



REPUBLIC OF NAURU

## Criminal Code

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**As in force from 3 December 2011**

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This compilation comprises the First Schedule to Act 63 Vic. No. 69 (Queensland) as in force in that State on 1 July 1921 (adopted, together with the *Criminal Code Amendment Ordinance 1907* (Papua), as a law of Nauru by the *Laws Repeal and Adopting Act 1922*) as amended and in force from 3 December 2011 (being, at the time the compilation was prepared on 5 December 2011, the date of commencement of the most recent amendment).

The notes section at the end of the compilation includes a reference to the law by which each amendment was made. The Table of Amendments in the notes section sets out the legislative history of individual provisions.

This compilation includes notes on the application of the death penalty in Nauru.

The operation of amendments that have been incorporated in the text of the compilation may be affected by application provisions that are set out in the notes section at the end of the compilation.

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# Contents

## PART I – INTRODUCTORY

### *Chapter I – Interpretation*

1	Construction of Terms .....	1
2	Definition of Offence.....	5
3	Division of Offences .....	5
4	Attempts to commit Offences .....	5
5	Arrest without Warrant.....	5
6	Carnal Knowledge .....	6

### *Chapter II – Parties to Offences*

7	Principal Offenders.....	6
8	Offences committed in prosecution of Common Purpose .....	7
9	<i>[Repealed]</i> .....	7
10	Accessories after the Fact.....	7

### *Chapter III – Application of Criminal Law*

11	Effect of Changes in Law .....	8
12	Application of Code as to Offences Wholly or Partially Committed in Queensland .....	8
13	Offences procured or counselled by Persons out of Queensland .....	9
14	Offences procured in Queensland to be committed out of Queensland .....	9
15	Defence Force.....	10
16	Person not to be Twice Punished for Same Offence .....	10
17	Former Conviction or Acquittal .....	10

### *Chapter IV – Punishments*

18	Kinds of Punishment .....	10
19	Construction of provisions of Code as to Punishments.....	11
19A	Fines .....	12
19B	Distress .....	14
19C	Suspension of execution of imprisonment in default of fine .....	15
19D	Committal in lieu of distress.....	17
19E	Payment after issue of warrant but before committal .....	18
20	Calculation of Term of Sentence: Cumulative Sentences: Escaped Prisoners .....	18
21	<i>[Repealed]</i> .....	18

### *Chapter V – Criminal Responsibility*

22	Ignorance of Law: Bond fide Claim of Right .....	18
23	Intention: Motive .....	19
24	Mistake of Fact.....	19
25	Extraordinary Emergencies .....	19
26	Presumption of Sanity .....	20
27	Insanity.....	20
28	Intoxication .....	20
29	Immature Age.....	20
30	Judicial Officers.....	21

31	Justification and Excuse: Compulsion .....	21
32	Compulsion of Husband .....	22
33	No Conspiracy between Husband and Wife Alone .....	22
34	Offences by Partners and Members of Companies with respect to Partnership or Corporate Property.....	22
35	Liability of Husband and Wife for Offences committed by either with respect to the other's Property .....	22
36	Application of Rules.....	23
PART II – OFFENCES AGAINST PUBLIC ORDER		
<i>Chapter VI – Treason and Other Offences against the Sovereign's Person and Authority</i>		
37	Treason .....	23
38	Concealment of Treason .....	24
39	Treasonable Crimes .....	25
40	Time for Proceeding in cases of Treason or Concealment of Treason: Two Witnesses necessary .....	25
41	Inciting to Mutiny .....	26
42	Assisting Escape of Prisoners of War.....	26
43	Overt Act.....	26
<i>Chapter VII – Sedition</i>		
44	Definition of Seditious Intention .....	27
45	Innocent Intentions .....	27
46	Definition of Seditious Enterprises, &c.....	28
47	Unlawful Oaths to commit Capital Offences .....	28
48	Other Unlawful Oaths to commit Offences .....	28
49	Compulsion, how far a Defence .....	29
50	Effect of Prosecution .....	30
51	Unlawful Drilling .....	30
52	Sedition .....	31
53	Defamation of Foreign Princes.....	31
53A	Interpretation for sabotage .....	31
53B	Sabotage.....	32
53C	Threats to sabotage .....	33
<i>Chapter VIII – Offences against the Executive and Legislative Power</i>		
54	Interference with Governor or Ministers.....	33
55	Interference with the Legislature .....	34
56	Disturbing the Legislature.....	34
57	False Evidence before Parliament.....	34
58	Witnesses Refusing to Attend or Give Evidence before Parliament or Parliamentary Committee .....	35
59	Member of Parliament receiving Bribes.....	35
60	Bribery of Member of Parliament.....	35
<i>Chapter IX – Unlawful Assemblies: Breaches of the Peace</i>		
61	Definitions .....	36
62	Punishment of Unlawful Assembly .....	37
63	Punishment of Riot.....	37
64	Rioters remaining after Proclamation ordering them to disperse. ....	37

65	Rioters demolishing Buildings, &c .....	38
66	Rioters injuring building, Machinery, &c.....	38
67	Smuggling or Rescuing Goods under Arms .....	38
68	Smuggling under Arms or in Disguise .....	39
69	Going Armed so as to Cause Fear .....	39
70	Forcible Entry .....	39
71	Forcible Detainer.....	39
72	Affray .....	40
73	Challenge to fight a Duel .....	40
74	Prize Fight.....	40
75	Threatening Violence .....	40
76	Assembling for the purpose of Smuggling .....	40
77	Unlawful Processions.....	41
<i>Chapter X – Offences against Political Liberty</i>		
78	Interfering with Political Liberty.....	42
<i>Chapter XI – Piracy</i>		
79	Definition of Piracy in General .....	42
80	Further Definition of Pirates.....	43
81	Punishment of Piracy .....	44
82	Attempted Piracy with Personal Violence .....	44
83	Aiding Pirates .....	45
PART III – OFFENCES AGAINST THE ADMINISTRATION OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND AGAINST PUBLIC AUTHORITY		
<i>Chapter XII – Disclosing Official Secrets</i>		
84	Disclosure of Secrets relating to Defences by Public Officers .....	45
85	Obtaining Disclosure of Secrets relating to Defences.....	45
86	Disclosure of other Official Secrets.....	46
<i>Chapter XIII – Corruption and Abuse of Office</i>		
87	Official Corruption .....	46
88	Extortion by Public Officers .....	47
89	Public Officers interested in Contracts.....	47
90	Officers charged with Administration of Property of a Special Character or with Special Duties. ....	47
91	False Claims by Officials .....	47
92	Abuse of Office.....	48
93	Corruption of Surveyor and Valuator .....	48
94	False Certificates by Public Officers.....	48
95	Administering Extra-judicial Oaths.....	48
96	False Assumption of Authority.....	49
97	Personating Public Officers .....	49
<i>Chapter XIV – Corrupt and Improper Practices at Elections</i>		
98	Definitions .....	50
99	Personation .....	50
100	Double Voting .....	50
101	Treating .....	50
<i>Criminal Code 1899</i>		
102	Undue Influence.....	51
103	Bribery .....	51

104 Further Penalty for Corrupt Practices .....	52
105 Illegal Practices .....	53
<hr/>	
106 Other Illegal Practices .....	54
107 Corrupt and Illegal Practices: Time .....	54
108 Interference at Elections .....	55
109 Electors attempting to Violate Secrecy of Ballot .....	55
110 Other Attempts of Like Kind .....	56
111 Stuffing Ballot-boxes .....	56
112 Offences by Presiding Officers at Elections .....	56
113 False Answers to Questions at Elections .....	57
114 Interfering with Secrecy at Elections .....	57
115 Breaking Seal of Packets used at Elections .....	58
116 Offences at Elections when Voting is by Post .....	58
117 False Claims .....	58
<i>Chapter XV – Selling and Trafficking in Offices</i>	
118 Bargaining for Offices in Public Service .....	59
<i>Chapter XVI – Offences relating to the Administration of Justice</i>	
119 Definition of Judicial Proceeding .....	59
120 Judicial Corruption .....	60
121 Official Corruption not Judicial but relating to Offences .....	60
122 Corrupting or Threatening Jurors .....	61
123 Perjury .....	61
124 Punishment of Perjury .....	62
125 Evidence on Charge of Perjury .....	62
126 Fabricating Evidence .....	63
127 Corruption of Witnesses .....	63
128 Deceiving Witnesses .....	63
129 Destroying Evidence .....	64
130 Preventing Witnesses from Attending .....	64
131 Conspiracy to bring False Accusation .....	64
132 Conspiring to Defeat Justice .....	65
133 Compounding Crimes .....	65
134 Compounding Penal Actions .....	65
135 Advertising a Reward for the Return of Stolen Property, &c .....	65
136 Justices acting oppressively or when Interested .....	66
137 Delay to take Person Arrested before Magistrate .....	66
138 Bringing Fictitious Action on Penal Statute .....	66
139 Inserting Advertisement without Authority of Court .....	66
140 Attempting to Pervert Justice .....	67
<i>Chapter XVII – Escapes: Rescues: Obstructing Officers of Courts</i>	
141 Forcibly Rescuing Capital Offenders .....	67
142 Aiding Prisoners to Escape .....	67
143 Escape by Prisoner .....	67
<i>Criminal Code 1899</i>	
144 Permitting Escape .....	68
145 Harbours Escaped Prisoners .....	68
146 Rescuing Insane Persons .....	68
147 Removing, &c., Property under Lawful Seizure .....	69

148 Obstructing Officers of Courts of Justice.....	69
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*Chapter XVIII – Offences Relating to the Coin*

149 Definitions.....	69
150 Counterfeiting Gold and Silver Coin.....	70
151 Preparation for Coining Gold and Silver Coin.....	70
152 Clipping.....	71
153 Possession of Clippings.....	72
154 Uttering Counterfeit Gold or Silver Coin.....	72
155 Repeated Uttering of Counterfeit Current Gold or Silver Coin, or Possession of several such Coins.....	72
156 Offences after Previous Conviction.....	73
157 Counterfeiting Copper Coin.....	73
158 Uttering Base Copper Coin.....	74
159 Defacing Coin by Stamping Words thereon.....	74
160 Uttering Foreign Coin, Medals, &c., as Current Coin with intent to Defraud.....	74
161 Exporting Counterfeit Coin.....	75
162 Having Possession of more than Five Pieces of Counterfeit Foreign Coin.....	75
163 Tender of Defaced Coin not Legal Tender: Penalty for Uttering.....	75

*Chapter XIX – Offences Relating to Posts and Telegraphs*

164 Stopping Mails.....	76
165 Intercepting things sent by Post or Telegraph.....	76
166 Tampering with Things sent by Post or Telegraph.....	76
167 Wilful Misdelivery of Things sent by Post or Telegraph.....	76
168 Obtaining Letters by False Pretences.....	76
169 Secreting Letters.....	77
170 Fraudulent Issue of Money Orders and Postal Notes.....	77
171 Fraudulent Messages respecting Money Orders.....	77
172 Sending Dangerous or Obscene Things by Post.....	77
173 Retarding Delivery of Mails, &c.....	78
174 Obstructing Mails.....	78
175 Penalty on Mail-coach Driver or Guards Loitering.....	78
176 Fraudulently Removing Stamps.....	79
177 Fraudulent Evasion of Postal Laws.....	79
178 Carrying Letters otherwise than by Post.....	80
179 Illegally making Postal Envelopes or Setting up Post Office or Office for Sale of Stamps, or Obstructing Post Office.....	80
180 Destroying or Damaging Letter Receivers.....	81
181 Placing Injurious Substances in or against Letter Boxes.....	82
182 Obstructing Post and Telegraph Offices.....	82
183 Obstructing Post and Telegraph Officers in the Execution of Duty, &c.....	82
184 Interference with Telegraphs.....	83
185 Attempt to Injure Telegraphs.....	83

*Criminal Code 1899*

186 Negligently Injuring Telegraphs.....	83
187 Violation of Secrecy.....	83
188 Making Charges for Use of Telegraph Line without Authority.....	84
189 Erection or Maintenance of Telegraph Lines without Authority.....	84
190 Obstructing Possession of Post and Telegraph Officers, &c.....	84
191 Resisting Officers.....	85

*Chapter XX – Miscellaneous Offences against Public Authority*

192 False Declaration as to Execution of Sentence of Death .....	85
193 False Statements in Statements required to be under Oath or Solemn Declaration .....	85
194 False Declarations and Statements .....	85
195 Evidence .....	86
196 Shooting at Customs Boats or Officers .....	86
197 Resisting Officers engaged in Preventing Smuggling .....	86
198 Resisting Customs Officers .....	86
199 Resisting Public Officers .....	87
200 Refusal by Public Officer to Perform Duty .....	87
201 Neglect of Officers to Suppress Riot .....	87
202 Neglect to aid in Suppressing Riot .....	87
203 Neglect to Aid in Arresting Offenders .....	88
204 Disobedience to Statute Law .....	88
205 Disobedience to Lawful Order Issued by Statutory Authority .....	88

PART IV – ACTS INJURIOUS TO THE PUBLIC IN GENERAL

*Chapter XXI – Offences relating to Religious Worship*

206 Offering Violence to Officiating Ministers of Religion .....	88
207 Disturbing Religious Worship .....	89

*Chapter XXII – Offences against Morality*

208 Unnatural Offences .....	89
209 Attempt to commit Unnatural Offences .....	89
210 Indecent Treatment of Boys under Fourteen .....	90
211 Indecent Practices between Males .....	90
212 Defilement of Girls under Twelve .....	90
213 Householder permitting Defilement of Young Girls on his Premises .....	91
214 Attempt to Abuse Girls under Ten .....	91
215 Defilement of Girls under Fourteen and of Idiots .....	91
216 Indecent Treatment of Girls under Seventeen .....	92
217 Procuring girl or woman .....	92
218 Procuring girl or woman by drugs, etc. ....	93
219 [Repealed] .....	93
220 Unlawful Detention with Intent to Defile or in a Brothel .....	93
221 Conspiracy to Defile .....	94
222 Incest by Man .....	94
223 Incest by Adult Female .....	94
224 Attempts to Procure Abortion .....	95
225 The like by Women with Child .....	95

*Criminal Code 1899*

226 Supplying Drugs or Instruments to Procure Abortion .....	95
227 Indecent Acts .....	95
228 Obscene Publications and Exhibitions .....	96
229 Knowledge of Age Immaterial .....	96

*Chapter XXIII – Nuisances: Misconduct Relating to Corpses*

230 Common Nuisances .....	96
231 Bawdy Houses .....	97
232 [repealed] .....	97

233 [repealed].....	97
234 [repealed].....	97
<hr/>	
235 Acting as Keeper of Bawdy Houses .....	97
236 Misconduct with regard to Corpses .....	97
<i>Chapter XXIV – Offences against Public Health</i>	
237 False Information as to Health of Foreign Ships .....	98
238 Exposing for Sale things unfit for Food .....	98
239 Dealing in Diseased Meat .....	98
240 Adulterating Liquor.....	99
241 Adulteration of Beverages.....	99
<i>Chapter XXV – Miscellaneous Offences</i>	
242 Frauds on Land Laws .....	99
243 Dealing with Land Fraudulently Acquired from the Crown.....	100
244 Fraudulent Destruction or Removal of Goods Liable to Duty.....	100

**PART V – OFFENCES AGAINST THE PERSON AND RELATING TO MARRIAGE AND PARENTAL RIGHTS AND DUTIES AND AGAINST THE REPUTATION OF INDIVIDUALS**

<i>Chapter XXVI – Assaults and Violence to the Person Generally: Justification and Excuse</i>	
245 Definition of Assault .....	100
246 Assaults Unlawful .....	101
247 Execution of Sentence .....	101
248 Execution of Process .....	101
249 Execution of Warrants .....	101
250 Erroneous Sentence or Process or Warrant.....	101
251 Sentence or Process or Warrant without Jurisdiction .....	102
252 Arrest of Wrong Person .....	102
253 Irregular Process or Warrant.....	102
254 Force used in executing Process or in Arrest.....	102
255 Duty of persons arresting.....	103
256 Police Officer preventing Escape from Arrest.....	103
257 Other cases of preventing Escape from Arrest.....	103
258 Preventing Escape or Rescue after Arrest .....	104
259 Examination of Person of Accused Persons in Custody.....	104
260 Preventing a Breach of the Peace .....	104
261 Suppression of Riot.....	105
262 Suppression of Riot by Magistrates and Police Officers.....	105
263 Suppression of Riot by Person acting under Lawful Orders .....	105
264 Suppression of Riot by Person acting without Order in case of Emergency	105
<i>Criminal Code 1899</i>	

265 Riot: Persons subject to Military Law .....	106
266 Prevention of Crimes and Offences for which an Offender may be Arrested without Warrant: Prevention of Violence by Persons of Unsound Mind .....	106
267 Defence of Dwelling-house .....	106
268 Provocation.....	106
269 Defence of Provocation.....	107
270 Prevention of Repetition of Insult .....	107
271 Self-defence against Unprovoked Assault .....	108
272 Self-defence against Provoked Assault.....	108
273 Aiding in Self-defence .....	108



