A SERVANT UPRISING in VIRGINIA, 1640

Whereas complaint has been made to this Board by $\operatorname{Cap}^{t} W^{m}$ 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 $\operatorname{Cap}^{t} W^{m}$ Pierce their master, and corn poweder 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 precident 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 shakle on his legg 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

Univ. of Virginia Bit InSenfure: According to the Met The second secon Signed, Sealed and Delivered in the prefence of ohn Good the day and year afore-written Indenture contract, Virginia, 1682

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 Chirugeon [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 shakle 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

National Humanities Center, 2006: www.nhc.rtp.nc.us/pds/pds.htm. In Warren M. Billings, ed., *The Old Dominion in the Seventeenth Century:* A Documentary History of Virginia, 1606-1689 (published for the Institute of Early American History and Culture at Williamsburg, Virginia, by The University of North Carolina Press, 1975), p. 159. Complete image credits at www.nhc.rtp.nc.us/pds/amerbegin/imagecredits.htm.