

allege that such Will, Codicil, or other Instrument, is the property of any person, or that the same is of any value.

The Stealing of Writings relating to real estate.

XXVIII. And be it enacted, That if any person shall steal any Paper or Parchment, written or printed, or partly written and partly printed, being Evidence of the Title, or of any part of the Title, to any Real Estate, every such Offender shall be deemed guilty of a Misdemeanor; and being convicted thereof, shall be liable to suffer such punishment as is herein-before last mentioned; and in any Indictment for such offence, it shall be sufficient to allege the thing stolen to be Evidence of the Title, or of part of the Title, of the person, or of some one of the persons, having a present Interest, whether legal or equitable, in the Real Estate to which the same relates, and to mention such Real Estate or some part thereof; and it shall not be necessary to allege the thing stolen to be of any value.

These provisions as to Wills and Writings shall not lessen any remedy which the party aggrieved now has.

XXIX. Provided always, and be it enacted, That nothing in this Act contained, relating to either of the Misdemeanors aforesaid, nor any Proceeding, Conviction or Judgment to be had or taken thereupon, shall prevent, lessen or impeach any remedy at Law or in Equity, which any party aggrieved by any such offence might or would have had if this Act had not been passed; but nevertheless, the Conviction of any such Offender shall not be received in Evidence in any Action at Law, or Suit in Equity, against him; and no person shall be liable to be convicted of either of the Misdemeanors aforesaid by any Evidence whatever, in respect of any act done by him, if he shall, at any time previously to his being indicted for such offence, have disclosed such act on oath, in consequence of any compulsory process of any Court of Law or Equity, in any Action, Suit or Proceeding which shall have been, *bona fide*, instituted by any party aggrieved.