274 Defence of Moveable Property against Trespassers.....	109
275 Defence of Moveable Property with Claim of Right .....	109
276 Defence of Moveable Property without Claim of Right .....	109
277 Defence of Premises against Trespassers: Removal of Disorderly Persons	109
278 Defence of Possession of Real Property or Vessel with Claim of Right .....	110
279 Exercise of Right of Way or Easement.....	110
280 Domestic Discipline .....	110
281 Discipline of Ship.....	110
282 Surgical Operations .....	111
283 Excessive Force .....	111
284 Consent to Death Immaterial .....	111
<i>Chapter XXVII – Duties relating to the Preservation of Human Life</i>	
285 Duty to provide Necessaries .....	111
286 Duty of Head of Family .....	111
287 Duty of Masters.....	112
288 Duty of Persons doing Dangerous Acts .....	112
289 Duty of Persons in Charge of Dangerous Things .....	112
290 Duty to do certain acts .....	112
<i>Chapter XXVIII – Homicide: Suicide: Concealment of Birth</i>	
291 Killing of a Human Being Unlawful .....	112
292 When a Child becomes a Human Being .....	113
293 Definition of Killing .....	113
294 Death by Acts done at Childbirth.....	113
295 Causing Death by Threats .....	113
296 Acceleration of Death.....	113
297 When Injury or Death might be prevented by Proper Precaution .....	113
298 Injuries causing Death in consequence of Subsequent Treatment.....	114
299 Limitation as to Time of Death .....	114
300 Unlawful Homicide .....	114
301 Definition of Wilful Murder .....	114
302 Definition of Murder.....	115
303 Definition of Manslaughter .....	115
304 Killing on Provocation.....	116
304A Diminished responsibility .....	116
305 Punishment of Wilful Murder .....	116
306 Attempt to Murder .....	117

*Criminal Code 1899*

307 Accessory after the Fact to Murder .....	117
308 Written Threats to Murder .....	117
309 Conspiring to Murder .....	117
310 Punishment of Manslaughter .....	117
311 Aiding Suicide .....	117
312 Attempting to Commit Suicide.....	118
313 Killing Unborn Child.....	118
314 Concealing the Birth of Children .....	118
<i>Chapter XXIX – Offences Endangering Life or Health</i>	
315 Disabling in order to Commit Indictable Offence .....	118
316 Stupefying in order to Commit Indictable Offence .....	119

317 Acts intended to Cause Grievous Bodily Harm or Prevent Arrest.....	119
318 Preventing Escape from Wreck.....	119
<hr/>	
319 Intentionally Endangering Safety of Persons Travelling by Railway .....	120
320 Grievous Bodily Harm .....	120
321 Attempting to Injure by Explosive Substances .....	120
322 Maliciously Administering Poison with Intent to Harm .....	120
323 Wounding and Similar Acts .....	121
324 Failure to Supply Necessaries .....	121
325 Endangering Life or Health of Apprentices or Servants.....	121
326 Endangering Life of Children by Exposure .....	121
327 Setting Man-traps .....	122
328 Negligent Acts causing Harm.....	122
329 Endangering Safety of Persons Travelling by Railway .....	122
330 Sending or Taking Unseaworthy Ships to Sea .....	122
331 Endangering Steamships by Tampering with Machinery.....	123
332 The like by Engineers .....	123
333 Evading Laws as to Equipment of Ships and Shipping Dangerous Goods .....	124
334 Landing Explosives .....	124
<i>Chapter XXX – Assaults</i>	
335 Common Assault .....	125
336 Assault with Intent to Commit Unnatural Offence.....	125
337 Indecent Assault on Males.....	125
338 Assaults on Persons protecting Wrecks.....	125
339 Assaults occasioning Bodily Harm .....	125
340 Serious Assaults .....	125
<i>Chapter XXXI – Assaults Punishable on Summary Conviction</i>	
341 Jurisdiction of Justices .....	126
342 Some Assaults not to be so dealt with .....	126
343 Common Assaults.....	126
344 Aggravated Assaults .....	127
345 Effect of Summary Conviction or Dismissal.....	127
346 Assaults in Interference with Freedom of Trade or Work .....	128
<i>Chapter XXXII – Assaults on Females: Abduction</i>	
347 Definition of Rape .....	128
<i>Criminal Code 1899</i>	
348 Punishment of Rape .....	128
349 Attempt to Commit Rape.....	128
350 Indecent Assaults on Females .....	128
351 Abduction.....	129
352 Abduction of Girls under Seventeen.....	129
353 Rule of Evidence.....	130
<i>Chapter XXXIII – Offences against Liberty</i>	
354 Kidnapping.....	130
355 Deprivation of Liberty .....	130
356 False Certificates by Officers Charged with Duties Relating to Liberty .....	130
357 Concealment of Matters affecting Liberty .....	131
358 Unlawful Custody of Insane Person .....	131
359 Threats to injure or kill .....	131

*Chapter XXXIV – Offences relating to Marriage and Parental Rights and Duties*

360 Bigamy .....	132
361 Unlawful Celebration of Marriage .....	132
362 Unqualified Persons procuring Registration as Persons Qualified to Celebrate Marriages .....	133
363 Child-stealing .....	133
364 Desertion of Children .....	134

*Chapter XXXV – Defamation*

365 Definition of 'Periodical' .....	134
366 Definition of Defamatory Matter .....	134
367 Questions of Fact and Law .....	134
368 Definition of Defamation .....	134
369 Publication .....	135
370 Publication of Defamatory Matter prima facie Unlawful .....	135
371 Absolute Protection: Privilege of Parliament .....	135
372 Absolute Protection: Privileges of Judges, Witnesses, and Others in Courts of Justice .....	135
373 Absolute Protection: Reports of Official Inquiries .....	136
374 Protection: Reports of Matters of Public Interest .....	136
375 Protection: Fair Comment .....	137
376 Protection: Truth .....	138
377 Qualified Protection: Excuse .....	138
378 Good Faith .....	140
379 Relevancy and Public Benefit Questions of Fact .....	140
380 Unlawful Publication of Defamatory Matter .....	140
381 Defamation of Members of Parliament by Strangers .....	140
382 Defence in Case of Defamation by Words, Sounds, Signs, Signals, or Gestures .....	140
383 Publishing or Threatening to Publish Defamatory Matter with Intent to Extort Money .....	141
384 Liability of Proprietor, Publisher, and Editor of Periodicals .....	141
385 Protection of Innocent Sellers of Periodicals .....	141
386 Protection of Innocent Sellers of Books .....	141

*Criminal Code 1899*

387 Protection of Employers .....	142
388 Prosecution of Newspapers to be by sanction of a Judge after Notice .....	142
389 Summary Jurisdiction in Trivial Cases of Defamation .....	142

**PART VI – OFFENCES RELATING TO PROPERTY AND CONTRACTS**

**Division I – Stealing and Like Offences**

*Chapter XXXVI – Stealing*

390 Things capable of being Stolen .....	143
391 Definition of Stealing .....	144
392 Special Cases .....	145
393 Funds, &c., held under Direction .....	145
394 Funds, &c., received by Agents for Sale .....	146
395 Money received for Another .....	146
396 Stealing by Persons having an Interest in the thing Stolen .....	147
397 Husband and Wife .....	147
398 Punishment of Stealing .....	147

<i>Chapter XXXVII – Offences Analogous to Stealing</i>	
399 Concealing Registers .....	150
400 Concealing Wills .....	150
401 Concealing Deeds .....	150
402 Killing Animals with Intent to Steal .....	150
403 Severing with Intent to Steal .....	150
404 Using Registered Brands with Criminal Intention .....	151
405 Fraudulently Dealing with Minerals in Mines .....	151
406 Bringing Stolen Goods into Queensland .....	151
407 Fraudulent Disposition of Mortgaged Goods .....	151
408 Fraudulent Appropriation of Power .....	152
<i>Chapter XXXVIII – Stealing with Violence: Extortion by Threats</i>	
409 Definition of Robbery .....	152
410 Loaded Arms .....	152
411 Punishment of Robbery .....	152
412 Attempted Robbery: Accompanied by Wounding, or in Company .....	152
413 Assault with Intent to Steal .....	153
414 Demanding Property with Menaces with Intent to Steal .....	153
415 Demanding Property by Written Threats .....	153
416 Attempts at Extortion by Threats .....	153
417 Procuring Execution of Deeds, &c., by Threats .....	154
<i>Chapter XXXIX – Burglary : Housebreaking : and Like Offences</i>	
418 Definitions .....	155
419 Housebreaking : Burglary .....	155
420 Entering Dwelling-house with Intent to Commit Crime .....	156
421 Breaking into Buildings and Committing Crime.....	156
422 Breaking into Buildings with Intent to Commit Crime.....	156
423 Breaking into Place of Worship and Committing Crime.....	156
424 Breaking into Place of Worship with Intent to Commit a Crime .....	157
<i>Criminal Code 1899</i>	
424A Persons found in Dwelling-house, etc., without Lawful Excuse.....	157
425 Persons found Armed, &c., with Intent to Commit Crime .....	157
<i>Chapter XL – Obtaining Property by False Pretences: Cheating</i>	
426 Definition .....	158
427 Obtaining Goods by False Pretences.....	158
428 Obtaining Execution of a Security by False Pretences.....	159
429 Cheating .....	159
430 Conspiracy to Defraud .....	159
431 Frauds on Sale or Mortgage of Property .....	160
432 Pretending to Exercise Witchcraft or Tell Fortunes .....	160
<i>Chapter XLI – Receiving Property Stolen or Fraudulently Obtained and Like Offences</i>	
433 Receiving Stolen Property, &c .....	160
434 Receiving after Change of Ownership.....	161
435 Taking Reward for Recovery of Property obtained by means of Indictable Offences.....	161
<i>Chapter XLII – Frauds by Trustees and Officers of Companies and Corporations: False Accounting.</i>	
436 Trustees Fraudulently Disposing of Trust Property .....	161

437 Directors and Officers of Corporations or Companies Fraudulently Appropriating Property, or Keeping Fraudulent Accounts, or Falsifying Books or Accounts .....	162
438 False Statements by Officials of Companies .....	163
439 Defence .....	163
440 Misappropriation by Members of Local Authorities .....	164
441 Fraudulent False Accounting .....	164
442 False Accounting by Public Officer .....	165
<i>Chapter XLIII – Summary Conviction for Stealing and Like Indictable Offences</i>	
443 Indictable Offences which may be dealt with Summarily .....	165
444 Procedure .....	166
<i>Chapter XLIV – Offences Analogous to Stealing Punishable on Summary Conviction</i>	
445 Unlawfully using Cattle .....	167
446 Suspicion of Stealing Cattle .....	167
447 Illegal Branding .....	168
448 Defacing Brands .....	168
449 Time for Prosecution .....	168
450 Committal for Trial .....	168
451 Unlawful Possession of Shipwrecked Goods .....	169
452 Offering Shipwrecked Goods for Sale .....	169
453 Unlawfully Dredging for Oysters .....	170
454 Unlawfully taking Fish .....	170
455 Arrest without Warrant .....	170
456 Warrant in First Instance .....	170
457 Effect of Summary Conviction and of Civil Proceedings .....	170
<i>Criminal Code 1899</i>	

Division II – Injuries to Property

*Chapter XLV – Definitions*

458 Unlawful Acts .....	171
459 Acts done with Intent to Defraud .....	171
460 Damage .....	172

*Chapter XLVI – Offences*

461 Arson .....	172
462 Attempts to Commit Arson .....	172
463 Setting Fire to Crops and Growing Plants .....	172
464 Attempting to Set Fire to Crops, &c .....	173
465 Casting away Ships .....	173
466 Attempts to Cast Away Ships .....	173
467 Obstructing and Injuring Railways .....	174
468 Injuring Animals .....	174
469 Malicious Injuries in General .....	174
470 Attempts to Destroy Property by Explosives .....	178
471 Attempts to Injure Mines .....	178
472 Interfering with Marine Signals .....	178
473 Interfering with Navigation Works .....	179
474 Communicating Infectious Diseases to Animals .....	179
475 Travelling with Infected Animals .....	179
476 Removing Boundary Marks .....	179

477 Obstructing Railways .....	180
478 Sending Letters threatening to Burn or Destroy .....	180
479 Arrest without Warrant .....	180
<i>Chapter XLVII – Summary Conviction for Certain Offences</i>	
480 Offences which may be dealt with Summarily .....	180
481 Procedure .....	181
482 Trivial Charges.....	181
483 Effect of Summary Conviction and of Civil Proceedings.....	181
Division III – Forgery and Like Offences; Personation	
<i>Chapter XLVIII – Forgery in General: Definitions</i>	
484 Definitions .....	182
485 Further Definitions .....	183
486 Definition of Forgery.....	183
487 Certain Matters Immaterial .....	184
<i>Chapter XLIX – Punishment of Forgery and Like Offences</i>	
488 Punishment of Forgery in General .....	185
489 Uttering False Documents and Counterfeit Seals .....	190
490 Uttering Cancelled or Exhausted Documents.....	190
491 Uttering Cancelled Stamps .....	190
492 Procuring Execution of Documents by False Pretences.....	190
493 Obliterating Crossings on Cheques.....	191
494 Making Documents Without Authority .....	191
<i>Criminal Code 1899</i>	
495 Demanding Property upon Forged Testamentary Instruments.....	191
496 Purchasing Forged Bank Notes .....	192
497 False Certificate of Message received by Telegraph.....	192
498 Falsifying Warrants for Money Payable under Public Authority .....	192
499 Falsification of Registers.....	192
500 Sending False Certificate of Marriage to Registrar.....	192
501 False Statements for the Purpose of Registers of Births, Deaths, and Marriages.....	193
502 Attempts to Procure Unauthorised Status .....	193
503 Counterfeiting Trade Marks.....	193
504 Circulating False Copies of Rules or Lists of Members of Societies or Companies .....	194
<i>Chapter L – Forgery and Like Offences Punishable on Summary Conviction</i>	
505 Sending False Telegrams .....	194
506 Forgery of Seamen’s Tickets or Documents under Factories and Shops Act .....	195
507 Fraudulent Use of Adhesive Stamps.....	195
508 False Warranties or Labels relating to the Sale of Food.....	196
509 Provisions of this Chapter Alternative .....	196
<i>Chapter LI – Preparation for Forgery</i>	
510 Instruments and Materials for Forgery .....	197
511 Counterfeit Stamps .....	198
512 Paper for Postal Purposes .....	199
513 Paper and Dies for Postage Stamps.....	199
<i>Chapter LII – Personation</i>	

514 Personation in General .....	199
515 Falsely Acknowledging Deeds, Recognizances, &c .....	200
516 Personation of a Person named in a Certificate .....	200
517 Lending Certificates for Personation .....	200

Division IV – Offences connected with Trade and Breach of Contract

*Chapter LIII – Fraudulent Debtors*

518 Definition .....	201
519 Absconding with Property in Contemplation of or immediately after Insolvency .....	201
520 Frauds by Insolvents .....	202
521 Other Frauds by Insolvents .....	202
522 Falsification of Books by Insolvents .....	203
523 Frauds by Insolvents in course of Insolvency Proceedings .....	203
524 Failure by Insolvents to Discover Property .....	204
525 Failure to Keep Proper Books .....	205
526 Concealing Documents .....	205
527 Receiving Insolvent’s Property with Intent to Defraud .....	205
528 Making False Claim in Insolvency .....	205
529 Concealing Property of Insolvents .....	206
530 Fraudulent Dealing with Property by Debtors .....	206

*Criminal Code 1899*

*Chapter LIV – Other Offences*

531 Concealment by Officers of Companies on Reduction of Capital .....	206
532 Falsification of Books of Companies .....	207
533 Mixing Uncertified with Certified Articles .....	207
534 Intimidation of Workmen and Employers .....	207

PART VII – PREPARATION TO COMMIT OFFENCES: CONSPIRACY: ACCESSORIES AFTER THE FACT

*Chapter LV – Attempts and Preparation to Commit Offences*

535 Attempts to Commit Offences .....	209
536 Punishment of Attempts to Commit Crimes .....	210
537 Punishment of Attempts to Commit Misdemeanours .....	210
538 Reduction of Punishment .....	210
539 Attempts to Procure Commission of Criminal Acts .....	210
540 Preparation to Commit Crimes with Explosives, &c .....	211

*Chapter LVI – Conspiracy*

541 Conspiracy to Commit Crime .....	211
542 Conspiracy to Commit other Offences .....	211
543 Other Conspiracies .....	212
543A Industrial Disputes .....	212

*Chapter LVII – Accessories after the Fact*

544 Accessories after the Fact to Crimes .....	213
545 Accessories after the Fact to Misdemeanours and some other Offences .....	213

PART VIII – PROCEDURE

*Chapter LVIII – Arrest*

546 Arrest without Warrant generally .....	213
547 Arrest without Warrant in Special Cases .....	214

548 Arrest of persons Found committing Offences .....	214
549 Arrest of Offender committing Indictable Offences by Night .....	215
<hr/>	
550 Arrest during Flight .....	215
551 Arrest of persons offering Stolen Property for Sale, &c .....	215
552 Duty of persons Arresting .....	215
<i>Chapter LIX – Jurisdiction: Preliminary Proceedings: Bail</i>	
553 Jurisdiction .....	215
554 Preliminary Proceedings on Charges of Indictable Offences.....	215
555 Bail.....	216
556 Summary Convictions: Time .....	216
557 Place of Trial.....	216
558 Persons brought before Wrong Court .....	217
559 Change of Place of Trial .....	217
<i>Chapter LX – Indictments</i>	
560 Nature of Indictments.....	218
561 Ex Officio Informations .....	218
562 Arrest of Person Charged in Ex Officio Information.....	218
563 Nolle Prosequi .....	219

