

authority to hear, receive, and examine evidence, either by the production of the original, or by an examined copy thereof, or by a copy thereof purporting to be certified under the hand of the person having the charge of the original; and which person is hereby required to furnish such certified copy to any person applying at a reasonable time for the same, upon payment of the sum of two shillings and six pence; and every such register or copy of a register, and also every certificate of registry granted under any of the said Acts relating to the registry of British vessels, and purporting to be signed as required by law, shall be received in evidence in any Court of justice in this Island, or before any person having by law, or by consent of parties, authority to hear, receive, and examine evidence, as *prima facie* proof of all the matters contained or recited in such register, when the register or such copy thereof as aforesaid is produced, and of all the matters contained or recited in, or endorsed on such certificate of registry, when the said certificate is produced.

registry may be proved by production of original, or an examined or certified copy, &c.

IV. And whereas it is expedient, as far as possible, to reduce the expense attendant upon the proof of criminal proceedings: Be it enacted, that whenever in any proceeding whatsoever, it may be necessary to prove the trial and conviction or acquittal of any person charged with any indictable offence, it shall not be necessary to produce the record of the conviction or acquittal of such person, or a copy thereof, but it shall be sufficient that it be certified, or purport to be certified, under the hand of the Clerk of the Court, or other officer having the custody of the records of the Court where such conviction or acquittal took place, or by the deputy of such Clerk or other officer, that the paper produced is a copy of the record of the indictment, trial, conviction and judgment, or acquittal, as the case may be, omitting the formal parts thereof.

Where necessary to prove conviction or acquittal of person charged, not necessary to produce record, but same may be certified under hand of Clerk of the Court.

V. Whenever any book or other document is of such a public nature as to be admissible in evidence on its mere production from the proper custody, and no statute exists which renders its contents provable by means of a copy, any copy thereof or extract therefrom shall be admissible in evidence in any Court of Justice in this Island, or before any person now or hereafter having by law, or by consent of parties, authority to hear, receive and examine evidence, provided it be proved to be an examined copy or extract, or provided it purport to be signed and certified as a true copy or extract by the officer to whose custody the original is intrusted; and which officer is hereby required to furnish such certified copy or extract to any person applying at a reasonable time for the same, upon payment of a reasonable sum for the same, not exceeding one shilling for every folio of ninety words; save

Examined or certified copies of public documents, &c., admissible in evidence in this Island in certain cases.