymen of the respective parishes in this island, and the guardians, are to perform when required, without fee or reward, and are under a penalty of ten pounds for each name omitted, and for each child refused to be baptized when brought to him, entered in a book to be kept for that purpose, the names of such Slaves he shall, from time to time baptize, and the name of the estate or owner to whom such Slaves shall belong, and shall, and is hereby required to give each Slave so baptized a copy of such entry.—<i>Section 8.</i></p> <p>After a preamble, reciting that it is proper and necessary to limit the duration of Sunday markets, holden in the town of Kingstown. It is enacted, that after the first day of June, 1826, the markets holden in the town of Kingstown on Sundays shall be limited to the hour of ten o'clock in the forenoon; and due warning shall be given by the ringing of a bell at half past nine o'clock to all persons to prepare and depart, and if any person whatsoever shall remain therein, and expose for sale any fish, meat, poultry, vegetables, provisions, fruits, herbs, wares, merchandise, goods or effects, after the hour of ten o'clock, it shall be lawful for the clerk of the market, or any other constable, to seize the goods exposed for sale, and cause them on the following day to be taken before any one of the Town Warders for the said town, or any justice of the peace, who, upon view of such goods so exposed, shall order the same to be sold forthwith, and the proceeds thereof be applied as follows, that is to say, one moiety to the clerk of the market, or constable seizing the same, and the other moiety to the poor of the said town and parish of St. George.—<i>Section 9.</i></p>

## ST. VINCENT.

35

TITLE OF ACT.	DATE.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions for promoting the Religious Instruction of the Slaves, or the better Observance of the Sabbath.
<p>An Act to repeal an Act intituled "An Act for making Slaves real Estate," and the first Clause of an Act intituled "An Act to appoint Commissioners for the purpose of obtaining an exact Account of the Number of the coloured free People, and Number of Negroes within this Government and its Dependencies, and to ameliorate the Condition of Slaves, and for other Purposes."</p>	<p>15th Dec. 1825.</p>	<p>Under consideration.</p>	<p>During crop, not only shall the Slaves as heretofore be exempted from the labour of the estate or plantation on Sundays; but no mills shall be put about or worked between the hours of seven o'clock on Saturday night and four o'clock on Monday morning; nor shall any boiling-house be kept open after ten o'clock on Saturday night, or sugar boiled therein after that hour, under the penalty of fifty pounds.</p>
			<p>After a preamble, reciting that the practice of ignorant, superstitious, or designing Slaves, attempting to instruct others, has been attended with the most pernicious consequences; it is enacted, that any Slave found publicly preaching, or teaching any religious subject, shall, upon due proof thereof, be punished in such manner as any two justices may deem proper by whipping and imprisonment.—<i>Section 56.</i></p>
			<p><i>Provisions respecting the Admissibility of the Evidence of Slaves.</i></p>
			<p>AFTER a preamble, reciting that persons who illegally detain the Slaves of others, and employ them in their service, do it so cunningly and secretly, that evidence by white or free persons cannot be had against them; it is enacted, That upon any suspicion of illegal detaining or employing, any justice of the peace shall, upon application, issue a summons to the party accused, and any witnesses required by either party requiring him, her, or them, to attend at a certain day to answer the premises, directed to a constable; and on the trial, such justice shall examine the person accused, or proved by any other evidence, such justice shall give judgment for the party injured, to recover any sum under twenty pounds; and if any white or other person so suspected or charged, being summoned, shall refuse or neglect to attend, or attending should refuse to answer on oath the interrogatories of the said justice touching his offence, or answering, shall confess such offence, then, and in such case, his absence, silence, or confession, shall be deemed signal proof of his guilt, and the said justice shall give judgment against him or her, as hereinbefore directed; but should it appear to the justice that the information is groundless or malicious, then and in that case the informer (if a Slave) shall be punished with any number of stripes not exceeding thirty-nine, at the discretion of the said justice; and the justice giving judgment shall make a record of his proceedings, and return it into the office of the clerk of the Crown, under his hand and seal, and the complainant or party injured may sue for the execution thereon, after the expiration of three days from giving judgment, by a warrant under the hand and seal of the clerk of the Crown for the island, and the recovery of the fine before a justice of the peace shall be a bar to any further prosecution for the same offence.—<i>Section 27.</i></p>



TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions respecting the Admissibility of the Evidence of Slaves.
<p>An Act to repeal an Act intituled "An Act for making Slaves real Estate," and the first Clause of an Act intituled "An Act to appoint Commissioners for the Purpose of obtaining an exact Account of the Number of the coloured free People, and Number of Negroes within this Government and its Dependencies, and to ameliorate the Condition of Slaves, and for other Purposes."</p>	<p>15th Dec. 1825.</p>	<p>Under consideration.</p>	<p>No person shall be rejected as a witness, or considered as incompetent to give evidence in any cases of murder, felony, or any other offence which shall subject the party or parties guilty thereof to suffer death or transportation, by reason of the said witness being in a state of slavery; provided, that the Slave produced as a witness shall at the same time produce before the judge, justice of the peace, or court to which any grand jury or petty jury are summoned, a certificate of his baptism, under the hand of the clergyman of the parish in which he shall have been resident at the time of his baptism, or an extract of the entry of such baptism from the registry of such parish or cure; and also a certificate under the hand of a clergyman, and of the proprietor, or the attorney of the proprietor of such Slave so produced as a witness, that such Slave is of good character and repute, that he has been sufficiently instructed in the principles of religion, as, in the judgment and belief of the party so certifying, to understand the nature and obligation of an oath: and provided also that the court before which such Slave is produced as a witness shall be satisfied on examination with such certificates, and of the accuracy of the facts therein certified; and provided also that no white person or free person shall be convicted of any of the crimes aforesaid on the testimony of any Slaves; unless two of the said Slaves at the least produced as witnesses, clearly and consistently with each other depose to the same fact, act, or circumstance; and also, unless the said Slaves are examined apart, and out of the hearing of each other; and provided also, that no white or free person shall be convicted on the testimony of any Slaves of any of the crimes aforesaid, unless such person or persons be charged and prosecuted for the said crime or crimes within twelve months after the commission thereof; no person being in a state of slavery shall be admitted to give evidence in any case where his owner, or the attorney, manager, overseer or person having the charge of such Slave, may be charged with or prosecuted for any of the crimes aforesaid, or in any case where any white person may be charged with or prosecuted for any offence punishable with death.—<i>Section 66.</i></p> <p>In all cases where the evidence of Slaves is admitted to be given in any court or courts of justice in this island, under the Act, a writ of subpoena shall issue, under the hand of the secretary of the island, and under the seal of the court, in the usual manner, upon the application of any person requiring the testimony of such Slaves, directed to the owner of such Slaves, or, in his absence, to the person under whose immediate charge such Slaves may be, requiring him or them, under the penalty of fifty pounds, to bring and produce, or cause to be brought and produced, in court such Slave or Slaves for the purposes aforesaid; but before the said Slaves shall give evidence, the party prosecuting or</p>

TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions respecting the Admissibility of the Evidence of Slaves.
<p>An Act to repeal an Act intituled "An Act for making Slaves real Estate," and the first Clause of an Act intituled "An Act to appoint Commissioners for the Purpose of obtaining an exact Account of the Number of the coloured free People, and Number of Negroes within this Government and its Dependencies, and to ameliorate the Condition of Slaves, and for other Purposes."</p>	<p>15th Dec. 1825.</p>	<p>Under consideration.</p>	<p>requiring testimony, shall tender to the proprietor, or pay into court for his use, the sum of ten shillings per day for such time as the witness shall be absent from the duty of his master or employer.—<i>Section 67.</i></p> <p>In case any Slave shall wilfully or corruptly give false evidence in any trial had under this Act, such Slave being thereof convicted shall receive such punishment by whipping as the justices trying the cause shall think proper to direct.—<i>Section 72.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Provisions respecting the Marriage of Slaves.</i></p> <p>It shall be lawful for any Slaves who may be desirous to intermarry to apply to any clergyman of the Established Church to solemnize any such marriage, and each of them is hereby required to solemnize the same without fee or reward: provided that each Slave shall produce to such clergyman the consent in writing of their owners or managers to the celebration thereof: and provided also, that such clergyman upon previous examination of such Slaves, consider them to have a proper and adequate knowledge of the nature and obligation of the marriage vow: and provided further, that such marriage shall not confer on the parties, or their issue, any rights inconsistent with the duties which Slaves owe to their owners or to the government, or at variance with those rights which the owners or the government are by law entitled to assert over the Slaves and their progeny, or subject such Slaves so intermarrying to any penal infliction, the effects of which might destroy the rights or injure the property of their owners.—<i>Section 10.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Provisions for facilitating the Manumission of Slaves.</i></p> <p>ALL manumissions of any Slaves, duly executed and recorded in the register-office of these islands, shall be good, valid and effectual conveyances in the law, to all intents and purposes whatsoever, and the registrars of deeds are to publish the names of the parties executing the deed, and the names of the Slaves thereby manumitted in the successive gazettes, or other newspapers, published next after the acknowledgment of such manumission, at the expense of the party recording the deed, the fee for which shall be four pounds currency; provided that no owner or possessor of any Slave or Slaves, whether in his or her own right, or as attorney, guardian, trustee, executor, or otherwise, shall manumit any Slave on account or by reason of such Slave being rendered incapable of labour or service to his owner or possessor, by means of sickness, age, or infirmity of mind or body, under the penalty of two hundred pounds currency, which fine is to be</p>

TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions for facilitating the Manumission of Slaves.
<p>An Act to repeal an Act intituled "An Act for making Slaves real Estate," and the first Clause of an Act intituled "An Act to appoint Commissioners for the purpose of obtaining an exact Account of the Number of the coloured free People, and Number of Negroes within this Government and its Dependencies, and to ameliorate the condition of Slaves, and for other Purposes."</p>	<p>15th Dec. 1825.</p>	<p>Under consideration.</p>	<p>paid to the treasurer or his lawful deputy, who is directed to allow to each of the Slaves so made free, the sum of twenty pounds per annum, to be paid quarterly for his maintenance and support during life.—<i>Section 18.</i></p> <p>After reciting a preamble, reciting that advantages may be taken of the ignorance of persons who may have been imperfectly manumitted in order to detain them in slavery, it is enacted that any person who shall knowingly or wilfully keep or cause to be kept, or connive at, or assist in the detention of any person in slavery who shall be entitled to freedom, he, upon the freedom of such persons being established, either by the judgment of any court or the execution of any deed or will, or any other satisfactory proof to be produced before any two justices of the peace, shall forfeit and pay to such person so detained treble the amount of any hire that such person would have produced during the time he was so detained in slavery, the rate of which hire shall be settled by the said justices.—<i>Section 19.</i></p> <p>In atrocious cases, when the owner of a Slave shall be convicted of such offence as in the Act mentioned, the court are empowered, in case they shall think it necessary for the future protection of such Slave, to declare him free and discharged from all manner of servitude whatsoever, and to order and direct the said one hundred and fifty pounds to be paid to the treasurer, who shall pay to the Slave so made free the sum of fifteen pounds per annum for his maintenance and support during life.—<i>Section 27.</i></p> <p><i>Provisions for preventing the Sale of Slaves detached from the Estates of their Owners.</i></p> <p>ALL Slaves are declared to be real estate, and not chattels, and shall descend unto the heirs of the person dying seised thereof, according to the custom of inheritance held in fee simple; and widows shall be capable of being endowed thereof, provided that any executor may inventory the Slaves, but not take them into his custody, to the intent, that, if there be not sufficient goods to pay the debts of the deceased, the said Slaves shall be taken and sold by such executor for the payment of the said debts, and be chattels to that purpose, and not otherwise.—<i>Section 2.</i></p> <p>For the better preserving Slaves on estates in these islands, and for saving estates from being ruined by the entire recovery of legacies left by testators, and of debts due from their estates, which might with more care be paid without injuring any person concerned by the allowance of time for the payment of such debts and legacies after they</p>

TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions for preventing the Sale of Slaves detached from the Estates of their Owners.
<p>An Act to repeal an Act intituled "An Act for making Slaves real Estate," and the first Clause of an Act intituled "An Act to appoint Commissioners for the purpose of obtaining an exact Account of the Number of the coloured free People, and number of Negroes within this Government and its Dependencies, and to ameliorate the Condition of Slaves, and for other Purposes."</p>	<p>15th Dec. 1825.</p>	<p>Under consideration.</p>	<p>shall become due; it is enacted, that it shall be lawful for any devisee, trustee, or executor, not having sufficient effects in his hands belonging to the testator, or trust estate, out of his own monies to pay any legacy or just debts after the same shall become due from the estate, that the Slaves may be preserved on the plantation, and be prevented from being levied on, and carried from it; and the money which any devisee, trustee, or executor, shall pay for the discharging such legacies and debts, shall remain charged upon the estate, for the relief of which the same shall be so paid, with interest thereon, at the rate of six pounds per cent. per annum, until the same be fully paid.—<i>Section 3.</i></p>
			<p>Provisions for restraining or regulating the Punishments of Slaves by their Masters, or those having Authorities from their Masters.</p>
			<p>In order to restrain arbitrary punishment, no Slave on any plantation shall receive more than ten stripes at one time, and for one offence, unless the owner, attorney, or manager of such plantation, having such Slave under his care, shall be present; and no such owner, attorney, or manager, shall, on any account, punish a Slave with more than thirty-nine stripes at one time and for one offence; nor inflict or suffer to be inflicted such last-mentioned punishment, nor any other number of stripes in the same week, nor until the delinquent has recovered from the effects of any former punishment, under a penalty not less than fifteen pounds, or more than fifty pounds, for every offence, besides being subject to be prosecuted by indictment in the Court of Grand Sessions of the Peace.—<i>Section 21.</i></p>
			<p>There shall be kept upon every plantation throughout this island, and upon every plantation in the island of Biguia and the other dependencies, a book, wherein it shall be the duty of the owner, or other person having the management of such plantation or estate, to enter and record all the crimes for which punishment shall be inflicted, and the nature and extent of every such punishment exceeding ten lashes upon such plantation; and such book so to be kept on every such plantation, shall be produced when called for by any justice of the peace, upon inquiry into any complaint of ill-treatment of any Slave or Slaves attached to, or worked upon such plantation or estate, under the penalty of twenty pounds.—<i>Section 22.</i></p>
			<p>No Slave shall, from and after the 1st day of January, 1827, carry any such instrument as is commonly called the cart-whip, as a mark or emblem of his authority while superintending the labour of any Slave or Slaves in or upon any plantation; and the person so offending, and every person who shall direct, authorize, instigate, procure, or be aiding, assisting, or abetting in any illegal use or</p>

TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions for restraining or regulating the Punishments of Slaves by their Masters, or those having Authorities from their Masters.
<p>An Act to repeal an Act intituled "An Act for making Slaves real Estate," and the first Clause of an Act intituled "An Act to appoint Commissioners for the Purpose of obtaining an exact Account of the Number of the coloured free People, and Number of Negroes within this Government and its Dependencies, and to ameliorate the Condition of Slaves, and for other Purposes.</p>	<p>15th Dec. 1825.</p>	<p>Under consideration.</p>	<p>exhibition of any such whip as aforesaid, shall be deemed, adjudged, and taken to be guilty of a misdemeanor; and being thereof convicted, shall suffer such punishment as the court, before which such misdemeanor is cognizable, shall in its discretion direct.—<i>Section 23.</i></p>
			<p>No person shall, on any pretence whatsoever, punish any Slave, whether his own property or otherwise, by fixing, or causing to be fixed, an iron or other collar round the neck of such Slave, or by loading the body or limbs of such Slave for any offence whatsoever, with chains or weights of any kind, other than a light collar without hooks, to indicate that such Slave is an incorrigible runaway, or one accustomed to commit depredations on the grounds of the other Slaves, and which collar shall only be put on by the direction of a justice, on due proof of the offence, under a penalty not less than five pounds, nor exceeding fifty pounds, to be recovered in a summary manner, before any two justices of the peace; and all the justices of the peace are required, under the penalty of one hundred pounds, on information and view of such offence, to order such collar, chains, irons, or weights, to be immediately taken off the Slave or Slaves wearing and bearing the same, save and except Slaves committed to the gaol or cage.—<i>Section 24.</i></p>
			<p>In case any justice of the peace shall receive any complaint or credible information from any Slave or otherwise, that any Slave has been wantonly or improperly punished or confined, contrary to the true intent and meaning of the Act, it shall be lawful for such justice to associate one other justice with him, and to issue their warrant to any constable, ordering him immediately to proceed to the place where such Slave is confined, and to release and bring him, her, or them before the justices, who are hereby authorized to commit the said Slave to the gaol until inquiry shall be made into the facts; and if upon such inquiry it shall be found that the said complaint is true, the justices are required to prosecute the offender according to law; but if it shall appear that such complaint was groundless, the justices shall punish the complainant and the person giving information thereof, if a free person, by imprisonment not exceeding ten days, and if a Slave by a number of stripes not exceeding thirty-nine, and commitment to hard labour for a period not exceeding ten days, and the costs of the prosecution shall be paid by the treasurer, in case the owner of the Slave shall not be capable of paying them upon certificate of the president of the court to that effect.—<i>Section 25.</i></p>
			<p>If any owner or other person whatsoever shall at his own will and pleasure, or by his direction, or with his knowledge, sufferance, privity, or consent, wantonly or cruelly whip, maltreat, beat, bruise,</p>

## ST. VINCENT.

41.

TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provision for restraining or regulating the Punishment of Slaves by their Masters, or those having Authority from their Masters.
An Act to repeal an Act intituled "An Act for making Slaves real Estate," and the first Clause of an Act intituled "An Act to appoint Commissioners for the Purpose of obtaining an exact Account of the Number of the coloured free People, and Number of Negroes within this Government and its Dependencies, and to ameliorate the Condition of Slaves, and for other Purposes."	15th Dec. 1825.	Under Consideration.	<p>cut, wound, or imprison, or keep in confinement without sufficient support, any Slave, he shall be liable to be indicted for such offence, and, upon conviction, shall be punished by fine not exceeding one hundred and fifty pounds, or imprisonment not exceeding twelve months, or both, for each and every Slave so wounded, punished, or confined as aforesaid, and such punishment is declared to be without prejudice to any action that may be brought for the recovery of treble the value of such Slave on account of the same, in case such slave shall not be the absolute and entire property of the offender.—Section 26.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Provision for enabling Slaves to acquire and enjoy Property.</p> <p>AFTER a preamble, reciting that by the usage of these islands, Slaves have been permitted to acquire, hold, and enjoy personal property, free from the control or interference of their owners, and it is expedient that such laudable custom should be continued and established by law, it is enacted, That if any owner of any Slave, or any other person, shall unlawfully take away from any Slave, or in any manner deprive or cause him to be deprived of any species of personal property, by him lawfully possessed or acquired, such person shall forfeit ten pounds over and above the value of any such property so taken away.—Section 5.</p> <p>If any white or free person, who is not the owner of any Slave, shall take away, or cause to be taken away, from any Slave, any article or thing whatsoever; or shall take, or cause to be taken away, from any Slave, any stock, meat, vegetables, fruit, provisions, grass, or any other article or thing, which such Slave shall be authorized by any laws, usages, or customs of these Islands, to sell or possess; or shall, after purchasing from any such Slave any of the articles or things aforesaid, refuse or omit to pay him the price agreed upon for the same, or shall remove, or take away by force from any Slave, or trample on the ground, or scatter about, or destroy any article or thing whatsoever aforesaid, or cause the same to be done, in any such cases, on complaint made by the owner of the said Slave, though it may be without oath, to any justice of the peace, in or near the parish where the offence is committed, such justice is directed by an order in writing, under his hand, stating the complaint made by such owner, to command such person against whom such complaint was made to appear before him, and any other justice who may be then and there present; and such justices are authorized to take the examination of such person complained of, upon his own oath with respect to the complain, who shall be compelled to answer upon oath such questions as the said justices may put to him; and if such person shall not fully answer such</p>

TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provision for enabling Slaves to acquire and enjoy Property.
<p>An Act to repeal an Act, intituled "An Act for making Slaves real Estate," and the first Clause of an Act intituled "An Act to appoint Commissioners for the Purpose of obtaining an exact Account of the Number of the coloured free People, and Number of Negroes within this Government and its Dependencies, and to ameliorate the Condition of Slaves, and for other Purposes."</p>	<p>11th Dec. 1825.</p>	<p>Under consideration.</p>	<p>questions, or having been duly summoned, refused to appear as aforesaid, he shall be considered as convicted of the said offence; or if such person having fully answered such questions, shall not fully exculpate himself, or shall be otherwise convicted before the said justices, he shall be compelled to pay compensation for the full value of the property injured, taken, or destroyed; and moreover, be fined by the said justices in any sum not exceeding ten pounds; and the justices upon recovery of the said sum of money, are to pay the compensation to the Slave, and fine into the public public treasury.—<i>Section 6.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Provisions respecting the Office of Protector and Guardian of Slaves.</i></p> <p>ANY Slave charged with any of the offences mentioned in the Act, or any offence whatsoever, which may render him liable to the punishment of death, transportation, or imprisonment for life, shall be tried in all respects in the same manner as free persons at the Court of Sessions, and six days before the sitting of the court, the clerk of the crown and peace shall deliver a list of all the Slaves so to be tried, to the president of the court, who shall thereupon appoint a barrister to act as counsel for each prisoner; and in case of an indictment between the said six days and the sitting of the court, then, and in such case, counsel shall be appointed for the prisoner as early as may be; and the counsel so appointed to defend the prisoner shall be paid by the treasurer, or his lawful deputy, the sum of sixteen pounds ten shillings currency.—<i>Section 69.</i></p> <p>It does not appear from the documents received at this department, that any Act has been passed by the Legislature of Saint Vincent, since the 13th of May, 1823, containing any provisions for preventing the separation of Slaves from their relatives.</p>