*Criminal Code 1899*

564 Form of Indictment.....	219
565 General Rules applicable to Indictments.....	219
566 Particular Indictments .....	220
567 Indictment to contain One Matter of Charge only .....	222
568 Cases in which several Charges may be Joined .....	223
569 Accessories .....	224
570 Statement of Previous Conviction .....	224
571 Formal Defects .....	224
572 Amendment of Indictments .....	225
573 Particulars.....	225
574 Summary Convictions .....	226
<i>Chapter LXI – Effect of Indictment</i>	
575 Offences involving Circumstances of Aggravation .....	226
576 Charge of Murder or Manslaughter .....	226
577 Charge of Homicide of Child .....	226
578 Charge of Rape and like Offences .....	227
579 Charge of Specific Injury: Charge of Injury with Specific Intent .....	227
580 Charge of Injury to Property .....	228
581 Stealing, False Pretences, and Cheating .....	228
582 Charge of Procuring Commission of Offence or Wrongful Act.....	228
583 Conviction for Attempt to Commit Offence .....	229
584 When Evidence shows Offence of Similar Nature.....	230
585 Effect of Conviction .....	230
586 Corrupt Practices .....	230
587 Illegal Practices .....	230
588 Charge of Stealing Cattle.....	231
589 Indictment for Joint Receiving .....	231
<i>Chapter LXII – Trial: Adjournment: Pleas: Practice</i>	
590 Right to be Tried .....	231



591 Accelerating Trial of Persons not under Committal .....	232
592 Adjournment of Trial .....	232
593 On Adjournment of Trial Accused may be Remanded to another Court having Jurisdiction .....	232
594 Accused Person to be called upon to Plead to Indictment .....	233
595 Delivery of Copy of Indictment .....	233
596 Motion to Quash Indictment .....	233
597 Misnomer .....	233
598 Pleas.....	233
599 Defence of Truth of Defamatory Matter to be Specially Plead.....	234
600 Persons Committed for Sentence .....	235
601 Standing Mute.....	235
602 Plea of Autrefois Convict or Autrefois Acquit.....	235
603 Trial on Plea to the Jurisdiction .....	236
604 Trial by Jury .....	236
605 Demurrer .....	236
606 Separate Trials .....	236

*Criminal Code 1899*

607 Juries .....	236
608 Accused Person to be informed of his Right of Challenge .....	237
609 Challenge to Array .....	237
610 Challenges to Individual Jurors for Cause.....	237
611 Time for Challenging.....	237
612 Ascertainment of Facts as to Challenge.....	237
613 Want of Understanding of Accused Person .....	238
614 Jury to be Sworn and Informed of Charge .....	238
615 Discharge of Juror by Court .....	238
616 Defence by Counsel.....	239
617 Presence of Accused.....	239
618 Evidence in Defence .....	239
619 Speeches by Counsel .....	239
620 Summing up.....	240
621 Jury not to Separate.....	240
622 Confinement of Jury.....	241
623 View.....	241
624 Special Verdict.....	241
625 General Verdict on Charge of Defamation .....	242
626 Discharge of Jury .....	242
627 Incapacity of Judge.....	242
628 Incapacity of Juror .....	242
629 Verdict on Sunday .....	243
630 Procedure on Charge of an Offence Committed after Previous Conviction ....	243
631 Further Pleas .....	244

*Chapter LXIII – Evidence: Presumptions of Fact*

632 Accomplices.....	244
633 Evidence on Charge of Treason .....	244
634 Evidence on Trials for Perjury and Subornation .....	244
635 Evidence of Previous Conviction.....	244
636 Evidence of Relationship on Charge of Incest.....	245

637 [repealed].....	245
638 Evidence of Authority .....	245
<hr/>	
639 Evidence on Charges of Offences against Customs Laws .....	246
640 Evidence on Trial for Defamation .....	246
641 Evidence on certain Charges of Stealing Money .....	246
642 Evidence on Charges relating to Seals and Stamps .....	247
643 Intention to Defraud .....	247
644 Admissions .....	247
<i>Chapter LXIV – Verdict Judgment</i>	
645 Accused Person Insane during Trial .....	247
646 Discharge of Persons Acquitted.....	248
647 Acquittal on ground of Insanity.....	248
648 Convicted Person to be called on to Show Cause .....	248
649 Arrest of Judgment.....	248
<i>Criminal Code 1899</i>	
650 Sentence .....	249
651 Sentence of Death .....	249
652 Recording Sentence of Death .....	249
653 Pregnant Women .....	250
654 Solitary Confinement.....	250
655 [Repealed] .....	251
656 Conditional Suspension of Punishment on First Conviction .....	251
657 Discharge of Offender in certain Cases .....	253
658 Assessment of Value of Property: Appropriation of Fines dependent on Value .....	253
659 Effect of Summary Conviction for Indictable Offences .....	254
<i>Chapter LXIVA – Habitual Criminals</i>	
659A Judge may Declare Convicted Person an Habitual Criminal.....	254
659B Reformatory Prisons.....	256
659C Prisons Act and Code to apply .....	256
659D Detention of Habitual Criminals .....	256
659E Alcoholic Liquor Prohibited .....	256
659F Prisoners to be Employed.....	257
659G Discharge.....	257
659H Conditions under which Offender may be Arrested .....	257
659I Regulations.....	258
<i>Chapter LXV – Costs</i>	
660 Costs of Prosecution in Certain Cases.....	259
661 Costs in Cases of Defamation.....	259
662 Taxation.....	260
663 Enforcement of Judgment of Circuit Court .....	260
<i>Chapter LXVI – Execution of Sentence</i>	
664 Execution of Sentence of Death.....	260
665 Commutation of Capital Sentence .....	262
666 [Repealed] .....	262
667 Levy of Fine and Costs on Conviction for Defamation.....	262
<i>Chapter LXVII – Appeal: Pardon</i>	
668 Definitions .....	262

668A Court of Criminal Appeal .....	263
668B Reservations of Points of Law .....	263
668C Appeal from Arrest of Judgment .....	264
668D Right of Appeal.....	264
668E Determination of Appeal in Ordinary Cases.....	265
668F Powers of Court in Special Cases.....	265
669 Power to Grant New Trial .....	266
670 Revesting and Restitution of Property on Conviction .....	266
671 Time for Appealing.....	267
671A Judge's Notes and Report to be Furnished on Appeal.....	267
671B Supplemental Powers.....	267
671C Legal Assistance to Appellant .....	268

*Criminal Code 1899*

671D Right of Appellant to be Present.....	269
671E Appeals Permitted in Writing .....	269
671F Costs of Appeal .....	269
671G Admission of Appellant to Bail and Custody when Attending Court .....	269
671H Duties of Registrar.....	270
671J Documents, Exhibits, &c. ....	271
671K Shorthand Notes of Trial.....	271
671L Powers Exercisable by a Judge .....	271
672 Appeals from the Decisions of the Court .....	272
672A Pardoning Power Preserved.....	272
673 Appeals from Summary Conviction to Supreme Court.....	273
674 Appeal from Summary Convictions to District Court.....	273
675 [Repealed] .....	273
676 [Repealed] .....	273
677 [Repealed] .....	273

*Chapter LXVIII – Summary Trial of Children under Twelve*

678 Summary Jurisdiction of Justices in case of Indictable Offences committed by Children not more than Twelve Years of Age .....	273
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*Chapter LXIX – Seizure and Detention of Property connected with Offences: Custody of Women Unlawfully Detained for Immoral Purposes: Restitution of Property Unlawfully Acquired*

679 Search Warrant.....	275
680 Property found on Offenders on Arrest .....	275
681 Seizure of Counterfeit Coin, Tools for Coining, &c .....	275
682 Disposal of Property Seized.....	276
683 Explosives.....	277
684 Women Detained for Immoral Purposes .....	277
685 Restitution of Property .....	278

*Chapter LXX – Informations by Private Persons for Indictable Offences: Ex Officio Indictments*

686 Information by leave of the Court by Private Prosecutors .....	279
687 Security to be given by Prosecutor for Costs of Defence .....	279
688 Service of Information .....	280
689 Plea .....	280
690 Default of Plea .....	280
691 Time and Place of Trial .....	280

692 Effect of Judgment for Prosecutor on Demurrer .....	281
693 Effect of Judgment by Default .....	281
<hr/>	
694 Costs of Defence .....	281
695 Practice to be applied on ex officio Information .....	281

*Chapter LXXI – Miscellaneous Provisions*

696 Names of Jury to be given to Person charged with Treason or Concealment of Treason.....	282
697 Court may Direct certain Persons to be Prosecuted for Perjury .....	282
698 Committal of Fraudulent Debtors .....	282
699 Staying Prosecution for Publication of Parliamentary Paper .....	283

*Criminal Code 1899*

700 Certificate of Dismissal by Justices .....	283
701 Custody of Girls under Twenty-one .....	284
702 Saving of Civil Remedies .....	284
703 Limitation of Proceedings.....	284
704 No Court Fees in Criminal Cases.....	285
705 Copies of Depositions to be Allowed to Persons Committed for Trial.....	285
706 Inspection of Depositions at Trial .....	285
707 Forms of Criminal Proceedings.....	285

**NOTES**

Tables of Constituent Legislation .....	287
Tables of Amendments .....	288
Notes on application of the Criminal Code .....	291
Notes on application of the death penalty .....	292

REPUBLIC OF NAURU

**Criminal Code**

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**PART I – INTRODUCTORY**

**Interpretation: Application: General Principles**

***Chapter I – Interpretation***

**1 Construction of Terms**

In this Code, unless the context otherwise indicates:

The term ***‘bodily harm’*** means any bodily injury which interferes with health or comfort;

The term ***‘circumstance of aggravation’*** means and includes any circumstance by reason whereof an offender is liable to a greater punishment than that to which he would be liable if the offence were committed without the existence of that circumstance;

The terms ***‘clerk’*** and ***‘servant’*** include any person employed for any purpose as or in the capacity of a clerk or servant, or as a collector of money, although temporarily only, or although employed also by other persons than the person alleged to be his employer, or although employed to pay as well as receive money, and any person employed as or in the capacity of a commission agent for the collection or disbursement of money, or in any similar capacity, although he has no authority from his employer to receive money or other property on his account:

They also include any person who acts in the capacity of an officer of a Friendly Society or branch of a Friendly Society;

The term ***‘company’*** means an incorporated company;

The term ***‘criminally responsible’*** means liable to punishment as for an offence; and the term ***‘criminal responsibility’*** means liability to punishment as for an offence;

The term '**Crown Law Officer**' means the Attorney-General or Solicitor-General;

The term '**dwelling-house**' includes any building or structure, or part of a building or structure, which is for the time being kept by the owner or occupier for the residence therein of himself, his family, or servants, or any of them: It is immaterial that it is from time to time uninhabited;

A building or structure adjacent to, and occupied with, a dwelling-house is deemed to be part of the dwelling-house if there is a communication between such building or structure and the dwelling-house, either immediate or by means of a covered and enclosed passage leading from the one to the other, but not otherwise;

The term '**explosive substance**' includes a gaseous substance in such a state of compression as to be capable of explosion;

The term '**grievous bodily harm**' means any bodily injury of such a nature as to endanger or be likely to endanger life, or to cause or be likely to cause permanent injury to health;

The term '**have in possession**' includes having under control in any place whatever, whether for the use or benefit of the person of whom the term is used or of another person, and although another person has the actual possession or custody of the thing in question;

The term '**indictment**' means a written charge preferred against an accused person in order to his trial before some court other than justices exercising summary jurisdiction;

The term '**liable,**' used alone, means liable on conviction upon indictment;

The term '**mail**' includes anything sent by post which is in actual course of transmission from one place to another;

The term '**mail conveyance**' includes any conveyance of any kind by which a mail is carried, and also any vessel employed by or under the Post and Telegraph Department, or the Postal Authority of any other country, or the Admiralty, for the conveyance of mails, whether under contract or not, and also a ship of war or other vessel in the service of Her Majesty in respect of letters conveyed by it;

The term **'money'** includes bank notes, bank drafts, cheques, and any other orders, warrants, authorities, or requests, for the payment of money;

The term **'night'** or **'night-time'** means the interval between nine o'clock in the evening and six o'clock in the morning;

The terms **'person'** and **'owner,'** and other like terms, when used with reference to property, include corporations of all kinds, and any other associations of persons capable of owning property: They also, when so used, include Her Majesty;

The term **'person employed in the Public Service'** includes officers and men of the Defence Force and police officers, and persons employed to execute any process of a court of justice: It also includes the Commissioner for Railways, and persons employed by him;

The term **'police officer'** includes any constable or officer of police;

The term **'Post and Telegraph Department'** means the Department of State charged with the execution of the laws relating to public Posts and Telegraphs;

The term **'Postmaster-General'** means the Minister charged with the administration of that Department;

The terms **'Post Office'** and **'Telegraph Office,'** respectively, mean and include any structure, room, place, or receptacle, of any kind, appointed by authority of the Postmaster-General for the receipt, despatch, or delivery, of anything sent by post or telegraph, or for the transaction of the business of the Department relating to Posts and Telegraphs respectively;

The term **'property'** includes every thing, animate or inanimate, capable of being the subject of ownership;

The term **'railway'** includes every kind of way on which vehicles are borne upon a rail or rails, whatever may be the means of propulsion;

The terms **'registered brand'** and **'registered mark'** mean respectively a brand or mark which is registered under the authority of the laws relating to brands;

The term **'ship'** includes every kind of vessel used in navigation not propelled by oars;

The term '**summary conviction**' means summary conviction before two justices in petty sessions;

The term '**telegraph**' includes a telephone;

The terms '**telegram**' and '**thing sent by telegraph**' mean and include any written or printed or partly written and partly printed message delivered at a telegraph office or post office for transmission by electric telegraph, or delivered or prepared for delivery from a telegraph office or post office as a message transmitted by electric telegraph for delivery;

The term '**thing sent by post**' includes any letter, newspaper, packet, parcel, or other thing, authorised by law to be transmitted by post, which has been posted or received at a post office for delivery or transmission by post, and which is in course of transmission by post, and any moveable receptacle which contains any such thing, and which is in course of transmission by post;

A thing is deemed to be in course of transmission by post or telegraph from the time of its being delivered to a post office or telegraph office to the time of its being delivered to the person to whom it is addressed;

A delivery at the house or office of the person to whom anything sent by post or telegraph is addressed, either to him or to some person apparently authorised to receive it according to the usual manner of delivering that person's letters or telegraphs, is deemed a delivery to the person addressed;

The term '**uncorroborated testimony**' means testimony which is not corroborated in some material particular by other evidence implicating the accused person;

The term '**utter**' means and includes using or dealing with, and attempting to use or deal with, and attempting to induce any person to use, deal with, or act upon, the thing in question:

The term '**knowingly,**' used in connection with any term denoting uttering or using, implies knowledge of the character of the thing uttered or used;

The term '**valuable security**' includes any document which is the property of any person, and which is evidence of the ownership of any property or of the right to recover or receive any property;



The term '**vessel**' includes a ship, a boat, and every other kind of vessel used in navigation.

**2 Definition of Offence**

An act or omission which renders the person doing the act or making the omission liable to punishment is called an offence.

**3 Division of Offences**

Offences are of three kinds, namely, Crimes, Misdemeanours, and Simple Offences.

Crimes and Misdemeanours are indictable offences; that is to say, the offenders cannot, unless otherwise expressly stated, be prosecuted or convicted except upon indictment.

A person guilty of a simple offence may be summarily convicted by two justices in petty sessions.

An offence not otherwise designated is a simple offence.

**4 Attempts to commit Offences**

When a person, intending to commit an offence, begins to put his intention into execution by means adapted to its fulfilment, and manifests his intention by some overt act, but does not fulfil his intention to such an extent as to commit the offence, he is said to attempt to commit the offence.

It is immaterial, except so far as regards punishment, whether the offender does all that is necessary on his part for completing the commission of the offence, or whether the complete fulfilment of his intention is prevented by circumstances independent of his will, or whether he desists of his own motion from the further prosecution of his intention.

It is immaterial that by reason of circumstances not known to the offender it is impossible in fact to commit the offence.

The same facts may constitute one offence and an attempt to commit another offence.

**5 Arrest without Warrant**

The expression '**The offender may be arrested without warrant**' means that the provisions of this Code relating to the

arrest of offenders or suspected offenders without warrant are applicable to the offence in question, either generally or subject to such conditions, if any, as to time, place, or circumstance, or as to the person authorised to make the arrest, as are specified in the particular case.

Except when otherwise stated, the definition of an offence as a crime imports that the offender may be arrested without warrant.

