

of them will even give money to the parents, to have boys from ten to fifteen years of age bound apprentices to them till the age of twenty-one; and many poor parents have by that means, on their arrival in the country, raised money enough to buy land sufficient to establish themselves, and to subsist the rest of their family by agriculture. — These contracts for apprentices are made before a magistrate who regulates the agreement, according to reason and justice, and having in view the formation of a future useful citizen, obliges the master to engage by a written indenture, not only that during the time of service stipulated, the apprentice shall be duly provided with meat, drink, apparel, washing and lodging, and at its expiration with a complete new suit of cloaths, but also that he shall be taught to read, write and cast accounts, and that he shall be well instructed in the art or profession of his master, by which he may afterwards gain a livelihood, and be able in his turn to raise a family. A copy of this indenture is given the apprentice, or his friends, and the magistrate keeps a record of it, to which recourse may be had in case of failure, by the master, in any point of performance.

This desire among masters to have more hands employed in working for them, induces them to pay the passages of young persons of both sexes, who on their arrival agree to serve them two three, or four years; those who have already learnt a trade, agreeing for a shorter term, in proportion to their skill, and