

1700.

CHAPTER XV.

*An ACT against removing of land-marks.*Remov-
ing land-
marks,
how pu-
nished

FOR the greater security and certainty of the boundaries of land, *Be it enacted*, That no person in this province, or counties annexed, shall cut, fell, alter or remove any certain bounded tree, or other allowed land-mark, to the wrong of his neighbour, or any other person, under the penalty of any sum not less than ten pounds.

Passed in 1700.—Recorded A. vol. I. page 10.

See the acts of March 1st, 1799, and March 20th, 1810, and the first part of the note to the preceding act. Chap. 11, pa. 2.

CHAPTER XVI.

*An ACT against defacers of charters, &c.*Forgery
how pu-
nished.

WHEREAS the security of titles and property, in a great measure, depends on the safety and certainty of writings and records, *Be it enacted*, That whosoever shall forge, deface, corrupt or embezzle any charters, gifts, grants, bonds, bills, wills, conveyances or contracts, or shall deface or falsify any inrolment, registry or record, within this province or territories, shall forfeit double the value of the damage thereby sustained, one half whereof shall go to the party wronged; and the person so offending shall be discarded from all places of trust, and publicly disgraced, as a false person, in the pillory, or otherwise, at the discretion of the court before whom the cause shall be tried.

Passed in 1700.—Recorded A. vol. I. page 10. (c)

(c) See the acts of March 1st, 1799, and March 20th, 1810, and the first part of the note to chap. 11. ante. pa. 2.

The punishment of the pillory is taken away, and by an act entitled "An act to reform the penal laws of this state," sect. 4. passed April 5th, 1790, (post. chap. 1505) it is enacted that every person convicted of bigamy, &c. or of any other offence not capital, for which, by the laws in force before the act entitled "An act to amend the penal laws of this state," (passed Sept. 15th, 1786, and repealed by the act of 1790) burning in the hand, placing in and upon the pillory, &c. is, or may be inflicted, shall, instead of such parts of the punishment, be fined, and sentenced to undergo a confinement at hard labour, be fed and clothed as is in that act (c. 1505) directed, for any term not exceeding two years, in the discretion of the court.

By the "Act for acknowledging and recording of deeds," passed in 1715, (chap. 208) sect. 7. If any person shall forge any entry of the said acknowledgments, certificates, or indorsements, whereby the freehold or inheritance of any man may be charged, he shall be lia-

ble to the penalties against forgers of false deeds, &c.

And, by the 5th section of the act entitled "An act for the better preventing of crimes, and for abolishing the punishment of death in certain cases," passed April 22d, 1794, (chap. 1766) every person who shall be concerned in printing, signing, or passing, any counterfeit notes of the banks of Pennsylvania, North America, or the United States, knowing them to be such, or altering any genuine notes of any of the said banks, shall be sentenced to undergo a confinement in the gaol and penitentiary house, for any time not less than four, nor more than fifteen years; and shall also pay such fine as the court shall adjudge, not exceeding one thousand dollars. Or, of the Philadelphia bank, by the 7th sect. of its incorporating act, passed March 5th, 1804, (chap. 2439.)

By the 20th section of the act to regulate the general elections within this commonwealth, passed February 15th, 1799, (chap. 2009) if any person shall knowingly, publish, utter, or make use of any forged or false receipt or certificate (for payment of taxes or of naturalization)