The expression '**The offender cannot be arrested without warrant**' means that the provisions of this Code relating to the arrest of offenders or suspected offenders without warrant are not applicable to the crime in question, except subject to such conditions, if any, as to time, place, or circumstance, or as to the person authorised to make the arrest as are specified in the particular case.

**6 Carnal Knowledge**

When the term '**carnal knowledge**' or the term '**carnal connection**' is used in defining an offence, it is implied that the offence, so far as regards that element of it, is complete upon penetration.

**Chapter II – Parties to Offences**

**7 Principal Offenders**

When an offence is committed, each of the following persons is deemed to have taken part in committing the offence and to be guilty of the offence, and may be charged with actually committing it, that is to say:

- (a) Every person who actually does the act or makes the omission which constitutes the offence;
- (b) Every person who does or omits to do any act for the purpose of enabling or aiding another person to commit the offence;
- (c) Every person who aids another person in committing the offence;
- (d) Any person who counsels or procures any other person to commit the offence.

In the fourth case he may be charged either with himself committing the offence or with counselling or procuring its commission.

A conviction of counselling or procuring the commission of an offence entails the same consequences in all respects as a conviction of committing the offence.

Any person who procures another to do or omit to do any act of such a nature that, if he had himself done the act or made the omission, the act or omission would have constituted an offence on his part, is guilty of an offence of the same kind, and is liable to the same punishment, as if he had himself done the act or made the omission; and he may be charged with himself doing the act or making the omission.

**8 Offences committed in prosecution of Common Purpose**

When two or more persons form a common intention to prosecute an unlawful purpose in conjunction with one another, and in the prosecution of such purpose an offence is committed of such a nature that its commission was a probable consequence of the prosecution of such purpose, each of them is deemed to have committed the offence.

**9** *[Repealed]*

**10 Accessories after the Fact**

A person who receives or assists another who is, to his knowledge, guilty of an offence, in order to enable him to escape punishment, is said to become an accessory after the fact to the offence.

A married woman does not become an accessory after the fact to an offence of which her husband is guilty, by receiving or assisting him in order to enable him to escape punishment; nor by receiving or assisting, in her husband's presence and by his authority, another person who is guilty of an offence in the commission of which her husband has taken part, in order to enable that other person to escape punishment; Nor does a husband become accessory after the fact to an offence of which his wife is guilty by receiving or assisting her in order to enable her to escape punishment.

**Chapter III – Application of Criminal Law**

**11 Effect of Changes in Law**

A person cannot be punished for doing or omitting to do an act unless the act or omission constituted an offence under the law in force when it occurred; nor unless doing or omitting to do the act under the same circumstances would constitute an offence under the law in force at the time when he is charged with the offence.

If the law in force when the act or omission occurred differs from that in force at the time of the conviction, the offender cannot be punished to any greater extent than was authorised by the former law, or to any greater extent than is authorised by the latter law.

**12 Application of Code as to Offences Wholly or Partially Committed in Queensland**

This Code applies to every person who is in Queensland at the time of his doing any act or making any omission which constitutes an offence.

With regard to offences which are of such a nature that they comprise several elements, if any acts or omissions or events actually occur which, if they all occurred in Queensland, would constitute an offence, and any of such acts or omissions or events occurs in Queensland, although all or some of the other acts or omissions or events which, if they occurred in Queensland, would be elements of the offence occur elsewhere than in Queensland; then:

- (1) If the act or omission which, in the case of an offence wholly committed in Queensland, would be the initial element of the offence, occurs in Queensland, the person who does that act or makes that omission is guilty of an offence of the same kind, and is liable to the same punishment, as if all the subsequent elements of the offence had occurred in Queensland; and
- (2) If that act or omission occurs elsewhere than in Queensland, and the person who does that act or makes that omission afterwards comes into Queensland, he is by such coming into Queensland guilty of an offence of the same kind, and is liable to the same punishment, as if that act or omission had occurred in Queensland, and he had been in Queensland when it occurred:



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*Criminal Code 1899*

having jurisdiction in the place where the act or omission occurs.

**15 Defence Force**

Officers and men of the Land and Marine Defence Force are, while on duty or in uniform, subject to the special laws relating to that Force, but are not exempt from the provisions of this Code.

**16 Person not to be Twice Punished for Same Offence**

A person cannot be twice punished either under the provisions of this Code or under the provisions of any other law for the same act or omission, except in the case where the act or omission is such that by means thereof he causes the death of another person, in which case he may be convicted of the offence of which he is guilty by reason of causing such death, notwithstanding that he has already been convicted of some other offence constituted by the act or omission.

**17 Former Conviction or Acquittal**

It is a defence to a charge of any offence to show that the accused person has already been tried, and convicted or acquitted upon an indictment on which he might have been convicted of the offence with which he is charged, or has already been acquitted upon indictment, or has already been convicted, of an offence of which he might be convicted upon the indictment or complaint on which he is charged.

***Chapter IV – Punishments***

**18 Kinds of Punishment**

The punishments which may be inflicted under this Code are as follows:

Death;<sup>1</sup>

Imprisonment with hard labour;

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<sup>1</sup> see Notes on application of the death penalty in the Notes for the Criminal Code 1899 at the end of this compilation.

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*Criminal Code 1899*

Imprisonment without hard labour;

Detention in a reformatory prison;

Detention in an industrial or reformatory school;

Solitary confinement;

Fine;

Finding security to keep the peace and be of good

behaviour. **19 Construction of provisions of Code as to Punishments**

In the construction of this Code it is to be taken that, except when it is otherwise expressly provided:

- (1) A person liable to imprisonment, either with or without hard labour, for life or for any other period may be sentenced to similar imprisonment for any shorter term;
- (2) A person liable to imprisonment with hard labour may be sentenced to imprisonment without hard labour;
- (3) A person liable to imprisonment for any offence may be sentenced to pay a fine in addition to or, save where it is expressly provided that a sentence of imprisonment shall be imposed, instead of imprisonment;
- (5) The punishment of solitary confinement or of whipping cannot be inflicted upon a person who is sentenced to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for a longer term than two years;
- (7) A person convicted upon indictment of an offence not punishable with death<sup>2</sup> may, instead of, or in addition to, any punishment to which he is liable, be ordered to enter into his own recognisance, with or without sureties, in such amount as the Court thinks fit, that he shall keep the peace and be of good behaviour for a time to be fixed by the Court, and may be ordered to be imprisoned until such recognisance, with sureties if so directed, is entered into: but so that the imprisonment for not entering into the recognisance shall not extend for a term longer than one year, and shall not, together with the fixed term of

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<sup>2</sup> See Note 4 at the end of this compilation.

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*Criminal Code 1899*

imprisonment, if any, extend for a term longer than the longest term for which he might be sentenced to be imprisoned without fine;

- (8) A person convicted of any offence upon summary conviction may, instead of being sentenced to any punishment to which he is liable, be discharged upon his entering into his own recognisances, with or without sureties, in such amount as the justices think fit, that he shall keep the peace and be of good behaviour for a term not exceeding one year;
- (9) When a person is convicted of any offence not punishable with death,<sup>3</sup> the Court or Justices may, instead of passing sentence, discharge the offender upon his entering into his own recognisance, with or without sureties, in such sum as the Court or Justices may think fit, conditioned that he shall appear and receive judgment at some future sittings of the Court or when called upon.

**19A Fines**

- (1) Where a fine is imposed under any law, then in the absence of express provisions relating to such fine in such law the following provisions shall apply:
  - (a) where no sum is expressed to which the fine may extend, the amount of the fine which may be imposed is unlimited but shall not be excessive;
  - (b) where the sum to which the fine may amount is expressed any lesser fine may be imposed;
  - (c) in the case of an offence punishable with a fine or a term of imprisonment shall be a matter for the discretion of the court;
  - (d) in the case of an offence punishable with imprisonment as well as a fine in which the offender is sentenced to a fine with or without imprisonment and in every case of an offence punishable with a fine only in which the offender is sentenced to a fine the Court passing sentence may, in its discretion:

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<sup>3</sup> See Note 4 at the end of this compilation.



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*Criminal Code 1899*

- (i) direct by its sentence that in default of payment of the fine the offender shall suffer imprisonment for a certain term, which imprisonment to which he may have been sentenced or to which he may be liable under a commutation of sentence; and also
  - (ii) issue a warrant for the levy of the amount of the immovable and movable property of the offender by distress and sale under warrant.
- (2) The term of imprisonment to which a person may be sentenced by a Court in default of payment of a fine shall be such term as in the opinion of the Court will satisfy the justice of the case but shall not exceed the maximum fixed by the following scale:

Amount	
Not exceeding \$2	7 days
Exceeding \$2 but not exceeding \$4	14 days
Exceeding \$4 but not exceeding \$20	6 weeks
Exceeding \$20 but not exceeding \$40	2 months
Exceeding \$40 but not exceeding \$80	3 months
Exceeding \$80 but not exceeding \$150	4 months
Exceeding \$150 but not exceeding \$300	6 months
Exceeding \$300	9 months

- (3) Where any offender serves any part of a sentence of imprisonment imposed in default of his paying a fine, the amount of the fine which he is liable to pay shall be reduced from day to day by such amount as is the same proportion of the whole fine as the period of imprisonment served is of the whole term of the default sentence and, upon payment of the balance of the fine due at any time, the sentence of imprisonment imposed in default of payment of the fine shall terminate.
- (4) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 20 of this Code, the imprisonment which is imposed in default of payment of a fine shall commence on the day on which the person so in default was arrested by virtue of the sentence of the Court.

**19B Distress**

- (1) Where a Court orders money to be paid by an accused person or by a prosecutor or complainant as fine, penalty, compensation, costs, expenses or otherwise, the money may be levied on his personal property under warrant.
  - (2) A person referred to in the last preceding subsection may pay or tender to the officer having the execution of the warrant the sum therein mentioned together with the amount of the expenses of the distress up to the time of payment or tender and thereupon the officer shall cease to execute the same.
  - (3) A warrant under this section may be executed within Nauru and it shall authorise the distress and sale of any personal property belonging to such person.
  - (4) Any person claiming to be entitled to or to have legal or equitable interest in the whole or part of any property seized in execution of a warrant issued under this section may, at any time prior to the receipt by the Court of the proceeds of sale of such property, give notice in writing to the Court of his objection to the seizure of such property. Such notice shall set out shortly the nature of the claim which that person (hereinafter in this section referred to as the "the objector") makes to the whole or part of the property seized and shall certify the value of the property claimed by him. Such value shall be deposed to upon affidavit which shall be filed with the notice.
  - (5) Upon receipt of a valid notice given under the last preceding subsection, the Court shall by any order in writing addressed to the officer having the execution of the warrant, direct a stay of the sale of property, or that part of it claimed by the objector.
  - (6) Upon the issue of an order under the last preceding subsection, the Court shall, by notice in writing, summon the objector to appear before it upon a date to be specified in the notice in order to establish his claim.
  - (7) A notice shall be issued by the Court to the person whose property was, by the warrant issued under subsection (1) of this section, directed to be seized and, unless the property is to be applied to the payment of a fine, upon the person entitled to the proceeds of this sale of such property. Such notice shall specify the time and place fixed for the appearance on the objector and shall direct the person upon whom the notice is served to appear before the Court at the same time and place if he wishes to be heard upon the hearing of the objection.
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*Criminal Code 1899*

- (8) If, upon investigation of the claim, the Court is satisfied that the property was not, when attached, in the possession of the person whose property was, by the warrant issued under subsection (1) of this section, directed to be seized or of some person in trust for him or that, being in his possession at such time, it was so in his possession not on his own account or as his own property but on account of or in trust for some other person or partly on his own account and partly on account of some other person, the Court shall make an order releasing the property, wholly or to such extent as it thinks fit.
- (9) If, upon the date fixed for his appearance, the objector fails to appear or if, upon investigation of the claim in accordance with the provisions of subsection (8) of this section, the Court is of opinion that the objector failed to establish his claim, it shall order the execution of the warrant to proceed and shall make such order as to costs as it deems fit.
- (10) Nothing in this section shall be deemed to deprive a person who has failed to comply with the requirements of subsection (4) of this section of the right to take any other proceedings which, apart from the provisions of this section, may lawfully be taken by a person claiming an interest in property seized under a warrant.
- (11) No distress made under this section shall be deemed unlawful, nor shall any person making the same to be deemed a trespasser, on account of any defect or want of form in the summons, conviction, warrant of distress or other proceedings relating thereto.

**19C      Suspension of execution of imprisonment in default of fine**

- (1) Where a convicted person has been sentenced to a fine only and to imprisonment in default of payment of a fine and whether or not a warrant of distress has been issued under section 19B of this Code, the Court may make an order directing the fine to be paid on or before a specified date, not being more than thirty days from the date of the order, and in the event of this fine not being paid on or before that date may, subject to the other provisions of this section, forthwith issue a warrant of committal. The Court may, before making such order, require the convicted person to execute a bond, with or without sureties, conditioned for his appearance before the Court on the specified date if the fine be not in the meantime paid. Upon the making of an order under this subsection the sentence of imprisonment shall be deemed to be suspended and the convicted person shall be released from custody.

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*Criminal Code 1899*

- (2) In any case in which an order for the payment of money has been made on non-recovery of which imprisonment may be awarded and the money is not paid forthwith, the Court may require the person ordered to make such payment to enter into a bond as prescribed in the last preceding subsection and, in default in doing so, may at once pass sentence of imprisonment as if the money had not been recovered.
- (3) The Court may in its discretion direct that any money to which this section applied may be paid by instalments at such times and in such amounts as it may deem fit but so nevertheless that, in default of payment of any such instalment as aforesaid, the whole of the amount outstanding shall become and be immediately due and payable and all the provisions of this Code applicable to a sentence of fine and to imprisonment in default of payment thereof shall apply to the same accordingly.
- (4) A warrant of commitment to prison in respect of the non-payment of any sum of money by a person to whom time has been allowed for payment under the provisions of subsection (1) of this section or who has been allowed to pay by instalments under the provisions of the last preceding subsection shall not be issued unless the Court shall first make as to his means in his presence.

Provided that a Court may issue such warrant of commitment without any further inquiry as to means if it shall have made such inquiry in the presence of the convicted person at the time when the fine was imposed or at any subsequent time and the convicted person shall not before the expiration of the time for payment have notified the Court of any change in his means or applied to the Court for an extension of time to pay the fine.

- (5) After making inquiry in accordance with the provisions of the last preceding subsection, the Court may, if it thinks fit, instead of issuing a warrant of commitment to prison, make an order extending the time allowed for payment or varying the amount of the instalments or the times at which the instalments were, by previous order of the Court, directed to be paid, as the case may be.
- (6) For the purpose of enabling inquiry to be made under the provisions of subsection (4) of this section, the Court may issue a summons to the person ordered to pay the money to appear before it and, if he does not appear in obedience to the summons, may issue a warrant for his arrest or, without issuing a summons, issue in the first instance a warrant for his arrest.

**19D Committal in lieu of distress**

- (1) If the officer having the execution of a warrant of distress reports that he could find no property or not sufficient property whereon to levy the money mentioned in the warrant with expenses, the Court may by the same or by a subsequent warrant commit the person ordered to pay to prison for a time specified in the warrant, unless the money and all expenses of the distress, commitment and conveyance to prison, to be specified in the warrant, are sooner paid.
- (2) Where it appears to the Court that distress and sale of property would be ruinous to the person ordered to pay the money or his family or by his confession or otherwise, that he has no property whereon the distress may be levied, or other sufficient reason appears to the Court, the Court may, if it thinks fit, instead of or after issuing a warrant of distress, commit him to prison for a time specified in the warrant, unless the money and all expenses of the commitment and conveyance to prison, to be specified in the warrant, are sooner paid.
- (3) The period for which a person may be committed in prison in default or of in lieu of distress under this section shall be:
  - (a) if the person has been sentenced to a term of imprisonment in default of payment of a fine, the period to which he was so sentenced;
  - (b) in other cases such period as the Court considers reasonable subject to the maximum laid down in subsection (2) of section 19A relating to fine;
- (4) Any person committed for non-payment under this section may pay the sum specified in the warrant, with the amount of expenses therein authorised, if any, to the person in whose custody he is and that person shall thereupon discharge him if he is in custody for no other matter.
- (5) If any person committed to prison for non-payment shall pay any sum in part-satisfaction of the sum adjudged to be paid, the term of his imprisonment shall be reduced by a number of days bearing as nearly as possible the same proportion to the total number of days for which such person is committed, as the sum so paid bears to the sum for which he is liable.

**19E      Payment after issue of warrant but before committal**

Where a warrant has been issued under the provisions of this Code for non-payment of a fine, any payment made after the issue of such warrant but before the person in respect of whom the warrant has been issued has been taken into custody, being a payment insufficient to satisfy the sum mentioned in the warrant together with the amount of expenses therein mentioned, shall be deemed to be appropriated primarily in satisfaction, or part-satisfaction, of such expenses.

**20      Calculation of Term of Sentence: Cumulative Sentences: Escaped Prisoners**

When a person who is convicted of an offence is undergoing, or has been sentenced to undergo, for another offence, a sentence involving deprivation of liberty, the punishment to be inflicted upon him for the first-mentioned offence may be directed to take effect from the expiration of the deprivation of liberty for the last-mentioned offence.

