
 CHAPTER 36.

LAW ABOUT WITNESSES.

Chapter 36. *And be it &c:* That ther Shall be Two credible Witnesses in all Cases in order to judgment, And all Witnesses coming or Called to testify their knowledge in or to any matter or thing in any Court, or befor any Lawfull Authority within the Said Province & territories thereunto annexed Shall there give & deliver in their Evidence or testimony, By solemnly promising to speak the truth, the whole truth, & nothing but the truth to the mater or thing in Question.

And in Case any Person so called to evidence shall afterwards be Convicted of Will-full false hood, Such person Shall Suffer & Undergo Such damage or penalty, as the person or persons against whom hee or shee bore false witness, did or should undergo, & Shall also make Satisfaction to the party wronged, & be publickly exposed for a false witness, never to be Credited again in any Court, or befor any Magistrate in the said Province &c.

And whosoever shall be Convicted of Lying in Conversation, Shall for every Such offence pay half a Crown, or Suffer 3 days' imprisonment in the house of Correction at hard Labour.

Originally chapter 44, confirmed by chapter 63, 1683, and renumbered. Declared a fundamental law by chapter 141 1683. Abrogated in 1693.

 CHAPTER 37.

LAW ABOUT PLEADING IN ENGLISH.

Chapter 37. *And be it &c:* That all pleadings, processes & Records in Courts, Shall be Short & in English, & in an ordinary & plain Character, that they may be easily read & understood, & justice Speedily administered.

Originally chapter 45, confirmed by chapter 63, 1683, and renumbered. Abrogated in 1693, but accepted in Petition of Right, June 1, 1693, as chapter 24.

CHAPTER 38.

LAW ABOUT TRIAL BY TWELVE MEN.

Chapter 38. *And be it &c:* That all Tryalls in Civil Cases, Shall be by .12. men, and as Neer as may be Peers or Equalls & of the Neigh-bour-hood, & men without just exception.

And in Criminal matters of Life, ther Shall be first 24 returned by the Sheriff for a Grand-Inquest, of whom 12 at Least Shall find the Complaint to be true, and then 48 Shall be Like- Wise returned by the Sheriff of whom 12 Shall have the final Judgment But reasonable Challenges Shall be always admitted against all or any of them. vid: chapter 69.

Originally chapter 46, confirmed by chapter 63, 1683, and renumbered. Declared a fundamental law by chapter 141, 1683. Abrogated in 1693, but accepted in Petition of Right, June 1, 1693, as chapter 25.

CHAPTER 39.

LAW ABOUT FEES, BRIBERY AND EXTORTION.

Chapter 39. *And be it &c:* That all Fees and Salaries in all Cases, Shall be Moderate, and Limited by the Governour & Assembly, and be hung up in a Table in every respective Court, And whosoever Shall be Convicted of taking more Shall pay 2fold & be dismissed his Employment, One Moity of which Shall go to the party wronged.

And that all persons Convicted of Bribery and Extortion, shall forfeit double the same.

Originally chapter 48, confirmed by chapter 63, 1683, and renumbered. Abrogated in 1693, but accepted in Petition of Right, June 1, 1693, as part of chapter 26.