

fence by the Justice, shall forfeit and pay, over and above the value of the Goods, Merchandize or Articles, such sum of Money, not exceeding Five Pounds, as to the Justice shall seem meet.

XXIV. *And be it enacted*, That if any person shall steal, or shall, for any fraudulent purpose, take from its place of deposit for the time being, or from any person having the lawful custody thereof; or shall unlawfully and maliciously obliterate, injure or destroy, any Record, Writ, Return, Panel, Process, Interrogatory, Deposition, Affidavit, Rule, Order, or Warrant of Attorney, or any original document whatever, of, or belonging to any Court of Record, or relating to any matter, civil or criminal, begun, depending or terminated, in any such Court, or any Bill, Answer, Interrogatory, Deposition, Affidavit, Order or Decree, or any original Document whatsoever, of, or belonging to, any Court of Equity, or relating to any cause or matter begun, depending or terminated, in any such Court—every such offender shall be guilty of a Misdemeanor, and, being convicted thereof, shall be liable, at the discretion of the Court, to suffer such punishment, by fine or imprisonment, or by both, as the Court shall award; and it shall not, in any indictment for such offence, be necessary to allege that the article, in respect of which the offence is committed, is the property of any person, or that the same is of any value.

Stealing Records, &c.

XXV. *And be it enacted*, That if any person shall, either during the life of the Testator or Testatrix, or after his or her death, steal, or for any fraudulent purpose, destroy or conceal, any Will, Codicil, or other Testamentary Instrument, whether the same shall relate to Real or Personal Estate, or to both, every such offender shall be guilty of a Misdemeanor, and, being convicted thereof, shall be liable to suffer such punishment, by fine or imprisonment, or by both, as the Court shall award; and it shall not, in any indictment for such offence, be necessary to allege that such Will or Codicil, or other Instrument, is the property of any person, or that the same is of any value.

Stealing or destroying Wills

XXVI. *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 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, by fine or imprisonment, or by both, as the Court shall award; 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 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.

Stealing evidence of title to Real Estate

XXVII. *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 whatsoever 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.

Not to affect the remedy at Law or Equity of party aggrieved

XXVIII. *And be it enacted*, That if any person shall steal any Horse, Mare, Gelding, Colt or Filly, or any Bull, Cow, Ox, Heifer or Calf, or any Ram, Ewe, Sheep or Lamb, or shall wilfully kill any of such Cattle, with intent to steal the carcase or skin, or any part of the Cattle so killed, every such offender shall be guilty of Felony, and, being convicted thereof, shall be imprisoned for any term not exceeding seven years.

Stealing Horses and other Cattle

XXIX. *And be it enacted*, That if any person shall steal, or shall cut, break, root up, or otherwise destroy or damage, with intent to steal the whole or any part of any Tree, Sapling or Shrub, or any Underwood, respectively, growing in any Park, Pleasure Ground, Garden, Orchard or Avenue, or in any Ground adjoining or belonging to any Dwelling House, every such offender, (in case the value of the articles or article stolen, or the amount of the injury done, shall exceed the sum of Ten Shillings,) shall be guilty of a Misdemeanor,

Stealing or destroying Trees, &c. in Parks, &c.