

C. A. P. CXXXII.

An Act respecting Inquests by Coroners.

HER Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Assembly of Canada, enacts as follows:

1. No Inquest shall be held on the body of any deceased person by any Coroner until such Coroner has reason to believe that the deceased died from violence or unfair means, or by culpable or negligent conduct, either of himself or of others. 13, 14 V. c. 56, s. 1. In what cases only inquests shall be held.
2. But upon the death of any prisoner or any Lunatic confined in any Lunatic Asylum, the Warden, Gaoler, Keeper or Superintendent of any Penitentiary, Gaol, Prison, House of Correction, Lock-up house, House of Industry or Lunatic Asylum in which such prisoner or Lunatic died, shall immediately give notice thereof to some Coroner of the County or City in which such death takes place, and such Coroner shall proceed forthwith to hold an Inquest upon the body. 13, 14 V. c. 56, s. 2. Proceedings in case of the death of any prisoner or person confined in a Lunatic Asylum.
3. If any person, having been duly summoned as a juror or as a witness to give evidence upon any Coroner's Inquest, does not, after being openly called three times, appear and serve as such juror, or appear and give evidence as such witness, such Coroner may impose such fine upon the delinquent person as he thinks fit, not exceeding twenty shillings; and shall thereupon make out and sign a certificate, containing the name, residence and trade or calling of such person, the amount of the fine imposed, and the cause of such fine, and transmit such certificate to the Clerk of the Peace of the County in which such person resides, on or before the first day of the Quarter Sessions of the Peace then next ensuing, and cause a copy of such certificate to be served upon such person by leaving it at his residence, within a reasonable time after such Inquest. Penalty on persons summoned to attend inquests and not attending.
4. The fine so certified shall be estreated, levied and applied in like manner, and subject to the like powers, provisions and penalties in all respects, as if it had been part of the fines imposed at such Quarter Sessions. And how enforced.
5. Nothing herein contained shall affect any power now by law vested in any Coroner for compelling any person to appear and give evidence before him, or for punishing any person for contempt of Court, in not so appearing and giving evidence or otherwise. 13, 14 V. c. 56, s. 3. Former powers of the coroner not to be affected.
6. No Inquisition found upon or by any Coroner's Inquest, nor any judgment recorded upon or by virtue of any such Inquisition, Omission of unnecessary