A Colonial Indenture

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This indenture from 1759 bonded Jesse Cook, aged seventeen, as an apprentice to Hezekiah Mohun, a Bertie County shipwright, until Cook's twenty-first birthday. Transcript is below.

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North Carolina 9 MINE made the Iwenty Josenth day of april in the year of our Lord One Thousand flower handred and filly brine Between John Brown loquere one of the founty fourt of Bertie and his Succeporos withiah Mohun of the some founty Fast. Witheweth that the said John by Virtue of the Power and afethority in him (hoplan) lasted indunto the vaid Myzekiah fohundar a eprentice Jefse look Orphanfor Minor of Jamuel fook Deed about the age of Teventeen years; The still Jefor look with the vaid Hezelketh Mohun to Live untill he whall accomplish The age of Iwenty One years; during all which Termortine the wail tope lotok hill said Mast of he hall faithfully love and all his Lawful minger de every rohers Glady Boy Neither hall the the aid Jefor look fleguent bublick flowers Contract Hatrimoney or Commet From cation during the said Ferme and the said Hozekiah Mohun doth Covenant Bromise and agree to and with the vaid John Brown and his Succepor that he will Teach or fame to be Taught and Instructed the vaid lefve look in the artand Mistery of a Ship Wright in the Bost Manner that he fant and la brother he will find and Provide for therait Jefor look, Sufficient Moat Brink apparell Hav hing and Lodging in Vickness and in health for and during the vaid Torfor; and the said Herehiah Mohun the further Covenant and Oblige in himself to Cause the vaid Jefre Cook to be Taught to Read and Write; and also at the Exprination of the ward Form Tay to the aid apprentice what the An in that lave dothe estimony where of the Parties to the of prasonto have hereunto Interchangeably Vet their hands and Soals the day and year first of bove Whitlend Scaled and Delivered in presence of John Brown Herchial Mohun

Style):

Wynns, Benjamin. Indenture Contract. 1759. Bertie County, NC, County Records, North Carolina State Archives (CR.010.101.7).

Read the related article:Land Ownership and Labor in Carolina
Primary Source: Jesse Cook's Orphan

Apprenticeship

Transcript:

This Indenture made the Twenty-Seventh day of April in the year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Nine between John Brown Esquire one of the Justices of the County Court of Bertie and his Successors of the one Part and Hezekiah Mohun of the same County and Province Ship Wright of the other Part. Witnesseth that the said John Brown by Virtue of the Power and Authority in him (by Law) vested do Put and Bind unto the said Hezekiah Mohun as an Apprentice Jesse Cook Orphan (or Minor) of Samuel Cook Decd. [deceased] about the age of Seventeen years; The said Jesse Cook, with the said Hezekiah Mohun to Live untill he shall Accomplish the age of Twenty One years: during all which Term or Time the said Jesse Cook his said Master he shall faithfully Serve and all his lawful Commands everywhere Gladly Obey. Neither shall the said Jesse Cook frequent Publick Houses, Contract Matrimony or Commit Fornication during the said Term. And the said Hezekiah Mohun doth Convenant Promise and Agree to and with the said John Brown and his Successors that he will Teach or Cause to be Taught and Instructed the said Jesse Cook in the art and Mistery of a Ship Wright in the Best Manner that he Can, And also that he will find and Provide for the said Jesse Cook, Sufficient Meat Drink apparrel Washing and Lodging in Sickness and in health for and during the said Term; And the said Hezekiah Mohun doth further Covenant and Oblige himself to Cause the said Jesse Cook to be Taught to Read and Write; And also at the Expiration of the said Term Pay to the said Apprentice what the Law in that Case doth allow. In Testimony whereof the Parties to these presents have hereunto Set their hands and Seals the day and year first above Written. Sealed and Delivered in Presence of John Brown.

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