Except as aforesaid, a sentence of imprisonment, with or without hard labour, upon a conviction on indictment takes effect from the first day of the Sittings of the Court at which, the offender is convicted, and a sentence of imprisonment, with or without hard labour, upon a summary conviction takes effect from the commencement of the offender's custody under the sentence.

A person who escapes from lawful custody while undergoing a sentence involving deprivation of liberty is liable upon recapture to undergo the punishment which he was undergoing at the time of his escape, for a term equal to that during which he was absent from prison, after the escape and before the expiration of the term of his original sentence, whether at the time of his recapture the term of that sentence has or has not expired.

**21      *[Repealed]***

***Chapter V – Criminal Responsibility***

**22      Ignorance of Law: Bond fide Claim of Right**

Ignorance of the law does not afford any excuse for an act or omission which would otherwise constitute an offence, unless knowledge of the law by the offender is expressly declared to be an element of the offence.

But a person is not criminally responsible, as for an offence relating to property, for an act done or omitted to be done by him with respect to any property in the exercise of an honest claim of right and without intention to defraud.

**23 Intention: Motive**

Subject to the express provisions of this Code relating to negligent acts and omissions, a person is not criminally responsible for an act or omission which occurs independently of the exercise of his will, or for an event which occurs by accident.

Unless the intention to cause a particular result is expressly declared to be an element of the offence constituted, in whole or part, by an act, or omission, the result intended to be caused by an act or omission is immaterial.

Unless otherwise expressly declared, the motive by which a person is induced to do or omit to do an act, or to form an intention, is immaterial so far as regards criminal responsibility.

**24 Mistake of Fact**

A person who does or omits to do an act under an honest and reasonable, but mistaken, belief in the existence of any state of things is not criminally responsible for the act or omission to any greater extent than if the real state of things had been such as he believed to exist.

The operation of this rule may be excluded by the express or implied provisions of the law relating to the subject.

**25 Extraordinary Emergencies**

Subject to the express provisions of this Code relating to acts done upon compulsion or provocation or in self-defence, a person is not criminally responsible for an act or omission done or made under such circumstances of sudden or extraordinary emergency that an ordinary person possessing ordinary power of self-control could not reasonably be expected to act otherwise.

**26        Presumption of Sanity**

Every person is presumed to be of sound mind, and to have been of sound mind at any time which comes in question, until the contrary is proved.

**27        Insanity**

A person is not criminally responsible for an act or omission if at the time of doing the act or making the omission he is in such a state of mental disease or natural mental infirmity as to deprive him of capacity to understand what he is doing, or of capacity to control his actions, or of capacity to know that he ought not to do the act or make the omission.

A person whose mind, at the time of his doing or omitting to do an act, is affected by delusions on some specific matter or matters, but who is not otherwise entitled to the benefit of the foregoing provisions of his section, is criminally responsible for the act or omission to the same extent as if the real state of things had been such as he was induced by the delusions to believe to exist.

**28        Intoxication**

The provisions of the last preceding section apply to the case of a person whose mind is disordered by intoxication or stupefaction caused without intention on his part by drugs or intoxicating liquor or by any other means.

They do not apply to the case of a person who has intentionally caused himself to become intoxicated or stupefied, whether in order to afford excuse for the commission of an offence or not.

When an intention to cause a specific result is an element of an offence, intoxication, whether complete or partial, and whether intentional or unintentional, may be regarded for the purpose of ascertaining whether such an intention in fact existed.

**29        Immature Age**

A person under the age of seven years is not criminally responsible for any act or omission.

A person under the age of fourteen years is not criminally responsible for an act or omission, unless it is proved that at the



time of doing the act or making the omission he had capacity to know that he ought not to do the act or make the omission.

A male person under the age of fourteen years is presumed to be incapable of having carnal knowledge.

**30 Judicial Officers**

Except as expressly provided by this Code, a judicial officer is not criminally responsible for anything done or omitted to be done by him in the exercise of his judicial functions, although the act done is in excess of his judicial authority, or although he is bound to do the act omitted to be done.

**31 Justification and Excuse: Compulsion**

A person is not criminally responsible for an act or omission, if he does or omits to do the act under any of the following circumstances, that is to say:

- (1) In execution of the law;
- (2) In obedience to the order of a competent authority which he is bound by law to obey, unless the order is manifestly unlawful;
- (3) When the act is reasonably necessary in order to resist actual and unlawful violence threatened to him, or to another person in his presence;
- (4) When he does or omits to do the act in order to save himself from immediate death or grievous bodily harm threatened to be inflicted upon him by some person actually present and in a position to execute the threats, and believing himself to be unable otherwise to escape the carrying of the threats into execution:

But this protection does not extend to an act or omission which would constitute an offence punishable with death,<sup>4</sup> or an offence of which grievous bodily harm to the person of another, or an intention to cause such harm, is an element, nor to a person who has by entering into an unlawful association or conspiracy rendered himself liable to have such threats made to him.

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<sup>4</sup> See Note 4 at the end of this compilation.

Whether an order is or is not manifestly unlawful is a question of law.

**32      **Compulsion of Husband****

A married woman is not free from criminal responsibility for doing or omitting to do an act merely because the act or omission takes place in the presence of her husband.

But a married woman is not criminally responsible for doing or omitting to do an act which she is actually compelled by her husband to do or omit to do, and which is done or omitted to be done in his presence, except in the case of an act or omission which would constitute an offence punishable with death,<sup>5</sup> or an offence of which grievous bodily harm to the person of another, or an intention to cause such harm, is an element, in which case the presence of her husband is immaterial.

**33      **No Conspiracy between Husband and Wife Alone****

A husband and wife are not criminally responsible for a conspiracy between themselves alone.

**34      **Offences by Partners and Members of Companies with respect to Partnership or Corporate Property****

A person who, being a member of a co-partnership, corporation, or joint stock company, does or omits to do any act with respect to the property of the co-partnership, corporation, or company, which, if he were not a member of the co-partnership, corporation, or company, would constitute an offence, is criminally responsible to the same extent as if he were not such member.

**35      **Liability of Husband and Wife for Offences committed by either with respect to the other's Property****

When a husband and wife are living together, neither of them incurs any criminal responsibility for doing or omitting to do any act with respect to the property of the other, except in the case of an act or omission of which an intention to injure or defraud some other person is an element, and except in the case of an

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<sup>5</sup> See Note 4 at the end of this compilation.

act done by either of them when leaving or deserting, or when about to leave or desert, the other.

Subject to the foregoing provisions a husband and wife are, each of them, criminally responsible for any act done by him or her with respect to the property of the other, which would be an offence if they were not husband and wife, and to the same extent as if they were not husband and wife.

But neither of them can institute criminal proceedings against the other while they are living together.

Upon the prosecution of a husband on the complaint of his wife for an offence committed with respect to her property, and upon the prosecution of a wife on the complaint of her husband for an offence committed with respect to his property, the wife or husband, as the case may be, is a competent and compellable witness.

In this section the term, '*property*' used with respect to a wife means her separate property.

**36 Application of Rules**

The provisions of this Chapter apply to all persons charged with any offence against the Statute Law of Queensland.

## **PART II – OFFENCES AGAINST PUBLIC ORDER**

### ***Chapter VI – Treason and Other Offences against the Sovereign's Person and Authority***

**37 Treason**

Any person who:

- (1) Kills the Sovereign, or does Her any bodily harm tending to Her death, or maim or wounding, or imprisonment or restraint; or
- (2) Kills the eldest son and heir-apparent for the time being of the Sovereign, or the Queen Consort of the reigning King; or
- (3) Forms an intention to do any such act as aforesaid, and manifests such intention by any overt act; or

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*Criminal Code 1899*

- (4) Conspires with any other person to kill the Sovereign or to do Her any bodily harm tending to Her death, or maim or wounding, or imprisonment or restraint; or
- (5) Levies war against the Sovereign:
  - (a) With intent to depose the Sovereign from the style, honour, and royal name, of the Imperial Crown of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, or of any other of Her Majesty's dominions; or
  - (b) In order by force or constraint to compel the Sovereign to change Her measures or counsels, or in order to put any force or constraint upon, or in order to intimidate or overawe, any House of Parliament of any of Her Majesty's dominions; or
- (6) Conspires with any other person to levy war against the Sovereign with any such intent or purpose as last aforesaid; or
- (7) Instigates any foreigner to make an armed invasion of any part of Her Majesty's dominions; or
- (8) Assists by any means whatever any public enemy at war with the Sovereign; or
- (9) Violates, whether with her consent or not, a Queen Consort, or the wife of the eldest son and heir-apparent for the time being of the Sovereign;

is guilty of a crime, which is called treason, and is liable to the punishment of death.

**38 Concealment of Treason**

Any person who:

- (1) Becomes an accessory after the fact to treason; or
- (2) Knowing that any person intends to commit treason, does not give information thereof with all reasonable despatch to a justice or use other reasonable endeavours to prevent the commission of the crime;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life.

**39 Treasonable Crimes**

Any person who forms an intention to effect any of the following purposes, that is to say:

- (a) To depose the Sovereign from the style, honour, and royal name, of the Imperial Crown of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, or of any other of Her Majesty's dominions; or
- (b) To levy war against the Sovereign within any part of Her dominions in order by force or constraint to compel the Sovereign to change Her measures or counsels, or in order to put any force or constraint upon, or in order to intimidate or overawe, any House of Parliament of any of Her Majesty's dominions; or
- (c) To instigate any foreigner to make an armed invasion of any of Her Majesty's dominions;

and manifests such intention by any overt act, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life.

A person charged with any of the crimes defined in this section is not entitled to be acquitted on the ground that any act proved to have been committed by him constitutes the crime of treason; but a person who has been tried, and convicted or acquitted, on a charge of any such crime cannot be afterwards prosecuted for treason in respect of the same facts.

**40 Time for Proceeding in cases of Treason or Concealment of Treason: Two Witnesses necessary**

A person cannot be tried for treason or for any of the crimes defined in the two last preceding sections unless the indictment is presented within two years after the crime is committed:

Nor can a person charged with treason or with any of such crimes be convicted, except on his own plea of guilty, or on the evidence in open Court of two witnesses at the least to one overt act of the kind of treason alleged, or the evidence of one witness to one overt act, and one other witness to another overt act of the same kind of treason.

This section does not apply in cases in which the overt act of treason alleged is the killing of the Sovereign, or a direct attempt to endanger the life or injure the person of the Sovereign.

**41 Inciting to Mutiny**

Any person who advisedly attempts to effect any of the following purposes, that is to say:

- (a) To seduce any person serving in Her Majesty's Forces by sea or land from his duty and allegiance to Her Majesty; or
- (b) To incite any such person to commit an act of mutiny or any traitorous or mutinous act; or
- (c) To incite any such persons to make or endeavour to make a mutinous assembly;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life, with or without solitary confinement.

A person who has been tried, and convicted or acquitted, on a charge of any of the crimes defined in this section cannot be afterwards prosecuted for any other crime defined in this Chapter in respect of the same facts.

**42 Assisting Escape of Prisoners of War**

Any person who:

- (1) Knowingly and advisedly aids an alien enemy of Her Majesty, being a prisoner of war in Queensland, whether such prisoner is confined in a prison or elsewhere or is suffered to be at large on his parole, to escape from his prison or place of confinement, or, if he is at large on his parole, to escape from Queensland; or
- (2) Being a person who owes allegiance to Her Majesty, after any such prisoner has escaped by sea from any part of Her Majesty's dominions, knowingly and advisedly upon the high seas within the territorial waters of Queensland aids him in his escape to or towards any other dominion or place;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life.

**43 Overt Act**

In the case of any of the offences defined in this Chapter, when the manifestation by an overt act of an intention to effect any purpose is an element of the offence, every act of conspiring

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with any person to effect that purpose, and every act done in furtherance of the purpose by any of the persons conspiring, is deemed to be an overt act manifesting the intention.

### **Chapter VII – Sedition**

#### **44 Definition of Seditious Intention**

An intention to effect any of the following purposes, that is to say:

- (a) To bring the Sovereign into hatred or contempt;
- (b) To excite disaffection against the Sovereign or the Government or Constitution of the United Kingdom or of Queensland as by law established, or against either House of Parliament of the United Kingdom or of Queensland, or against the administration of justice;
- (c) To excite Her Majesty's subjects to attempt to procure the alteration of any matter in the State as by law established otherwise than by lawful means;
- (d) To raise discontent or disaffection amongst Her Majesty's subjects;
- (e) To promote feelings of ill-will and enmity between different classes of Her Majesty's subjects;

is a seditious intention, unless it is justified by the provisions of the next following section.

#### **45 Innocent Intentions**

It is lawful for any person:

- (a) To endeavour in good faith to show that the Sovereign has been mistaken in any of Her counsels;
- (b) To point out in good faith errors or defects in the government or Constitution of the United Kingdom or of Queensland as by law established, or in legislation, or in the administration of justice, with a view to the reformation of such errors or defects;

- (c) To excite in good faith Her Majesty's subjects to attempt to procure by lawful means the alteration of any matter in the State as by law established; or
- (d) To point out in good faith in order to their removal any matters which are producing; or have a tendency to produce feelings of ill-will and enmity between different classes of Her Majesty's subjects.

**46 Definition of Seditious Enterprises, &c**

A seditious enterprise is an enterprise which is undertaken in order to the carrying out of a seditious intention.

Seditious words are words expressive of a seditious intention.

The term '**seditious writing**' includes anything intended to be read, and any sign or visible representation, which is expressive of a seditious intention.

**47 Unlawful Oaths to commit Capital Offences**

Any person who:

- (1) Administers, or is present at and consents to the administering of any oath or engagement in the nature of an oath, purporting to bind the person who takes it to commit any crime punishable with death;<sup>6</sup> or
- (2) Takes any such oath or engagement, not being compelled to do so; or
- (3) Attempts to induce any person to take any such oath or engagement;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life, with or without solitary confinement.

**48 Other Unlawful Oaths to commit Offences**

Any person who:

- (1) Administers, or is present at and consents to the administering of, any oath or engagement in the nature of \_\_\_\_\_

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<sup>6</sup> See Note 4 at the end of this compilation.



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*Criminal Code 1899*

an oath, purporting to bind the person who takes it to act in any of the ways following, that is to say:

- (a) To engage in any mutinous or seditious enterprise;
  - (b) To commit any indictable offence not punishable with death;<sup>7</sup>
  - (c) To disturb the public peace;
  - (d) To be of any association, society, or confederacy, formed for the purpose of doing any such act as aforesaid;
  - (e) To obey the order or commands of any committee or body of men not lawfully constituted, or of any leader or commander or other person not having authority by law for that purpose;
  - (f) Not to inform or give evidence against any associate, confederate, or other person;
  - (g) Not to reveal or discover any unlawful association, society, or confederacy, or any illegal act done or to be done, or any illegal oath or engagement that may have been administered or tendered to or taken by himself or any other person, or the import of any such oath or engagement; or
- (2) Takes any such oath or engagement, not being compelled to do so; or
- (3) Attempts to induce any person to take any such oath or engagement;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

**49 Compulsion, how far a Defence**

A person who takes any such oath or engagement as is mentioned in the two last preceding sections cannot set up as a defence that he was compelled to do so, unless within fourteen days after taking it, or, if he is prevented by actual force or sickness, within fourteen days after the termination of such prevention, he declares by information on oath before some ~~member of the Executive Council or justice of the peace, or, if~~

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<sup>7</sup> See Note 4 at the end of this compilation.

he is on actual service in Her Majesty's Forces by sea or land, either by such information or by information to his commanding officer, the whole of what he knows concerning the matter, including the person or persons by whom and in whose presence, and the place where, and the time when, the oath or engagement was administered or taken.

**50 Effect of Prosecution**

A person who has been tried, and convicted or acquitted, on a charge of any of the crimes hereinbefore in this Chapter defined, cannot be afterwards prosecuted upon the same facts for the crime of treason, or for the crime of failing, when he knows that any person intends to commit treason, to give information thereof with all reasonable despatch to a justice or use other reasonable endeavours to prevent the commission of the crime.

**51 Unlawful Drilling**

(1) Any person who:

- (a) In contravention of the directions of a Proclamation by the Governor in Council in that behalf, trains or drills any other person to the use of arms or the practice of military exercise, movements, or evolution; or
- (b) Is present at any meeting or assembly of persons held in contravention of the directions of any such Proclamation, for the purpose of there training or drilling any other person to the use of arms or the practice of military exercise, movements, or evolution;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

(2) Any person who, at any meeting or assembly held in contravention of the directions of a Proclamation by the Governor in Council in that behalf, is trained or drilled to the use of arms or the practice of military exercises, movements, or evolutions, or who is present at any such meeting or assembly for the purpose of being so trained or drilled, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for two years.

The offender may be arrested without warrant.

(3) A prosecution for any of the offences defined in this section must be begun within six months after the offence is committed.

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**52 Sedition**

Any person who:

- (1) Conspires with any person to carry into execution a seditious enterprise; or
- (2) Advisedly publishes any seditious words or writing;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

If he has been previously convicted of any such offence he is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

A prosecution for any of the offences defined in this section must be begun within six months after the offence is committed.

