

CHAPTER XCIX.

[THE LAW ABOUT THE MANNER OF GIVING EVIDENCE AND AGAINST SUCH AS LIE IN CONVERSATION.

[Section I.] Be it enacted by the Proprietary and Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the freemen of this Province and Territories in General Assembly met, and by the authority of the same, That all witnesses coming or called to testify their knowledge in or to any matter or thing in any court or before any lawful authority within the said province or territories, may there give or deliver in their evidence by solemnly promising to speak the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, to the matter or thing in question; and in case any person so called to give in their evidence shall afterwards be convicted of willful falsehood, such person shall suffer and undergo such damage or penalty as the person or persons against whom he or she bore false witness did or should undergo, and shall also make satisfaction to the party wronged, and be publicly exposed for a false witness, never to be credited again in any court or before any magistrate in the said province and territories; and whosoever shall be convicted of lying in conversation shall for every such offense pay half-a-crown, or suffer three days' imprisonment in the House of Correction, at hard labor.]

Passed November 27, 1700; repealed by the Queen in Council, February 7, 1705-6. See Appendix I, Section II.