# M Act for the gradual abolition of Slavery.

Be it encected by the people, the state of sew Sork represented in Senate and Spembly That any Shild born of a slaw within this state after the fourth day of July need, shall be deemed and adjudged to be born few. Revided nevertheless that such Shild shall be the sewant of the legal proprietor of his or her mother, until sewh servant if a male shall arrive at the age of twenty eight years, and if a finale at the age of Twenty five years.

And be it further enacted, That such proprietor his, her, or their service of such their service of such wild until he or she shall arrive to the age aforesaid, in the same manner as if such bhild had been bound to service by he verseers of the Bor.

And beit further enacted, That every person being an Inhali tant of this State who shall be entitled to the source of a thild born after the fourth day of July as aforesaid, shall within nine months after the birth of such Child, cause to be dele wered to the Glerk of the City or Town, whereof such person shall be an Inhabitant, a certificate in writing containing the name and addition of such master or meshely, and the name age, and set of every child so born, which certificate shall be, by the said Clerk recorded in a Book to be by him for that purpose provided, which record shall be good and sufficient widence of the age of such Child, And the black of such bity or Town shall receive from said person Twelve Cents for wery bhild so registered, and if any such person neglects to make a return of every such thild as afores said to said black within nine months after the Birsh thereof, such person shall forfiel and pay Five Dollars forevery such offence, to be suced for and recovered by the Clerk of the city or Town in which such person resides,

She one half for his own use and she remainder for the use of the Bor of the said city in Town: Provided nevertheless that it shall be and is hereby made the duty of the Town ther to register the certificate of any such thild at any time after nine months from its birth; and every marter or mistress masters or mistresses of every such thild shall, for fiel and pay the sum of One Dollar for every month, he she, or they shall neglect to deliver such certificate to the Town blenk.

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And be it further enacted, that the person entitled to such service may nevertheles within one year after the Birth of such thild elect to abandon his or her right to such service by a notification of the same from under his or her hand and lodged with the tlenk of the Town or lity where the owner of the mother of any such thild may reside; in which case way thild abandoned as afrees aid shall be considered as tapes of the respective Town or bity where the proprietor or twent of the mother of such bhild may reside at the time of its birth; and liable to be bound out by the treasure of the Toor on the same Terms and bonditions that the bhildren of paupus were subject to be fore the passing this act.

And beth further encited, that way chilo abandoned as a foresaid shall be supported and maintained till bound out by the Oversens of the Boras of overaid at the expense of this state-provided however that the said support does not by and three Dollars and fifty bents per Month for each Chilo-and the Comptrollie is hereby authorized and directed to draw his Wamant on the Treasurer of this Hater for the amount of such account not exceeding the allowance above prescribed, and the accounts of the respective hours or Cities being first signed by the Supervisor of the town or the Mayor of the lity as the case may be where such Chilo may be maintained as a foresaid. Inch Provided also that the Sesson so was a foresaid. And Provided also that the Sesson so was poor and mountains way such Chilo

tillitamines at the age of one year, and every owner omitting to give Notice in due form as aforesaid shall be answerable for the maintainance of every such Child until the arrival of the respective periods of servitude specified in the first seption of this act.

And be it further enceted that it shall lawful for the owner of any slave immediately after the passing of this det to manumit such slave by a bertificate for that purpose under his hand and seal.

State of New York

Substitute March 20th 3799.

Shis Bill having bennead the third time

Resolved that the Bill dopals.

By Order of the Senate.

Stephen Van Ren Kelain

Dirch Ten Broech Speaker

Survey of May Substitute of the afrendy

Stephen Van Ren Kelain

Dirch Ten Broech Speaker

come that were come or In Act for the gradual abolition of Slavery? Mountain of the amount was freeze and the state of the second In Council of Revision to it is a commer and in Resolved that it loss not appear improper to the Council that this bill should become a Low of this Later not be technicale for that peoples John Jay-Sintered - 100 forth the describe france of HYSA ISURE TO

# **Gradual Abolition**

# An Act for the *gradual abolition* of Slavery.

Be it *enacted* by the people of the state of New York repre =sented in Senate and Afsembly, That any Child born of a slave within this State after the fourth day of July next, shall be *deemed* and *adjudged* to be born free: Provided neverthelefs that such Child shall be the *servant* of the legal *proprietor* of his or her mother until such servant if a male shall arrive at the age of twenty eight years, and if a female at the age of twenty-five years.