A person cannot be convicted of any of the offences defined in this section upon the uncorroborated testimony of one witness.

**53 Defamation of Foreign Princes**

Any person who, without such justification or excuse as would be sufficient in the case of the defamation of a private person, publishes anything intended to be read, or any sign or visible representation, tending to expose to hatred or contempt in the estimation of the people of any Foreign State any Prince or person exercising sovereign authority over that State, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for two years.

**53A Interpretation for sabotage**

- (1) In this section and sections 53B and 53C:

**'property offence'** means an offence against section 458 (Unlawful Acts), 459 (Acts done with Intent to Defraud), 461 (arson), 463 (setting fire to crops and growing plants), 469 (wilful damage), 470 (attempts to destroy property by explosives); and

**'public facility'** means any of the following (whether publicly or privately owned):

- (a) a government facility, including vehicles and premises used by government employees (including Ministers and Members of Parliament) in connection with official duties;
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*Criminal Code 1899*

- (b) a public infrastructure facility, including a facility providing or distributing water, sewerage, energy, fuel, communication, seaport, airport, and loading and unloading facilities or other services to, or for the benefit of, the public;
  - (c) a public information system, including a system used to generate, send, receive, store or otherwise process electronic communications;
  - (d) a public transport facility, including a conveyance used to transport people or goods;
  - (e) a public place, including any premises, land or water open to the public;
  - (f) buildings, plant, equipment, and associated facilities (including conveyors, locomotives, rails, cables for carriage of electric power or communications and pipes for carriage of fuel, water or gas) owned and/or operated by an instrumentality of the Republic for the mining, crushing, treatment, conveyance, delivery and other associated activities connected with the mining treatment and sale of phosphate rock.
- (2) In this Subdivision '**damage**', in relation to a public facility, means:
- (a) cause damage to the facility or any part of the facility; or
  - (b) cause disruption to the use or operation of the facility.
- (3) For the purposes of an offence against this Subdivision, a person causes any damage or disruption if the person's conduct substantially contributes to the damage or disruption.

**53B Sabotage**

A person who:

- (a) damages a public facility by committing a property offence; and
- (b) intends to cause:
  - (i) major disruption to government functions; or
  - (ii) major disruption to the use of services by the public;or

(iii) major economic loss;

is guilty of an offence and liable to 25 years imprisonment.

**53C Threats to sabotage**

(1) A person who:

- (a) makes to another person a threat to damage a public facility by committing a property offence; and
- (b) intends that person to fear that the threat will be carried out and will cause:
  - (i) major disruption to government functions; or
  - (ii) major disruption to the use of services by the public;  
or
  - (iii) major economic loss:

is guilty of an offence and liable to 15 years imprisonment.

(2) In the prosecution of an offence against this section it is not necessary to prove that the person threatened actually feared that the threat would be carried out.

(3) For the purposes of this section:

- (a) a threat may be made by any conduct and may be explicit or implicit, conditional or unconditional; and
- (b) a threat to a person includes a threat to a group of persons; and
- (c) fear that a threat will be carried out includes apprehension that it will be carried out.

***Chapter VIII – Offences against the Executive and Legislative Power***

**54 Interference with Governor or Ministers**

Any person who advisedly:

- (1) Does any act calculated to interfere with the free exercise by the Governor of the duties or authority of his office; or
- (2) Does any act calculated to interfere with the free exercise by a member of the Executive

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Council of the duties or

authority of his office as a member of the Executive Council or as a Minister of State;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for three years.

**55 Interference with the Legislature**

Any person who advisedly, by force or fraud, interferes or attempts to interfere with the free exercise by either House of Parliament of their authority, or with the free exercise by any member of either House of his duties or authority as such member, or as a member of a Committee of either House, or of a joint Committee of both Houses, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for three years.

**56 Disturbing the Legislature**

Any person who advisedly:

- (1) Disturbs either House of Parliament while in session; or
- (2) Commits any disorderly conduct in the immediate view and presence of either House of Parliament while in session, tending to interrupt its proceedings or to impair the respect due to its authority;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for three years.

**57 False Evidence before Parliament**

Any person who in the course of an examination before either House of Parliament, or before a Committee of either House, or before a joint Committee of both Houses, knowingly gives a false answer to any lawful and relevant question put to him in the course of the examination is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

The offender cannot be arrested without warrant.

A person cannot be convicted of the offence defined in this section upon the uncorroborated testimony of one witness.

**58 Witnesses Refusing to Attend or Give Evidence before Parliament or Parliamentary Committee**

Any person who:

- (1) Being duly summoned to attend as a witness or to produce any book, document, or other thing, in his possession, before either House of Parliament, or before a Committee of either House, or before a joint Committee of both Houses, authorised to summon witnesses or to call for the production of such thing, refuses or neglects without lawful excuse to attend pursuant to the summons or to produce anything which he is summoned to produce, and which is relevant and proper to be produced; or
- (2) Being present before either House of Parliament, or before a Committee of either House or before a Joint Committee of both Houses authorised to summon witnesses, refuses to answer any lawful and relevant question;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for two years.

**59 Member of Parliament receiving Bribes**

Any person who, being a member of either House of Parliament, asks, receives, or obtains, or agrees or attempts to receive or obtain, any property or benefit of any kind for himself or any other person upon any understanding that his vote, opinion, judgment, or action, in the House of which he is a member, or in any Committee thereof, or in any joint Committee of both Houses, shall be influenced thereby, or shall be given in any particular manner or in favour of any particular side of any question or matter, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years, and is disqualified from sitting or voting as a member of either House of Parliament for seven years.

The offender cannot be arrested without warrant.

**60 Bribery of Member of Parliament**

Any person who:

- (1) In order to influence a member of either House of Parliament in his vote, opinion, judgment, or action, upon any question or matter arising in the House of which he

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is

a member or in any Committee thereof, or in any joint Committee of both Houses, or in order to induce him to absent himself from the House or from any such Committee, gives, confers, or procures, or promises or offers to give or confer, or to procure or attempt to procure, any property or benefit of any kind to, upon, or for, such member, or to, upon, or for, any other person; or

- (2) Attempts, directly or indirectly, by fraud, or by threats or intimidation of any kind, to influence a member of either House of Parliament in his vote, opinion, judgment, or action, upon any such question or matter, or to induce, him to so absent himself;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

The offender cannot be arrested without warrant.

### ***Chapter IX – Unlawful Assemblies: Breaches of the Peace***

#### **61 Definitions**

When three or more persons, with intent to carry out some common purpose, assemble in such a manner, or, being assembled, conduct themselves in such a manner, as to cause persons in the neighbourhood to fear on reasonable grounds that the persons so assembled will tumultuously disturb the peace, or will by such assembly needlessly and without any reasonable occasion provoke other persons tumultuously to disturb the peace, they are an unlawful assembly.

It is immaterial that the original assembling was lawful if, being assembled, they conduct themselves with a common purpose in such a manner as aforesaid.

An assembly of three or more persons who assemble for the purpose of protecting the house of any one of them against persons threatening to break and enter the house in order to commit an indictable offence therein is not an unlawful assembly.

When an unlawful assembly has begun to act in so tumultuous a manner as to disturb the peace, the assembly is called a riot, and the persons assembled are said to be riotously assembled.



**62 Punishment of Unlawful Assembly**

Any person who takes part in an unlawful assembly is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for one year.

**63 Punishment of Riot**

Any person who takes part in a riot is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**64 Rioters remaining after Proclamation ordering them to disperse.**

Whenever any persons, to the number of twelve or more, are riotously assembled together, it is the duty of some one of the following persons, that is to say, the sheriff or under-sheriff or a justice of the peace, or, if the assembly is in a municipality, the mayor, to go amongst them, or as near as he can safely come to them, and to command or cause to be commanded with a loud voice that silence be kept while the proclamation next hereinafter mentioned is made, and then openly and with a loud voice to make proclamation, or cause proclamation to be made, in these words or to the like effect:

Our Sovereign Lady the Queen charges and commands all persons here assembled immediately to disperse themselves and peaceably to depart to their habitations or to their lawful business, or they will be guilty of a crime, and will be liable to be imprisoned and kept to hard labour for life. God Save the Queen!

Any person who wilfully and knowingly, and by force, opposes, obstructs, or hurts, any person who goes to make, or begins to make, any such proclamation, and thereby prevents the proclamation from being made, is guilty of a crime.

Any persons who, being so assembled, continue together to the number of twelve or more, and do not disperse themselves within the space of an hour after the making of the proclamation, are guilty of a crime.

When the making of the proclamation is prevented, any persons who, being so assembled, and to whom the proclamation would or ought to have been made if the making thereof had not been so prevented, and who, knowing of such prevention, continue together to the number of twelve or more, and do not disperse themselves within the space of an hour after the time of such prevention, are

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guilty of a crime.

Any person who commits any of the crimes defined in this section is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life, with or without solitary confinement.

A prosecution for any of the crimes defined in this section must be begun within a year after the crime is committed.

**65 Rioters demolishing Buildings, &c**

Any persons who, being riotously assembled together, unlawfully pull down or destroy, or begin to pull down or destroy:

- (a) Any building whatever; or
- (b) Any machinery whatever, whether fixed or moveable; or
- (c) Any structure used in farming land, or in carrying on any trade or manufacture, or in conducting the business of a mine; or
- (d) Any bridge, wagon-way, or trunk, for conveying materials from a mine;

are guilty of a crime: and each of them is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life, with or without solitary confinement.

**66 Rioters injuring building, Machinery, &c**

Any persons who, being riotously assembled together, unlawfully damage any of the things in the last preceding section mentioned, are guilty of a crime: and each of them is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

**67 Smuggling or Rescuing Goods under Arms**

Any persons who assemble together, to the number of three or more, armed with firearms or other dangerous or offensive weapons, in order to effect or aid in effecting any of the following purposes, that is to say:

- (a) The unlawful shipping, unshipping, loading, moving, or carrying away, of any goods the importation of which is prohibited, or any goods liable to Customs duties which duties have not been paid or secured;
  - (b) The rescuing or taking of any such goods from any person authorised to seize them, or from any person employed by
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him or assisting him, or from any place where any such person has put them;

- (c) The rescuing of any person who has been arrested on a charge of any crime relating to the Customs;
- (d) The prevention of the arrest of any person guilty of any such crime, or of any person aiding in effecting any of the purposes in this section mentioned:

are guilty of a crime: and each of them is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

**68 Smuggling under Arms or in Disguise**

Any persons who are found assembled together, to the number of six or more, having with them any goods liable to forfeiture under any law relating to the Customs, and carrying firearms or other dangerous or offensive weapons, or disguised, are guilty of a crime: and each of them is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

**69 Going Armed so as to Cause Fear**

Any person who goes armed in public without lawful occasion in such a manner as to cause terror to any person is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

**70 Forcible Entry**

Any person who, in a manner likely to cause a breach of the peace or reasonable apprehension of a breach of the peace, enters on land which is in the actual and peaceable possession of another is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for one year.

It is immaterial whether he is entitled to enter on the land or not.

**71 Forcible Detainer**

Any person who, being in actual possession of land without colour of right, holds possession of it, in a manner likely to cause a breach of the peace or reasonable apprehension of a breach of the peace, against a person entitled by law to the possession of the land is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for one year.

**72 Affray**

Any person who takes part in a fight in a public highway, or takes part in a fight of such a nature as to alarm the public in any other place to which the public have access, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for one year.

**73 Challenge to fight a Duel**

Any person who challenges another to fight a duel, or attempts to provoke another to fight a duel, or attempts to provoke any person to challenge another to fight a duel, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**74 Prize Fight**

Any person who fights in a prize fight, or subscribes to or promotes a prize fight, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for one year.

**75 Threatening Violence**

Any person who:

- (1) With intent to intimidate or annoy any person, threatens to break or injure a dwelling-house; or
- (2) With intent to alarm any person in a dwelling-house, discharges loaded firearms or commits any other breach of the peace;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for one year.

If the offence is committed in the night the offender is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

**76 Assembling for the purpose of Smuggling**

Any persons who assemble together, to the number of three or more, for the purpose of unshipping, carrying, or concealing, any goods subject to Customs duty and liable to forfeiture under any law relating to the Customs, are guilty of an offence, and each of them is liable on summary conviction to a fine not

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exceeding one hundred pounds, or to imprisonment with hard labour for six months.

**77 Unlawful Processions**

(1) Any persons who assemble together, to the number of three or more, under any of the following circumstances, that is to say,-

- (a) Bearing or wearing or having amongst them any firearms or other offensive weapon; or
- (b) Publicly exhibiting any banner, emblem, flag, or symbol, the displaying of which is calculated to promote animosity between Her Majesty's subjects of different religious faiths; or
- (c) Being accompanied by any music of a like nature or tendency;

and, being so assembled, join in any parade or procession for the purpose of celebrating or commemorating any festival, anniversary, or political event, relating to or connected with any religious or political distinction or difference between any classes of Her Majesty's subjects, or of demonstrating any such religious or political distinction or difference, are guilty of an offence; and each of them is liable on summary conviction to imprisonment for one month.

If the offender is himself bearing or wearing firearms or any other offensive weapon, he is liable on summary conviction to imprisonment for six months.

(2) When three or more persons are so assembled together, it is the duty of a justice of the peace to read or repeat aloud, or cause some other person to read or repeat aloud, to the persons assembled a command in these words or to the like effect:

Our Sovereign Lady the Queen charges and commands all persons here assembled immediately to disperse themselves and peaceably to depart to their habitations or to their lawful business, or they will be liable to be imprisoned. God Save the Queen!

Any persons who, being so assembled, continue together to the number of three or more, and do not disperse themselves within the space of a quarter of an hour after the giving of the

command are guilty of an offence: and each of them is liable on summary conviction to imprisonment for three months.

- (3) A justice may issue a warrant in the first instance for the arrest of any such offender, either on the oath of a credible person or on his own view.
- (4) This section does not apply to a parade or procession held in the course of an election for any office or place of a public character.

### ***Chapter X – Offences against Political Liberty***

#### **78 Interfering with Political Liberty**

Any person who by violence, or by threats or intimidation of any kind, binders or interferes with the free exercise of any political right by another person, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

If the offender is a public officer, and commits the offence in abuse of his authority as such officer, he is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

### ***Chapter XI – Piracy***

#### **79 Definition of Piracy in General**

In this Chapter the term '*pirate*' includes any person who on the high seas commits, otherwise than as an act of war and under the authority of some Foreign Prince or State, any act with respect to a ship, or any goods or merchandise belonging to a ship or laden upon it, which, if the act were committed on land, would constitute robbery as hereinafter defined; and any person who, having on the high seas obtained possession of a ship by means of any such act, retains possession thereof.

The term also includes any person who is declared by any Statute to be a pirate.

The act of any such person is called piracy.

**80 Further Definition of Pirates**

Any person who does any of the acts following, that is to say:

- (1) Being a British subject, and being at any place within the jurisdiction of the Admiralty, commits, under colour of a commission from a Foreign State or Prince, whether such State or Prince is at war with the Sovereign or not, or under pretence of authority from any person whatever, any act of hostility, or any act which, if it were committed on land, would be robbery as hereinafter defined, against another British subject; or
  - (2) Being a British subject, is in any way adherent to or gives aid to Her Majesty's enemies at any place within the jurisdiction of the Admiralty, during any war; or
  - (3) Whether being a British subject or not, forcibly enters a British ship at any place within the jurisdiction of the Admiralty, and throws overboard or destroys any part of the goods or merchandise belonging to the ship or laden upon it; or
  - (4) Being on board a British ship at any place within the jurisdiction of the Admiralty:
    - (a) Turns pirate, enemy, or rebel, and piratically runs away with the ship, or any boat, ordnance, ammunition, or goods belonging to it or laden upon it; or
    - (b) Voluntarily yields up the ship or any such thing as last mentioned to a pirate; or
    - (c) Brings a seducing message from a pirate, enemy, or rebel; or
    - (d) Consults or conspires with, or attempts to corrupt, any master or officer of a ship, or any seaman, with intent that he should run away with or yield up any ship, goods, or merchandise, or turn pirate, or go over to pirates; or
    - (e) Lays violent hands on the master of the ship, with intent to binder him from fighting in defence of the ship and goods committed to his trust; or
    - (f) Confines the master of the ship; or
    - (g) Makes, or endeavours to make, a revolt in the ship; or
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(5) Being a British subject in any part of the world, or, whether being a British subject or not, being in any part of Her Majesty's dominions, or on board a British ship in any part of the world, knowingly:

- (h) Trades with a pirate in any manner whatever; or
- (i) Furnishes a pirate with ammunition, provisions, or stores of any kind; or
- (j) Fits out a ship or vessel with a design to trade with or supply or correspond with, a pirate; or
- (k) Conspires or corresponds with a pirate; is also

deemed to be a pirate, and his act is also called piracy.

**81           Punishment of Piracy**

Any person who, within the territorial jurisdiction of Queensland, commits piracy, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life.

If the crime is committed with respect to a ship, and if at or immediately before or immediately after the time of committing the crime the offender:

- (a) Assaults any person on board of or belonging to the ship, with intent to kill him or to kill any other person; or
- (b) Wounds any such person; or
- (c) Unlawfully does any act by which the life of any such person is endangered;

the offender is liable to the punishment of death.

