

of *fifty pounds*, with two sufficient Sureties, and shall be sworn to the diligent and faithful discharge of their trust, and shall continue in such office until other proper persons are appointed in their stead.

Half the forfeitures to be to the benefit of the county, and the other half to the prosecutors.

How recoverable.

VIII. *And be it further enacted*, That *one half* of all forfeitures or fines arising by virtue of this act, shall be to him or them who shall sue for the same, and the other half to the benefit of the county where such offence shall be committed; and if the same shall not exceed *twenty shillings* it shall be recoverable before any one of HIS MAJESTY'S Justices of the Peace, or where the same shall be more than *twenty shillings* and shall not exceed *three pounds*, before any *two* of HIS MAJESTY'S Justices of the Peace, on the oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses, by warrant of distress and sale of the offender's goods and chattels under the hand and seal of such Justice or Justices, and for want of sufficient distress, such offender shall suffer not less than *ten*, nor more than *thirty* days imprisonment; and in case such fine or the value thereof shall exceed *three pounds* the same may be recovered in any of HIS MAJESTY'S Courts of Record in this province with costs of suit.

Prosecutions to be within six months.

IX. *And be it further enacted*, That all prosecutions by force of this act shall be commenced within *six months* after the time such offence was committed.

This act to be read at the Court of Sessions of the peace in each county.

X. *And be it further enacted*, That this act shall be read and published at the opening of the next Court of General Sessions of the Peace for the several counties within this province.

C A P. V.

An Act to PREVENT the GROWTH of THISTLES. Passed the 18th February 1797.

Preamble.

WHEREAS, the growth and increase of Thistles tend to impede the cultivation and improvement of lands in many parts of this province: AND WHEREAS, it is difficult to make regulations that will be beneficial to the different counties.

I. Be

I. Be it therefore enacted, by the Lieutenant Governor, Council and Assembly, That the Justices of the Peace or the major part of them in the several and respective counties be and they are hereby empowered and authorised at any General Session, upon presentment of the Grand Jury that the same is necessary, to make such rules and regulations for the destruction of Thistles and to prevent the growth and increase thereof as to them shall seem meet. And to enforce such rules and regulations with such rewards, penalties, and forfeitures as they in their discretion shall think fit.

Regulations to be made by the Justices in their Sessions of the Peace upon presentment of the Grand Jury, for destruction of Thistles.

Justices to appoint rewards or penalties.

PROVIDED, That no penalty or forfeiture to be incurred by any regulation, so to be made, shall for any one offence exceed the sum of *twenty shillings*.

None to exceed twenty shillings.

II. And be it further enacted, That this act shall continue and be in force *five years* and no longer.

Limitation.

C A P. VI.

An ACT to ALTER and AMEND an Act, intituled " An Act for regulating, laying out and repairing Highways and Roads and for appointing Commissioners and Surveyors of Highways within the several Towns or Parishes in this Province; and for suspending for a limited time all the Laws now in force relating to the same." Passed the 18th February, 1797.

WHEREAS, in and by an act made and passed in the *thirty-sixth* year of HIS MAJESTY'S reign, intituled " An Act for regulating, laying out, and repairing Highways and Roads, and for appointing Commissioners and Surveyors of Highways within the several Towns or Parishes in this Province — and for suspending for a limited Time all the Laws now in force

Preamble.

C.

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