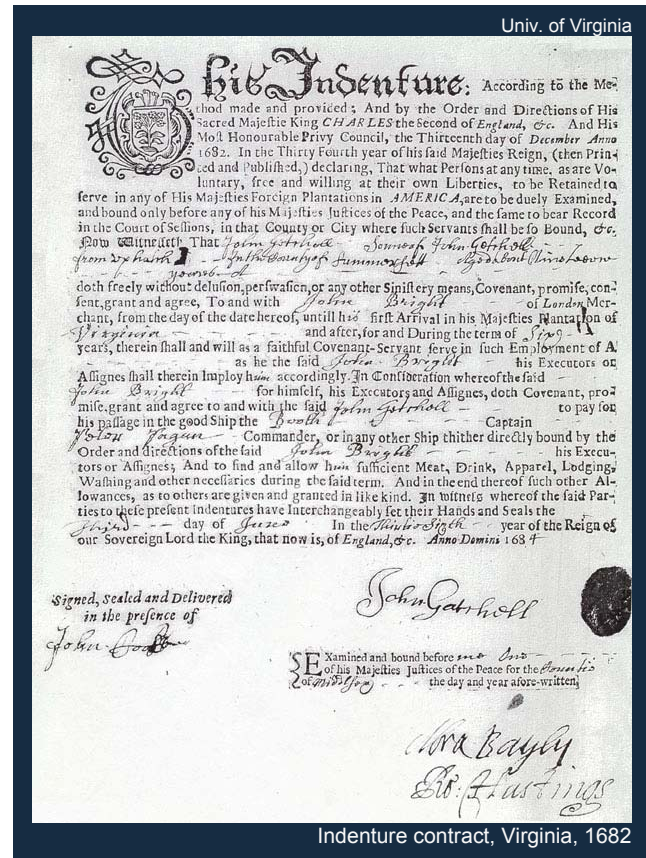


A SERVANT UPRISING in VIRGINIA, 1640

Whereas complaint has been made to this Board by Cap^t W^m Pierce Esq^r that six of his servants and a negro of M^r Reginolds has plotted to run away unto the Dutch plantation from their said masters and did assay to put the same in Execution upon Saturday night being the 18th day July 1640 as appeared to the Board by the Examinations of Andres Noxe, Rich^d Hill, Rich^d Cookeson and John Williams and likewise by the consession of Christopher Miller, Peter Wilcocke, and Emanuel the foresaid Negro who had at the fore said time, taken the skiff of the said Cap^t W^m Pierce their master, and corn powder and shot and guns, to accomplish their said purposes, which said persons sailed down in the said skiff to Elizabeth river where they were taken and brought back again, the Court taking the same into consideration, as a dangerous precedent for the future time (if unpunished) did order that Christopher Miller a dutchman (a prince agent in the business) should receive the punishment of whipping and to have thirty stripes, and to be burnt in the cheek with the letter R and to work with a shackle on his leg for one whole year, and longer if said master shall see cause and after his full time of service is Expired with his said master to serve the colony for seven whole years, and the said Peter Wilcocke to receive thirty stripes and to be Burnt in the cheek with the letter R and, after his term of service is Expired with his said master to serve the colony for three years and the said Rich^d Cookson after his full time expired with his master to serve the



colony for two years and a half, and the said Rich^d Hill to remain upon his good behaviour until the next offence and the said Andrew Noxe to receive thirty stripes, and the said John Williams a dutchman and a Chirurgeon [surgeon] after his full time of service is Expired with his master to serve the colony for seven years, and Emanuel the Negro to receive thirty stripes and to be burnt in the cheek with the letter R. and to work in shackle one year or more as his master shall see cause, and all those who are condemned to serve the colony after their times are expired with their masters, then their said masters are required hereby to present to this board their said servants so condemned to the colony.

Decisions of the General Court of Virginia, 1640