**82           Attempted Piracy with Personal Violence**

Any person who, within the territorial jurisdiction of Queensland, does any of the acts following with intent to commit the crime of piracy with respect to a ship, that is to say:

- (1) Assaults any person on board of or belonging to the ship, with intent to kill him or to kill any other person; or
- (2) Wounds any such person; or



- (3) Unlawfully does any act by which the life of any such person is endangered;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to the punishment of death.

**83 Aiding Pirates**

Any person who:

- (1) Brings a seducing message from a pirate; or
- (2) Consults or conspires with, or attempts to corrupt, any master or officer of a ship or any seaman, with intent that he should run away with or yield up any ship, goods, or merchandise, or turn pirate, or go over to pirates;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life.

**PART III – OFFENCES AGAINST THE ADMINISTRATION OF  
LAW AND JUSTICE AND AGAINST PUBLIC AUTHORITY**

***Chapter XII – Disclosing Official Secrets***

**84 Disclosure of Secrets relating to Defences by Public Officers**

Any person who, being employed in the Public Service, communicates to any person otherwise than in the course of his official duty any plans, documents, or other information, relating to any battery, field work, or fortification, in Queensland, or relating to any other defence of Queensland, is guilty of a misdemeanour.

If he does so advisedly, he is liable to imprisonment for three years.

If he does so by negligence, he is liable to imprisonment for one year, or to a fine of one hundred pounds.

**85 Obtaining Disclosure of Secrets relating to Defences**

Any person who procures any person employed in the Public Service to make any such communication as is mentioned in the last preceding section, or without lawful authority obtains information as to any such matter as is therein mentioned, is

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guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for three years.

**86 Disclosure of other Official Secrets**

Any person who, being employed in the Public Service, publishes or communicates any fact which comes to his knowledge by virtue of his office and which it is his duty to keep secret, or any document which comes to his possession by virtue of his office and which it is his duty to keep secret, except to some person to whom he is bound to publish or communicate it, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for two years.

***Chapter XIII – Corruption and Abuse of Office***

**87 Official Corruption**

Any person who:

- (1) Being employed in the Public Service, or being the holder of any public office, and being charged with the performance of any duty by virtue of such employment or office, not being a duty touching the administration of justice, corruptly asks, receives, or obtains, or agrees or attempts to receive or obtain, any property or benefit of any kind for himself or any other person on account of any thing already done or omitted to be done, or to be afterwards done or omitted to be done, by him in the discharge of the duties of his office; or
- (2) Corruptly gives, confers, or procures, or promises or offers to give or confer, or to procure or attempt to procure, to, upon, or for, any person employed in the Public Service, or being the holder of any public office, or to, upon, or for, any other person, any property or benefit of any kind on account of any such act or omission on the part of the person so employed or holding such office;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years, and to be fined at the discretion of the Court.

The offender cannot be arrested without warrant.

**88 Extortion by Public Officers**

Any person who, being employed in the Public Service, takes or accepts from any person, for the performance of his duty as such officer, any reward beyond his proper pay and emoluments, or any promise of such reward, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for three years.

**89 Public Officers interested in Contracts**

Any person who, being employed in the Public Service, knowingly acquires or holds, directly or indirectly, otherwise than as a member of a registered joint stock company consisting of more than twenty persons, a private interest in any contract or agreement which is made on account of the Public Service with respect to any matter concerning the department of the Service in which he is employed, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment, for three years, and to be fined at the discretion of the Court.

**90 Officers charged with Administration of Property of a Special Character or with Special Duties.**

Any person who, being employed in the Public Service, and being charged by virtue of his employment with any judicial or administrative duties respecting property of a special character, or respecting the carrying on of any manufacture, trade, or business, of a special character, and having acquired or holding, directly or indirectly, a private interest in any such property, manufacture, trade, or business, discharges any such duties with respect to the property, manufacture, trade, or business, in which he has such interest, or with respect to the conduct of any person in relation thereto, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for one year, and to be fined at the discretion of the Court.

**91 False Claims by Officials**

Any person who, being employed in the Public Service in such a capacity as to require him or to enable him to furnish returns or statements touching any remuneration payable or claimed to be payable to himself or to any other person, or touching any other matter required by law to be certified for the purpose of any payment of money or delivery of goods to be made to any person, makes a return or statement touching any such matter which is, to his knowledge, false in any material particular, is

guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**92 Abuse of Office**

Any person who, being employed in the Public Service, does or directs to be done, in abuse of the authority of his office, any arbitrary act prejudicial to the rights of another is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for two years.

If the act is done or directed to be done for purposes of gain, he is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**93 Corruption of Surveyor and Valuator**

Any person who, being duly appointed under any Statute to be a valuator for determining the compensation to be paid to any person for land compulsorily taken from him under the authority of any Statute, or for injury done to any land under the authority of any Statute:

- (1) Acts as such valuator while he has, to his knowledge, an interest in the land in question; or
- (2) Executes unfaithfully, dishonestly, or with partiality, the duty of making a valuation of the land or of the extent of the injury;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for three years.

**94 False Certificates by Public Officers**

Any person who, being authorized or required by law to give any certificate touching any matter by virtue whereof the rights of any person may be prejudicially affected, gives a certificate which is, to his knowledge, false in any material particular is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**95 Administering Extra-judicial Oaths**

Any person who administers an oath, or takes a solemn declaration or affirmation or affidavit, touching any matter with respect to which he has not by law any authority to do so, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for one year.

This section does not apply to an oath, declaration, affirmation, or affidavit, administered or taken before a justice in any matter relating to the preservation of the peace or the punishment of offences, or relating to inquiries respecting sudden death, or to proceedings before either House of Parliament or a Committee of either House; nor to an oath, declaration, affirmation, or affidavit, administered or taken for some purpose which is lawful under the laws of another country, or for the purpose of giving validity to an instrument in writing which is intended to be used in another country.

**96 False Assumption of Authority**

Any person who:

- (1) Not being a justice assumes to act as a justice; or
- (2) Without authority assumes to act as a person having authority by law to administer an oath or take a solemn declaration or affirmation or affidavit, or to do any other act of a public nature which can only be done by persons authorised by law to do so; or
- (3) Represents himself to be a person authorised by law to sign a document testifying to the contents of any register or record kept by lawful authority, or testifying to any fact or event, and signs such document as being so authorised; when he is not, and knows that he is not, in fact, so authorised;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**97 Personating Public Officers**

Any person who:

- (1) Personates any person employed in the Public Service on an occasion when the latter is required to do any act or attend in any place by virtue of his employment; or
- (2) Falsely represents himself to be a person employed in the Public Service, and assumes to do any act or to attend in any place for the purpose of doing any act by virtue of such employment;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

A person found committing the offence may be arrested without warrant.

#### **Chapter XIV – Corrupt and Improper Practices at Elections**

##### **98 Definitions**

In this Chapter:

The term **'election'** includes any election held under the authority of any Statute providing for the choice of persons to fill any office or place of a public character;

The term **'elector'** includes any person entitled to vote at an election;

The term **'municipal election'** includes any election held under any laws relating to local government;

The term **'ballot-box'** includes any receptacle in which voting-papers are put before being counted at an election;

The term **'polling-booth'** includes any room or place in which voting at an election is conducted or in which the votes are counted.

##### **99 Personation**

Any person who votes or attempts to vote in the name of another person at an election, whether the name is that of a person living or dead or of a fictitious person, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

##### **100 Double Voting**

Any person who, being an elector, votes or attempts to vote at an election oftener than he is entitled to vote at the election is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

##### **101 Treating**

Any person who:

- (1) Corruptly, before, during, or after, an election, provides, or pays in whole or part the expense of providing, any food, drink, or lodging, to or for any person on account of
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anything already done or omitted to be done, or to be afterwards done or omitted to be done, by an elector at the election in the capacity of an elector; or

- (2) Being an elector, corruptly receives any food, drink, or lodging, on account of any such act or omission;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for one year, or to a fine of two hundred pounds.

**102 Undue Influence**

Any person who:

- (1) Uses or threatens to use any force or restraint, or does or threatens to do any temporal or spiritual injury, or causes or threatens to cause any detriment of any kind, to an elector in order to induce him to vote or refrain from voting at an election, or on account of his having voted or refrained from voting at an election; or
- (2) By force or fraud prevents or obstructs the free exercise of the franchise by an elector, or by any such means compels or induces an elector to vote or refrain from voting at an election;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for one year, or to a fine of two hundred pounds.

**103 Bribery**

Any person who:

- (1) Gives, confers, or procures, or promises or offers to give or confer, or to procure or attempt to procure, to, upon, or for, any person any property or benefit of any kind on account of anything already done or omitted to be done, or to be afterwards done or omitted to be done, by an elector at an election in the capacity of an elector, or on account of any person acting or joining in a procession during an election, or in order to induce any person to endeavour to procure the return of any person at an election, or the vote of any elector at an election; or
- (2) Being an elector, asks, receives, or obtains, or agrees or attempts to receive or obtain, any property or benefit of any kind for himself or any other person on account of anything already done or omitted to be done, or to be

afterwards done or omitted to be done, by him at an election in the capacity of an elector; or

- (3) Asks, receives, or obtains, or agrees or attempts to receive or obtain, any property or benefit of any kind for himself or any other person, on account of a promise made by him or any other person to endeavour to procure the return of any person at an election, or the vote of any person at an election; or
- (4) Advances or pays any money to or to the use of any other person with the intent that such money shall be applied for any of the purposes hereinbefore in this section mentioned, or in discharge or repayment of money wholly or in part applied for any such purpose; or
- (5) Corruptly transfers or pays any property or money to any person for the purpose of enabling that person to be registered as an elector, and thereby of influencing the vote of that person at a future election; or
- (6) Is privy to any such transfer or payment as last-mentioned which is made for his benefit; or
- (7) Being a candidate at an election, convenes or holds a meeting of electors or of his committee in a house licensed for the sale of fermented or spirituous liquors,

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for one year, or to a fine of two hundred pounds.

#### **104 Further Penalty for Corrupt Practices**

Any person convicted of any of the offences defined in the five last preceding sections committed with respect to a parliamentary election becomes incapable, for three years from the date of the conviction, of being registered as an elector or of voting at any parliamentary election or of holding any judicial office; and, if he holds any such office, the office is vacated.

He also becomes incapable for the like period of being appointed to or of sitting in the Legislative Council, and of being elected to or of sitting in the Legislative Assembly; and, if at the time of the conviction he is a member of either House, his seat is vacated.

Any person convicted of any such offence committed with respect to a municipal election becomes  

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incapable, for two



years from the date of the conviction, of holding any municipal office, and, if he holds any such office, the office is vacated.

**105      Illegal Practices**

Any person who:

- (1) Being prohibited by law from voting at an election, and knowing that he is so prohibited, votes at the election; or
- (2) Procures any person who is, and whom he knows to be, prohibited from voting at an election to vote at the election; or
- (3) Before or during an election, and for the purpose of promoting or procuring the choice of any candidate at the election, knowingly publishes a false statement of the withdrawal of another candidate at the election; or
- (4) Before or during an election, and for the purpose of affecting the return of a candidate at the election, knowingly publishes a false statement of fact respecting the personal character or conduct of the candidate; or
- (5) Being a candidate at an election, withdraws from being a candidate in consideration of a payment or promise of payment; or
- (6) Being a candidate or the agent of a candidate at an election, corruptly procures any other person to withdraw from being a candidate at the election in consideration of any payment or promise of payment;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for one year, or to a fine of two hundred pounds.

If the offence was committed with respect to a parliamentary election, the offender also becomes incapable, for two years from the date of the conviction, of being registered as an elector for the electoral district for which the election with reference to which the offence was committed was held, and of voting at any election held for that district.

**106 Other Illegal Practices**

Any person who:

- (1) Knowingly provides money for any payment which is contrary to any law relating to elections, or for replacing any money which has been expended in any such payment, and which is not allowed by law to be an exception; or
- (2) Prints, publishes, or posts, any bill, placard, or poster, which has reference to an election, and which does not bear on the face of it the name and address of the printer and publisher; or
- (3) Hires or uses for a committee-room at an election:
  - (a) Any part of a house licensed for the sale of fermented or spirituous liquors; or
  - (b) Any part of any premises where any intoxicating liquor is sold or supplied to members of a club, society, or association, which is not a permanent political club; unless, in either case, it is a part which has a separate entrance, and has no direct communication with any part of the premises in which intoxicating liquor is sold, and is a part ordinarily let for the purpose of chambers or offices or for holding public meetings or arbitrations; or
- (4) Knowing that the same are intended to be used as a committee-room at an election, lets any part of any such premises, not being such a part as aforesaid, for such use;

is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of one hundred pounds.

If the offence was committed with respect to a parliamentary election, and the offender was a candidate or the agent of a candidate at the election, he also incurs the same incapacity as a person convicted of any of the offences defined in the last preceding section committed with respect to a parliamentary election.

**107 Corrupt and Illegal Practices: Time**

A prosecution for any of the offences hereinbefore defined in this Chapter must be begun within one year after the offence is

committed, or, if it is committed with respect to a parliamentary election with respect to which a petition is tried by the Elections Tribunal, within three months after the report of the Elections Tribunal is made, whichever period last expires, so that it is begun within two years after the offence is committed.

The service or execution of process on or against the alleged offender is deemed to be the commencement of the prosecution, unless such service or execution is prevented by some act on his part, in which case the issue of the process is deemed to be the commencement of the proceeding.

**108 Interference at Elections**

Any person who:

- (1) Intrudes into a polling-booth, not being lawfully entitled to be in it; or
- (2) Wilfully interrupts, obstructs, or disturbs, any proceedings at an election;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

A person found committing the offence may be arrested without warrant by direction of the presiding officer.

**109 Electors attempting to Violate Secrecy of Ballot**

Any person who, having received a ballot-paper from the presiding officer at an election:

- (a) Wilfully makes on the ballot-paper any mark or writing not expressly authorised by law; or
- (b) Wilfully fails to fold up the ballot-paper in such a manner as to conceal the names of the candidates; or
- (c) Wilfully fails to deposit the ballot-paper in the ballot-box in the presence of the presiding officer;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**110 Other Attempts of Like Kind**

Any person who:

- (1) Takes or attempts to take a ballot-paper out of a polling-booth; or
- (2) Whilst an elector is preparing his ballot-paper in a compartment provided for the use of electors actually voting, wilfully intrudes into the compartment;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

A person found committing the offence may be arrested without warrant by direction of the presiding officer.

**111 Stuffing Ballot-boxes**

Any person who places, or is privy to placing, in a ballot-box a ballot-paper which has not been lawfully handed to and marked by an elector is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

Proof that, at the conclusion of a poll, a greater number of ballot-papers is found in a ballot-box in use at a polling-booth, or is returned by the person who acted as presiding officer at a polling-booth as having been received at the polling-booth, than the number of electors who voted at that polling-booth is sufficient evidence that the person who acted as presiding officer at that polling-booth was guilty of either of the offences defined in this section, until the contrary is shown.

**112 Offences by Presiding Officers at Elections**

Any person who:

- (1) Being a presiding officer at an election, and being called upon, in the case of an elector who is blind or is unable to read, to strike out from a ballot-paper the name of the candidate or candidates other than the candidate or candidates for whom the elector says that he desires to vote, wilfully fails to do so in the polling-booth, and in the presence and sight of the persons then lawfully present; or
  - (2) Being a presiding officer at an election, and whilst an elector is preparing his ballot-paper in a compartment
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provided for the use electors actually voting, wilfully allows any other person to be in the compartment;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**113 False Answers to Questions at Elections**

Any person who at an election:

- (1) Wilfully makes a false answer to any question which is lawfully put to him by the presiding officer, and which he is required by law to answer; or
- (2) Being lawfully required to make a declaration before voting, wilfully makes a false declaration;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

The offender cannot be arrested without warrant except by direction of the presiding officer.

**114 Interfering with Secrecy at Elections**

Any person who:

- (1) At or after an election, knowingly and wilfully, and without the lawful command of some competent court or tribunal, unfastens the fold upon a ballot-paper within which the number of an elector is written, and which fold has been made under the authority of the law; or
- (2) Being a person required by law to discharge duties at an election at which the voting is by ballot, attempts to ascertain or discover, or aids in ascertaining or discovering, the candidate for whom the vote of any person is given at the election, except in the case of a person voting openly; or
- (3) Having in the exercise of his office at an election obtained knowledge or the means of knowledge of the candidate for whom any person has voted at the election, discloses or aids in disclosing such knowledge otherwise than in answer to a question put in the course of proceedings before some competent court or tribunal; or

- (4) Being a person required by law to discharge duties at an election, places upon a ballot-paper any mark or writing not authorised by law;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

**115 Breaking Seal of Packets used at Elections**

Any person who knowingly and wilfully, and without the lawful command of some competent court or tribunal, opens or breaks the seal of a sealed parcel which has been sealed up under the provisions of the laws relating to elections, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

**116 Offences at Elections when Voting is by Post**

Any person who at an election at which the voting is by post:

- (1) Knowing that he is not entitled to vote at the election, signs his name as a voter to a voting-paper; or
- (2) Signs the name of another person to a voting-paper; or
- (3) Attests the signature to a voting-paper of any person who is, to his knowledge, not entitled to vote by means of such voting-paper;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for one year or to a fine of two hundred pounds.