## DOMINICA.

TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions for promoting Religious Instruction of the Slaves, or the better Observance of the Sabbath.
An Act for the Encouragement, Protection, and better Government of Slaves, and for the general Amelioration of their Condition.	26th Jan. 1826.		<p>No Slaves except domestics, stock-keepers, watchmen, and sick-nurses, or others who may be required in attendance on the sick, shall be compelled to do any work whatsoever on any Sunday throughout the year, on Good Friday, on Christmas Day, the day following, or New-year's day, and if either of the said last-mentioned holidays shall fall on a Sunday, the following Wednesday shall be given in lieu thereof; provided that it shall and may be lawful, in case of any accident or danger, at any hour of the day or night, for the proprietor, renter, attorney, or manager, or other person in charge of any plantation, to compel the Slaves thereto attached to afford any assistance that may be required, wheresoever such accident or danger may arise; and any person offending against the provisions of this clause shall incur the penalty of fifty pounds, to be recovered as thereafter is directed.—<i>Section 2.</i></p> <p>After a preamble, reciting that it is expedient that the Slaves should be encouraged in the cultivation of provision-grounds for the subsistence of themselves and families, it is enacted, That every proprietor, renter, or agent of any Slave or Slaves, shall have the option of feeding such Slave or Slaves, as directed in the first clause of the act, or of allotting to them a sufficient portion of land for that purpose, not being less than half an acre for every such Slave, and shall appropriate one day in every week for the purpose of cultivating the same, except during crop, when it shall be lawful to withhold such day, on allowing to each adult two pounds of salted or pickled fish, and to each child under ten years one pound of the same; provided that, on no pretence whatsoever, shall less than twenty-six days in each year be allowed to each Slave; and that, in case of failure to comply with the enactments of this clause, or any of them, such offender shall, on conviction thereof, forfeit the sum of ten pounds; and on complaint of any Slave, or any other person on his behalf, to any magistrate, he is authorized to issue a summons, to be served by any constable, requiring the attendance of any witnesses in ten days from the date of such summons, for the purpose of giving evidence on such complaint; and if such witnesses shall refuse to obey such summons, they shall forfeit the sum of ten pounds, such penalty, when recovered, to be paid to the said Slave; provided, that if such complaint shall be found untrue, the justice is hereby authorized to order the said Slave to be punished in any number of stripes not exceeding thirty-nine.—<i>Section 3.</i></p>



TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions for promoting Religious Instruction of the Slaves, or the better Observance of the Sabbath.
An Act for the Encouragement, Protection, and better Government of Slaves, and for the general Amelioration of their Condition.	26th Jan. 1826.		<p>Every owner, manager, or other person in charge of any Slaves, shall, under the penalty of fifty pounds, make oath annually before the commissioners at the time of making the return of Slaves, under an Act passed the nineteenth day of February, one thousand eight hundred and eleven, entitled "An Act for ascertaining the number of white persons, free persons of colour, and Slaves in this island, to the following effect:" "I (naming the party and his or her description) do make oath and swear, that during the last twelve months I have fully complied with the several duties and obligations imposed upon me towards the Slaves under my charge, under and by virtue of the first, second, and third clauses of an Act of the Legislature of this island, made and passed the _____ day of _____, one thousand eight hundred and twenty _____, intituled 'An Act for the further encouragement, protection, and better government of Slaves, and for the general amelioration of their condition, So help me God.'" Which oath the said commissioners are required to administer, and to transmit a certificate of the same to the treasurer along with their returns, under the penalty of fifty pounds for every refusal or neglect. If such commissioners be themselves owners, or in charge of any such Slaves, they shall make such oath before some other justice of the peace, and shall duly transmit to the treasurer a certificate of the same, under the penalty aforesaid; provided that where it shall happen that the party making such return shall not have been in charge of the said Slaves during the whole of the preceding twelve months, then and in such case he shall only be required to make oath that the provisions and duties imposed by the said several clauses have been truly and faithfully observed and complied with to the best of his knowledge and belief.—<i>Section 4.</i></p> <p>Every proprietor, renter, attorney, manager, or person in charge of Slaves shall encourage such Slaves to Christian baptism, and shall afford every reasonable facility to them to attend divine worship on Sundays, under the penalty of five pounds for every offence.—<i>Section 5.</i></p> <p>After a preamble, reciting that the practice hitherto prevalent of making market on Sunday during divine service is highly indecorous, it is enacted that no article shall be exposed on Sunday to sale in the public market, or any other place, store-shop, or house, during the time of divine service of the Established Church; and any person herein offending, if a white or free person of colour, shall incur the penalty of ten pounds, and if a Slave, shall be punished in any number of stripes not exceeding thirty-nine, at the discretion of any justice of the peace.—<i>Section 7.</i></p>

TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions respecting the Admissibility of the Evidence of Slaves.
An Act for the Encouragement, Protection, and better Government of Slaves and for the general Amelioration of their Condition.	26th Jan. 1826.		<p>AFTER a preamble reciting that from the inadmissibility of Slave evidence, it has hitherto been found difficult to prosecute to conviction white or free persons, for offences against Slaves, and therefore for the furtherance of justice it is deemed proper in future to receive such evidence to such an extent as may be considered safe, but under such restrictions as are rendered absolutely necessary for the imperfect knowledge yet possessed by the great majority of the Slave population respecting the true nature of an oath, it is enacted that in all cases, except charges against their owners, it shall be lawful for all courts and magistrates to admit the evidence of any Slave having been duly baptized, and appearing to the said courts or magistrates, after having been minutely interrogated on the subject, thoroughly to comprehend the true nature and meaning of an oath: Provided that in every instance two such Slaves at least being duly examined apart, and out of the hearing of each other, depose to the same facts without materially contradicting each other; and provided also that no one shall be convicted of any offence on the evidence of Slaves, unless such offence shall be prosecuted within twelve months after the commission thereof.—Section 14.</p> <p>In order that the ends of justice may not be frustrated by the cunning or obstinacy of Slaves in refusing to give evidence, or in giving false evidence, it is enacted that every Slave who shall refuse or evade to give evidence when called upon by any court or magistrate for that purpose, shall for such contempt suffer punishment by whipping, at the discretion of such court or magistrate, not exceeding thirty-nine stripes: and that should any Slave be convicted of wilful perjury, such Slave shall be punished by pillory, solitary confinement on bread and water, whipping, or such other punishment as the court before whom such offender is tried shall in their discretion award.—Section 32.</p> <p><i>Provision for preventing the Separation of Slaves from their Relations.</i></p> <p>No Slave under the age of twelve years shall be sold separate and apart from its mother, under any pretence whatever, except for the purpose of being manumitted, or under a sentence of a court, as declared in the eleventh clause of this Act.—Section 15.</p> <p><i>Provisions for restraining or regulating the Punishments of Slaves by their Masters, or those having Authority from their Masters.</i></p> <p>AFTER a preamble reciting that there are Slaves of notorious bad character, and much in the habit of absenting themselves from their duty, and who</p>

TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions for restraining or regulating the Punishments of Slaves by their Masters, or those having Authority from their Masters.
An Act for the Encouragement, Protection, and better Government of Slaves, and for the general Amelioration of their Condition.	26th Jan. 1826.		<p>during such absence live by plunder, in consequence of which it frequently happens that they are ill treated or beaten when detected in such act, and returned to their owners in an enfeebled state, and therefore it is highly necessary to adopt some means of keeping such Slaves on the respective estates to which they belong; it is enacted that it shall be lawful for any proprietor, renter, attorney, manager, or overseer of any Slave who is in the habit of running away for the purpose of securing the person of such Slave, to affix a collar and chain, or hand-cuffs, not to exceed four pounds in weight; and it shall also be lawful for such Slaves to be taken out to work with such collar or chain with the other Slaves, provided that one or more of the fellow Slaves of said runaway do upon oath, before a magistrate, testify to the bad conduct and habits of such Slave, and that it is necessary so to confine the said runaway Slave to keep him on the property; and previous to such Slave being worked in chains as aforesaid, it shall be necessary for such proprietor, renter, attorney, manager, or overseer, to obtain a certificate from the magistrate before whom such testimony is produced, authorizing the same; and it shall be the duty of such proprietor, renter, attorney, manager, or overseer, to provide good and wholesome food for the said Slave during such confinement; and it shall be further lawful for any such proprietor, renter, attorney, manager, or other person in charge, to have on their property or plantation stocks bilboes, places of solitary confinement, or other secure means for the purpose of confining refractory Slaves, or such as are addicted to running away, and in default or neglect of the proprietors, renters, attorneys, or agents, complying with the provisions of this clause, he or she shall be fined in any sum not exceeding twenty pounds.</p> <p>—Section 34.</p> <p>If any person shall mutilate wantonly or cruelly, whip, or cause to be whipped, beat, bruise, cut, wound, or imprison, or keep in confinement without sufficient nourishment, any Slave, whether belonging to himself or any other person, such person being duly convicted of the same before the Court of King's Bench, shall be punished by fine, not exceeding two hundred pounds, or imprisonment not exceeding six months, or by both at the discretion of the court; and it shall also be lawful for the said court in atrocious cases where the same shall be so found by the jury, who are hereby directed to certify on the back of the indictment whether the case has by them been found atrocious or not, to take him out of the power of a master convicted of such violence as aforesaid, to order the marshal forthwith to sell such Slave to [any other person but the owner at public outcry, for the best price that can be procured, the money arising from such sale, after payment of all ex-</p>

