

convicted thereof, The party so offending Shall for every Such offence be fined, according to the Nature & Circumstance of the fact, Provided it be not Less than 20 shillings.

Originally chapter 31, confirmed by chapter 63, 1683, and renumbered. Abrogated in 1693, but accepted in Petition of Right, June 1, 1693, as part of chapter 20.

CHAPTER 29.

LAW AGAINST ABUSE OF PERSONS IN OFFICE.

Chapter 29. *And be it &c:* That if any person Speak Slightlyly or cary themselves abusively against any Magistrate or person in office, being duly Convicted thereof, Shall for evry Such offence Suffer according to the quality of the Magistrate & Nature of the offence, All-ways provided it be not Less than 20 shillings, or ten days' imprisonment at hard Labour in the house of Correction.

Originally chapter 32, confirmed by chapter 63, 1683, and renumbered. Abrogated in 1693. See chapter 91, 1693 and Vol. II St.L. 13, ch. XII.

CHAPTER 30.

LAW AGAINST SPREADERS OF FALSE NEWS.

Chapter 30. *And be it &c:* That all Scandalous & malicious Reporters, Defamers & Spreaders of false News, weather against Magistrates or private persons, being Legally Convicted therof shall be accordingly Severely punisht as Enemies to the peace & Concord of the Province.

Originally chapter 33, confirmed by chapter 63, 1683, and renumbered. Chapter 191 of 1690 included it among the laws to be continued until the end of the next General Assembly and twenty days after and no longer, but it was still in force to be abrogated in 1693, and to be accepted in the Petition of Right, June 1, 1693, as chapter 21.