

**31.** No person holding an office created by or continued under this Act (save in the case provided for in the seventh section) or employed in the Department, shall while holding such office or employment, directly or indirectly purchase any right, title or interest in any public land, or any land scrip, nor deal nor traffic in the same, either in his own right, or by the interposition of any other person, or in the name of any other person in trust for himself, nor shall take or receive any fee or emolument for negotiating or transacting any business connected with the duties of his office or employment; And any person offending in the premises shall forfeit his office or employment, and be liable to a penalty of four hundred dollars, to be recovered in action of debt by any person suing for the same.

**32.** If any agent appointed or continued in office under this Act shall knowingly and falsely inform, or cause to be informed, any person applying to him to locate or purchase any land within his division and agency, that the same has already been located, assigned or purchased, or shall refuse to permit the person so applying to purchase the same, or, where entitled, to locate the same, according to existing Regulations, such agent shall be liable therefor to the person so applying in the sum of *five dollars* for each acre of land which the person so applying offered to locate or purchase, to be recovered by action of debt in any court of record having jurisdiction of the amount.

**33.** If any person or persons shall, before or at the time of the public sale of any of the lands of the Province, by intimidation, combination, or unfair management, hinder or prevent, or attempt to hinder or prevent, any person from bidding upon or purchasing any lands so offered for sale, every such offender, his, her, or their aiders and abettors, shall, for every such offence, be guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding four hundred dollars, or imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, or both, in the discretion of the Court.

**34.** With a view to remove doubts, and to quiet the titles to certain lands heretofore granted, it is enacted, that the non observance and non fulfilment of the condition imposed in and by certain patents issued for public lands, of taking the oaths which may have been heretofore prescribed, in case of any subsequent sale, conveyance, enfeoffment or exchange, by the patentee, and of recording such oaths, within twelve months after having taken possession, in the office of the Secretary of the Province, or of performing certain settlement duties, shall not affect in any way the patent or title of any patentee, or of any subsequent purchaser or proprietor.

**35.** Whereas doubts have been entertained as to the power vested in the Crown to dispose of and grant water lots, in the harbors, rivers and other navigable waters in Upper Canada, and