And be it further enacted That such proprietor his, her, or their *Heirs* or *Afsigns* shall be entitled to the service of such child until he or she shall arrive to the age aforesaid, in the same manner as if such Child had been *bound* to service by the *Overseers of the Poor*.

And be it further enacted, That every person being an Inhabi =tant of this State who shall be entitled to the service of a child born after the four day of July as aforesaid, shall within nine months after the birth of such child, cause to be deli =vered to the clerk of the city or Town, whereof such person shall be an inhabitant, a certificate in writing containing the name and addition of such master or mistrefs, and the name age, and sex of every child so born, which certificate shall be, by the said Clerk recorded shall be good and sufficient evidence of the age of such Child, And the Clerk of such City or Town shall receive from said person Twelve cents for every Child so registered, and if any such person neglects to make a return of every such Child as afore said to said Clerk within nine months after the Birth thereof, such person shall *forfeit* and pay Five Dollars for every such offence, to be sued for and recovered by the Clerk of the City or Town in which such person resides,

# **Gradual Abolition**

the one half for his own use and the remainder for the use of the Poor of the said City or Town: Provided neverthelefs that it shall be and is hereby made the duty of the Town Clerk to register the certificate of any such child at any time after nine months from its birth and every master or mistrefs, masters or mistrefses of every such Child shall forfeit and pay the sum of One Dollar for every month, he she, or they shall neglect to deliver such certificate to the Town Clerk.

And be it further enacted that the person entitled to such service may neverthlefs within on year after the Birth of such child elect to *abandon* his or her right to such service by a notification of the same from under his or her hand and lodged with the Clerk of the Town or city where the owner of the mother of any such Child may reside; in which case every child abandoned as aforesaid shall be considered as *paupers* of the respective Town or City where the proprietor or Owner of the mother of such Child may reside at the time of its birth; and liable to be bound out by the Overseers of the Poor on the same Terms and Conditions that the Children of paupers were subject to before the pafsing this Act.

And be it further enacted that every Child abandoned as aforesaid shall be supported and maintained till bound out by the Overseers of the Poor as aforesaid at the expence of this State provided however that the said support does not exceed three Dollars and fifty Cents per Month for each child and the *comptroller* is hereby authorized and directed to draw his *Warrant* on the *Treasurer* of this State for the amount of such account not exceeding the allowance above prescribed, And the Accounts of the respective Towns or cities being first signed by the Supervisor of the Town or Mayor of the City as the case may be where such Child may be maintained as aforesaid. And Provided also that the Person so abandoning as aforesaid shall at his own expence support and maintain every such child

# **Gradual Abolition**

till it arrives at the age of one year, And every owner *omitting* to give notice in due form as aforesaid shall be answerable for the maintenance of every such child until the arrival of the respective period of *servitude* specified in the first sec =tion of this Act.

And be it further enacted that it shall be lawful for the owner of any slave immediately after the passing of this Act to *manumit* such slave by a certificate for that purpose under his hand and Seal.

State of New York
In Senate March 20<sup>th</sup>, 1799
This Bill having been read the third time
Resolved that the Bill do pafs.
By Order of the Senate.
Stephen Van Renfselaer
A. Prudent

State of New York
In Afsembly February 9<sup>th</sup>, 1799
This Bill having been read the third time
Resolved that the Bill do pafs.
By Order of the Afsembly.
Birck Ten Broeck Speaker

An Act for the gradual abolition of Slavery.
In Council of Revision
29<sup>th</sup> March 1799
Resolved that it does not appear
improper to the Council that this bill
should become a Law of this State
John Jay