

CHAPTER XVI.

AN ACT AGAINST DEFACERS OF CHARTERS, &c.

Whereas the security of titles and property in a great measure depends on the safety and certainty of writings and records:

[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 whosoever shall forge, deface, corrupt or embezzle any charters, gifts, grants, bonds, bills, wills, conveyances of contracts, or shall deface or falsify any enrolment, 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 November 27, 1700; allowed to become a law by lapse of time, in accordance with the proprietary charter, having been considered by the Queen in Council, February 7, 1705-6, and not acted upon. See Appendix I, Section II, and the Act of Assembly, passed March 1, 1799, Chapter 2023.

CHAPTER XVII.

AN ACT FOR COUNTY SEALS AND AGAINST COUNTERFEITING HANDS AND SEALS.

[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 there shall be a county seal in every county of this province and territories thereof for the use of each county. And if any person within the said province or territories shall