## DOMINICA.

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TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions for restraining or regulating the Punishments of Slaves by their Masters or those having Authority from their masters.
An Act for the Encouragement, Protection, and better Government of Slaves and for the General Amelioration of their condition.	62th Jan. 1826.		<p>penses, to be delivered to such owner.—<i>Section 11.</i></p> <p>If any white or free person shall be guilty of wantonly striking or beating any Slave the property of another, such offender on conviction shall forfeit any sum not exceeding fifty pounds to be recovered as directed in the first clause of the Act.—<i>Section 12.</i></p> <p>After a preamble reciting that although the practice of punishing Slaves by the cart-whip has, for a considerable time past fallen into disuse, it is nevertheless deemed proper to prohibit the same by law: it is enacted that for the maintenance of discipline on plantations and elsewhere, a cat such as used in the British army, and no other instrument shall be employed for such punishments as may be lawfully inflicted, and that the whip commonly called the cart-whip, shall never thereafter be employed either as an instrument of punishment or an emblem of authority.—<i>Section 18.</i></p> <p>If any Slave shall disobey the lawful order of his proprietor, renter, attorney, manager or overseer, or shall be guilty of neglect of duty, absent without permission in writing from the proprietor, renter, attorney or agent on the plantation to which such Slave shall belong, or any act of misconduct such Slave shall be punished at the discretion of the said proprietor, renter, attorney or agent by confinement in the stocks, or by whipping on the shoulders, or both, provided such whipping if directed by the proprietor, renter or attorney, shall not at any time or for any one offence, or before the effects of any former punishment shall be thoroughly cured, exceed thirty-nine stripes, if directed by a manager of a plantation shall not exceed twenty stripes, and if by an overseer shall not exceed ten, and by a Slave superintendent of a plantation shall not exceed six stripes; provided also that no punishment by whipping exceeding ten stripes shall be inflicted on the same day on which the offence is committed: And provided further that no punishment by whipping shall be inflicted on a female Slave in such manner as to occasion any indecent exposure, and should any person be convicted of any offence against the enactments of this clause such offender shall forfeit a sum not exceeding thirty pounds, and not less than five pounds.—<i>Section 33.</i></p>

## DOMINICA.

TITLE OF ACT.	DATE OF ACT.	HOW DEALT WITH.	Provisions for enabling Slaves to acquire and enjoy Property.
An Act for the Encouragement, Protection, and better Government of Slaves, and for the General Amelioration of their Condition.	26th Jan., 1826.		<p>IF any white or free person shall forcibly take possession away or cause to be taken away from any Slave any live-stock, ground provisions, vegetables, or any other article of property, which by the laws, customs, and usages of the colony, such Slave is authorized to possess, or shall sell or dispose of, or destroy, or injure, any live-stock, except when the same shall be found trespassing; or if any such person, having purchased from such Slave any such article, shall refuse or neglect to pay for the same, or shall destroy or cause to be destroyed, any such article, as aforesaid, such offender shall on conviction be fined in any sum not exceeding twenty pounds, to be recovered as therein is directed, and when so recovered the amount to be given to the said Slave in compensation for the injury so sustained.—Section 13.</p> <p>It shall be lawful for the proprietor, renter, attorney, or agent, of any Slave, or his, her, or their representative, to maintain an action in their own names for the recovery of any debt due to any Slave belonging to him, her, or them, as if the same was really due to him or herself; and the jury in returning their verdict shall, if they find for the plaintiff, declare the same to be for the use of such Slave.—Section 16.</p> <p>It does not appear from the documents received at this department that any Act has been passed by the Legislature of Dominica since the 15th of May 1823, containing any provisions respecting the marriage of Slaves, for facilitating the manumission of Slaves, for preventing the sale of Slaves detached from the estates of their owners, for preventing the separation of Slaves from their relations, nor provisions respecting the office of protector and guardian of Slaves.</p>

1. In compiling the preceding Abstract, it has been found necessary to adopt, to a great extent, the exact words of the various Acts to which it refers. Any material abridgment of the language of these enactments would, in many instances, involve the necessity of putting a construction upon expressions, as to the precise import of which some doubt may be entertained, and may thus materially affect the accuracy of the paper.

2. Several of the Clauses abstracted in the preceding pages, relate to more than one of the subjects mentioned in the Address of the House of Commons. In those cases the Enactments have been arranged under those heads with which they have appeared to be most intimately connected.

3. No distinction is made in this Abstract between those Enactments which are new, and those which are a simple repetition of earlier Laws. The Address of the House of Commons has not referred to any such distinction, and in many cases it could not have been stated intelligibly, without making a very great and inconvenient addition to the length of this paper.

4. For the same reasons, no attempt has been made to point out the particulars in which the repeal of former laws, independently of new enactments, may affect the condition of Slaves in reference to the subjects noticed in the Address of the House of Commons.

5. The preceding Abstract is confined entirely to those subjects which are mentioned in the Address of the House of Commons. Many of the Acts referred to in it will be found to contain enactments, introduced expressly to ameliorate the condition of the Slaves, of which no mention is made in the preceding pages. Especially in relation to the food and clothing of Slaves, the preservation of their health, the attendance upon them in sickness, and the punishment of Slaves by judicial authority.

6. In some instances doubts have arisen, whether particular enactments did or did not properly fall within the meaning of the Address of the House of Commons. It is possible, therefore, that in the preceding Abstract some clauses may have been improperly introduced, and others improperly omitted, which it ought to have contained. The effect of any such misapprehension of the objects of the Address may, however, be readily corrected by reference to the printed Parliamentary Papers of the present Session, among which will be found the whole of the Laws referred to in these pages, with the exception of the Act of Jamaica on the 21st of December, 1825. That Act has been very recently received at this Office, and therefore is not yet printed for the information of Parliament.

