

ARTICLE VIII.

When more apprentices than one are confided to the same master, care shall be taken to select for that purpose such as are of the same African nation, and, if possible, of the same family; and in no case shall a child under fourteen years of age be separated from its mother; but such child shall always be apprenticed to the same master with its mother.

ARTICLE IX.

The name and address of the master, together with the name and position of the estate or house where the liberated negro is to be resident, shall be inserted opposite to the name of the negro in his contract or indenture.

ARTICLE X.

No negro shall be apprenticed to any master who resides more than twenty English miles from the town where the Mixed Commission, by which he was liberated, is established; and if any master, to whom such negro shall have been so apprenticed, shall afterwards change his residence, he shall be required to give immediate notice thereof to the Curator.

The apprentices must always reside at that particular estate or house of the master, which is registered as being within the above-mentioned distance from the place of sitting of the Mixed Commission.

ARTICLE XI.

No person shall be intrusted with one or more liberated negroes, unless he shall prove to the Board that he possesses ample means for the employment, maintenance, and support of such negro or negroes, and unless he shall make himself answerable, under the penalty of eighty dollars for each negro, that the conditions under which such negro is received shall be duly observed.

ARTICLE XII.

The master shall engage to pay a stipulated sum for the hire of each apprentice.

The Curator may, if the amount is to be paid down in one sum, demand it previously to the hire; and if the sum is to be periodically paid, the Curator may demand the same quarterly in advance.

ARTICLE XIII.

The master shall undertake,—

1. That the apprentice shall be maintained with wholesome and abundant food; and shall be provided with such clothes as are usual, according to the custom of the country.

2. That he shall be instructed in the truths of the Christian religion, in order that he may be baptized before the expiration of the second year of his apprenticeship.

3. That he shall be vaccinated as soon as possible after having been delivered into the charge of the master; that in sickness he shall have proper medical advice, and shall be treated with due care and attention; and that in case of death he shall be decently buried at the master's expence.

4. That the apprentice shall be taught some useful business, or be instructed in some trade or mechanical art, whereby he may be enabled to maintain himself when the period of his service shall have expired.

5. That whenever an infant is born of any female apprentice, immediate information thereof shall be given by the master to the Board of Superintendence, in order that the fact may be duly registered.

6. That baptism of an infant, so born, shall take place within three months after its birth, and that the freedom of the child shall be recorded in the register of baptism; but that such child shall remain with its mother, and shall be maintained and treated by the master of the mother, in the same manner as an apprentice, until the apprenticeship of the mother ceases.

ARTICLE XIV.

No master shall, in any case, be authorized to transfer to another master his apprenticed negro, without the especial and written sanction of the Board; and if the master shall leave the country, or shall change his residence to a part of the country beyond the limits hereinbefore fixed for persons having apprentices; or if he shall become so reduced in his circumstances, as to be obliged to give up his establishment, then, and in any of these cases, he shall report the same to the Board, and shall bring his apprentices, and deliver them up to the said Board, by whom they shall be received, and shall afterwards be apprenticed to another master for the remainder of the period which such apprentices may have to serve, and under the same conditions as those imposed upon the first master. But in no case shall the master be allowed to deliver up his apprentice to any other authority than to the said Board, or to the Curator under the orders of the Board.

If any apprentice shall be guilty of crimes which render him obnoxious to the laws of the country, or shall be guilty of habitual drunkenness, insubordination, wilful carelessness, or destruction of his master's property, the master may in such case bring him before the Board of Superintendence, and upon proof of the facts, the said Board shall have power to cancel the indentures.

ARTICLE XV.

If an apprentice should run away, his master shall give immediate information thereof to the Curator, who shall instantly proceed to a summary investigation of the fact, for the information of the Board of Superintendence.

Any master who shall be proved to have improperly disposed of an apprentice, whom he has reported as dead or absconded, shall pay as a fine the sum of three hundred dollars.

The half of this fine shall be paid to the informer, and the remainder to the Curator, to be placed at the disposal of the Board for the purposes hereinafter mentioned.