

**Indenture of an orphaned Indian boy named George to Joseph and Elizabeth Martin.**

**12/21/1781**

**PHS #211.012**

This indenture witnesseth that George, a mulatto boy of an Indian woman known or called by the name of Esther Richmond, deceased, formerly a resident in Portsmouth within the County of Newport, Hath put himself and therefore doth, voluntary and of his own free will and accord and with the consent of us, two of the Justices of the County aforesaid, doth put and bind himself apprentice to Joseph Martin of Portsmouth in the County of Newport aforesaid, and Elizabeth, his wife, their heirs and Assigns to learn the art, trade, or mastery of husbandry work after the manner of an apprentice to serve from the day of the Date hereof, until he shall arrive to the age of twenty-one years, which will be on the fifth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety four. Next ensuring to be complete and ended during all which said term the said Apprentice, his said Master and mistress faithfully shall serve their secrets, keep their lawful commands, gladly obey, he shall do no damage to his said Master or mistress, nor flee, it done by others without letting or giving notice thereof to his said Master or mistress, He shall not waste said Master or mistresses goods, nor lend them unlawfully to any, he shall not commit fornication nor contract matrimony within said term, at cards or dice or any other unlawful game he shall not play whereby his said Master of mistress may have damage with their own goods or the goods of others, he shall not absent himself by day or by night from his Masters of mistresses service without their leave, or haunt Ale-houses, Taverns, or Playhouses but in all things behave himself as a good and faithful Apprentice ought to do towards his said Master and Mistress, their heirs and Assigns during the said term, and the said Master and Elizabeth, his wife, and their heirs and Assigns, do hereby promise to teach and instruct or cause the said Apprentice to be taught and instructed in the art, trade, or calling of husbandry work by the best ways and means they can, and learn him to read if he be capable to attain the same, finding him sufficient apparel, meat, drink, washing and lodging, fitting for such an Apprentice both in sickness and in health, and after expiration of the above-said term to dismiss the said Apprentice and procure and deliver to him one good new suit of apparel throughout from head to foot, besides his usual wearing apparel. In testimony whereof the Parties to these present have hereunto interchangeably set their hands and seals, the twenty-first day of December in the sixth year of American Independence, Anno Dom. 1781

Signed, Sealed & Delivered in the presence of and approved, approbated & allowed by us.

[Signed by:]

John Thurston [Justice]

Thomas Shearman [Justice]

Joseph Martin

Elizabeth Martin