**117 False Claims**

Any person who:

- (1) Makes in a claim to be inserted in a list of electors any statement which is, to his knowledge, false in any material particular; or
- (2) Makes, orally or in writing, to a court or tribunal having jurisdiction to deal with the claims of persons to be registered as electors or as persons claiming to be electors, a statement relating to the qualification of any person as an elector which is, to his knowledge, false in any material particular;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

The offender cannot be arrested without warrant.

A person cannot be convicted of either of the offences defined in this section upon the uncorroborated testimony of one witness.

### ***Chapter XV – Selling and Trafficking in Offices***

#### **118 Bargaining for Offices in Public Service**

Any person who:

- (1) Corruptly asks, receives, or obtains, or agrees or attempts to receive or obtain, any property or benefit of any kind for himself or any other person on account of anything already done or omitted to be done, or to be afterwards done or omitted to be done, by him or any other person, with regard to the appointment or contemplated appointment of any person to any office or employment in the Public Service, or with regard to any application by any person for employment in the Public Service; or
- (2) Corruptly gives, confers, or procures, or promises or offers to give or confer, or to procure or attempt to procure, to, upon, or for, any person any property or benefit of any kind on account of any such act or omission;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years, and to be fined at the discretion of the Court.

### ***Chapter XVI – Offences relating to the Administration of Justice***

#### **119 Definition of Judicial Proceeding**

In this Chapter the term '**judicial proceeding**' includes any proceeding had or taken in or before any court, tribunal, or person, in which evidence may be taken on oath.

**120 Judicial Corruption**

Any person who:

- (1) Being the holder of a judicial office, corruptly asks, receives, or obtains, or agrees or attempts to receive or obtain, any property or benefit of any kind for himself or any other person on account of any thing already done or omitted to be done, or to be afterwards done or omitted to be done, by him in his judicial capacity; or
- (2) Corruptly gives, confers, or procures, or promises or offers to give or confer, or to procure or attempt to procure, to, upon, or for, any person holding a judicial office, or to, upon, or for, any other person, any property or benefit, of any kind on account of any such act or omission on the part of the person holding the judicial office;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years, and to be fined at the discretion of the Court.

The offender cannot be arrested without warrant.

The term **'holder of a judicial office'** in this section includes an arbitrator or umpire; but in the case of an offence committed by or with respect to any such person the longest term of imprisonment is seven years.

A prosecution for any of the offences firstly defined in this section cannot be begun except by the direction of a Crown Law Officer.

**121 Official Corruption not Judicial but relating to Offences**

Any person who:

- (1) Being a justice not acting judicially, or being a person employed in the Public Service in any capacity not judicial for the prosecution or detention or punishment of offenders, corruptly asks, receives, or obtains, or agrees or attempts to receive or obtain, any property or benefit of any kind for himself or any other person, on account of anything already done or omitted to be done, or to be afterwards done or omitted to be done, by him, with a view to corrupt or improper interference with the due administration of justice, or the procurement or facilitation of the commission of any offence, or the protection of any
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offender or intending offender from detection or punishment; or

- (2) Corruptly gives, confers, or procures, or promises or offers to give or confer, or to procure or attempt to procure, to, upon, or for, any such person, or to, upon, or for, any other person, any property or benefit of any kind, on account of any such act or omission on the part of the justice or other person so employed;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years, and to be fined at the discretion of the Court.

The offender cannot be arrested without warrant.

## **122 Corrupting or Threatening Jurors**

Any person who:

- (1) Attempts by threats or intimidation of any kind, or by benefits or promises of benefit of any kind, or by other corrupt means, to influence any person, whether a particular person or not, in his conduct as a juror in any judicial proceeding, whether he has been sworn as a juror or not; or
- (2) Threatens to do any injury or cause any detriment of any kind to any person on account of anything done by him as a juror in any judicial proceeding; or
- (3) Accepts any benefit or promise of benefit on account of anything to be done by him as a juror in any judicial proceeding, whether he has been sworn as a juror or not, or on account of anything already done by him as a juror in any judicial proceeding;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

## **123 Perjury**

Any person who in any judicial proceeding, or for the purpose of instituting any judicial proceeding, knowingly gives false testimony touching any matter which is material to any question then depending in that proceeding, or intended to be missed in that proceeding is guilty of a crime, which is called perjury.

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*Criminal Code 1899*

It is immaterial whether the testimony is given on oath or under any other sanction authorised by law.

The forms and ceremonies used in administering the oath or in otherwise binding the person giving the testimony to speak the truth are immaterial, if he assents to the forms and ceremonies actually used.

It is immaterial whether the false testimony is given orally or in writing.

It is immaterial whether the court or tribunal is properly constituted, or is held in the proper place, or not, if it actually acts as a court or tribunal in the proceeding in which the testimony is given.

It is immaterial whether the person who gives the testimony is a competent witness or not, or whether the testimony is admissible in the proceeding or not.

The offender cannot be arrested without warrant.

**124      Punishment of Perjury**

Any person who commits perjury is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years.

If the offender commits the crime in order to procure the conviction of another person for a crime punishable with death<sup>8</sup> or with imprisonment with hard labour for life, he is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life.

**125      Evidence on Charge of Perjury**

A person cannot be convicted of committing perjury or of counselling or procuring the commission of perjury upon the uncorroborated testimony of one witness.

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<sup>8</sup> See Note 4 at the end of this compilation.

**126 Fabricating Evidence**

Any person who, with intent to mislead any tribunal in any judicial proceeding:

- (1) Fabricates evidence by any means other than perjury or counselling or procuring the commission of perjury; or
- (2) Knowingly makes use of such fabricated evidence;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

The offender cannot be arrested without warrant.

**127 Corruption of Witnesses**

Any person who:

- (1) Gives, confers, or procures, or promises or offers to give or confer, or to procure or attempt to procure, any property or benefit of any kind to, upon, or for, any person, upon any agreement or understanding that any person called or to be called as a witness in any judicial proceeding shall give false testimony or withhold true testimony; or
- (2) Attempts by any other means to induce a person called or to be called as a witness in any judicial proceeding to give false testimony; or to withhold true testimony; or
- (3) Asks, receives, or obtains, or agrees or attempts to receive or obtain, any property or benefit of any kind for himself or any other person, upon any agreement or understanding that any person shall as a witness in any judicial proceeding give false testimony or withhold true testimony;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

The offender cannot be arrested without warrant.

**128 Deceiving Witnesses**

Any person who practices any fraud or deceit, or knowingly makes or exhibits any false statement, representation, token, or writing, to any person called or to be called as a witness in any judicial proceeding, with intent to affect  

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the testimony of such

person as a witness, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**129 Destroying Evidence**

Any person who, knowing that any book, document, or other thing of any kind, is or may be required in evidence in a judicial proceeding, wilfully destroys it or renders it illegible or undecipherable or incapable of identification, with intent thereby to prevent it from being used in evidence, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**130 Preventing Witnesses from Attending**

Any person who wilfully prevents or attempts to prevent any person who has been duly summoned to attend as a witness before any court or tribunal from attending as a witness, or from producing anything in evidence pursuant to the subpoena or summons, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment, for one year.

**131 Conspiracy to bring False Accusation**

Any person who conspires with another to charge any person or cause any person to be charged with any offence, whether alleged to have been committed in Queensland, or elsewhere, knowing that such person is innocent of the alleged offence, or not believing him to be guilty of the alleged offence, is guilty of a crime.

If the offence is such that a person convicted of it is liable to be sentenced to death or to imprisonment with hard labour for life, the offender is liable to imprisonment, with hard labour for life.

If the offence is such that a person convicted of it is liable to be sentenced to imprisonment with hard labour, but for a term less than life, the offender is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years.

In any other case the offender is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

The offender cannot be arrested without warrant.

**132      Conspiring to Defeat Justice**

Any person who conspires with another to obstruct, prevent, pervert, or defeat, the course of justice is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

The offender cannot be arrested without warrant.

**133      Compounding Crimes**

Any person who asks, receives, or obtains, or agrees or attempts to receive or obtain, any property or benefit of any kind for himself or any other person, upon any agreement or understanding that he will compound or conceal a crime, or will abstain from, discontinue, or delay, a prosecution for a crime, or will withhold any evidence thereof, is guilty of an indictable offence.

If the crime is such that a person convicted of it is liable to be sentenced to death or imprisonment with hard labour for life, the offender is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

In any other case the offender is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

The offender cannot be arrested without warrant.

**134      Compounding Penal Actions**

Any person who, having brought, or under pretence of bringing, an action against another person upon a penal statute in order to obtain from him a penalty for any offence committed or alleged to have been committed by him, compounds the action without the order or consent of the Court in which the action is brought or is to be brought, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for one year.

**135      Advertising a Reward for the Return of Stolen Property, &c**

Any person who:

- (1) Publicly offers a reward for the return of any property which has been stolen or lost, and in the offer makes use of any words purporting that no questions will be asked, or that the person producing such property will not be seized or molested; or

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*Criminal Code 1899*

- (2) Publicly offers to return to any person who may have bought or advanced money by way of loan upon any stolen or lost property the money so paid or advanced, or any other sum of money or reward for the return of such property; or
- (3) Prints or publishes any such offer;

is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of fifty pounds.

**136 Justices acting oppressively or when Interested**

Any person who:

- (1) Being a justice and being required or authorised by law to admit an accused person to bail, without reasonable excuse, and in abuse of his office, requires excessive and unreasonable bail; or
- (2) Being a justice, wilfully and perversely exercises jurisdiction in any matter in which he has a personal interest;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for three years, and to be fined at the discretion of the Court.

**137 Delay to take Person Arrested before Magistrate**

Any person who, having arrested another upon a charge of an offence, wilfully delays to take him before a justice to be dealt with according to law is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for two years.

**138 Bringing Fictitious Action on Penal Statute**

Any person who, in the name of a fictitious plaintiff, or in the name of a real person but without his authority, brings an action against another person upon a penal statute for the recovery of a penalty for any offence committed or alleged to have been committed by him is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for two years.

**139 Inserting Advertisement without Authority of Court**

Any person who, without authority, or knowing the advertisement to be false in any material particular, inserts or

causes to be inserted in the Gazette or in any newspaper an advertisement purporting to be published under the authority of any Court or tribunal is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

**140      Attempting to Pervert Justice**

Any person who attempts, in any way not specially defined in this Code, to obstruct, prevent, pervert, or defeat, the course of justice is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

***Chapter XVII – Escapes: Rescues: Obstructing Officers of Courts***

**141      Forcibly Rescuing Capital Offenders**

Any person who by force rescues or attempts to rescue from lawful custody an offender under sentence of death, or a person committed to prison on a charge of a crime punishable with death,<sup>9</sup> is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life.

**142      Aiding Prisoners to Escape**

Any person who:

- (1) Aids a prisoner in escaping or attempting to escape from lawful custody; or
- (2) Conveys anything or causes anything to be conveyed into a prison with intent to facilitate the escape of a prisoner;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

**143      Escape by Prisoner**

Any person who, being a prisoner in lawful custody under sentence after conviction for an indictable offence, escapes from such custody is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

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<sup>9</sup> See Note 4 at the end of this compilation.

The offender may be tried, convicted, and punished, notwithstanding that at the time of his apprehension or trial the term of his original sentence has expired.

**144 Permitting Escape**

Any person who, being an officer of a prison or police officer, and being charged, for the time being, with the custody of a prisoner or a person under arrest upon a charge of an offence, wilfully permits him to escape from custody is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**145 Harbours Escaped Prisoners**

Any person who harbours, maintains, or employs, a person who is, to his knowledge, an offender under sentence of such a kind as to involve deprivation of liberty, and illegally at large, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for two years, or to a fine of two hundred pounds.

**146 Rescuing Insane Persons**

Any person who:

- (1) Rescues any person during his conveyance as an insane person to a hospital or reception house for the insane, or to a house licensed under the laws relating to insane persons for the reception of patients, or to a prison, or rescues any person during his confinement as an insane person in any such place; or
- (2) Being in charge of a person during his conveyance as an insane person to any such place, wilfully permits him to escape from custody; or
- (3) Being a superintendent of, or person employed in, any such place, wilfully permits a person confined therein as an insane person to escape therefrom; or
- (4) Conceals any such person as aforesaid who has, to his knowledge, been rescued during such conveyance or confinement, or has, to his knowledge, escaped during such conveyance, or from such confinement;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.



**147      Removing, &c., Property under Lawful Seizure**

Any person who, when any property has been attached or taken under the process or authority of any court of justice, knowingly, and with intent to hinder or defeat the attachment, or process, receives, removes, retains, conceals, or disposes of, such property, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**148      Obstructing Officers of Courts of Justice**

Any person who wilfully obstructs or resists any person lawfully charged with the execution of an order or warrant of any court of justice is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for one year, or to a fine of one hundred pounds.

Or he may be summarily convicted before two justices, in which case he is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for six months, or to a fine of fifty pounds.

***Chapter XVIII – Offences Relating to the Coin***

**149      Definitions**

In this chapter:

The term '**current**,' applied to coin, includes coin of any of the kinds or denominations of coin which are coined in any of Her Majesty's Mints, or are lawfully current by virtue of any Proclamation or otherwise in any part of Her Majesty's dominions, whether within the United Kingdom or elsewhere;

The term '**metal**' includes any mixture or alloy of metals;

The term '**copper**,' applied to coin, includes any metal of less value than the silver or alloy of silver used in the silver coin of the country in question;

The term '**counterfeit**,' applied to coin, means coin not genuine but resembling or apparently intended to resemble or pass for genuine coin, and includes genuine coin which has been prepared or altered so as to resemble or be apparently intended to resemble or pass for coin of a higher denomination, and also genuine coin which has been clipped or filed, or the size or weight of which has been otherwise diminished, and which has been prepared or altered so as to conceal such clipping, filing,

or diminution: it includes any such coin whether it is or is not in a fit state to be uttered, and whether the process of preparation or alteration is or is not complete;

The terms '**gild**' and '**silver,**' applied to coin, include producing the appearance of gold or silver respectively by any means whatever;

The term '**utter**' means and includes using, dealing with, or acting upon, and attempting to use, deal with, or act upon, and attempting to induce any person to use, deal with, or act upon, the thing in question as if it were genuine.

**150 Counterfeiting Gold and Silver Coin**

Any person who makes or begins to make any counterfeit gold or silver coin is guilty of a crime.

If the crime is committed with respect to current coin, he is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life, with or without solitary confinement.

If the crime is committed with respect to coin of a Foreign Prince or State, he is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years, with or without solitary confinement.

**151 Preparation for Coining Gold and Silver Coin**

Any person who:

- (1) Gilds or silvers any piece of metal of a fit size or figure to be coined, with intent that it shall be coined into counterfeit gold or silver coin; or
- (2) Makes any piece of metal into a fit size or figure to facilitate the coining from it of any counterfeit gold or silver coin, with intent that such counterfeit coin shall be made from it; or
- (3) Without lawful authority or excuse, the proof of which lies on him:
  - (a) Buys, sells, receives, pays, or disposes of, any counterfeit gold or silver coin at a lower rate than it imports or is apparently intended to import, or offers to do any such thing;  
or

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*Criminal Code 1899*

- (b) Brings or receives into Queensland any counterfeit gold or silver coin, knowing it to be counterfeit; or
- (c) Makes or mends, or begins or prepares to make or mend, or has in his possession, or disposes of, any stamp or mould which is adapted to make the resemblance of both or either of the sides of any gold or silver coin, or any part of either side thereof, knowing the same to be such a stamp or mould, or to be so adapted; or
- (d) Makes or mends, or begins or prepares to make or mend, or has in his possession, or disposes of, any tool, instrument, or machine, which is adapted and intended to be used for marking coin round the edges with marks or figures apparently resembling those on the edges of any gold or silver coin, knowing the same to be so adapted and intended; or
- (e) Makes or mends, or begins or prepares to make or mend, or has in his possession, or disposes of, any press for coinage, or any tool, instrument, or machine, which is adapted for cutting round blanks out of gold, silver, or other metal, knowing such press, tool, instrument, or machine, to have been used or to be intended to be used for making any counterfeit gold or silver coin; or
- (f) Knowingly conveys out of any of Her Majesty's mints  
any stamp, mould, tool, instrument, machine, or press, used or employed in coining, or any useful part of any of such things, or any coin, bullion, or metal;

is guilty of a crime.

If the crime is committed with respect to current coin, he is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life, with or without solitary confinement.

If the crime is committed with respect to the coin of a Foreign Prince or State, he is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years, with or without solitary confinement.

**152 Clipping**

Any person who deals with any current gold or silver coin in  
such a manner as to diminish its weight,

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with intent that when so

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As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

dealt with it may pass as current gold or silver coin, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life.

**153 Possession of Clippings**

Any person who unlawfully has in his possession or disposes of any filings or clippings of gold or silver, or any gold or silver in bullion, dust, solution, or any other state, obtained by dealing with current gold or silver coin in such a manner as to diminish its weight, knowing the same to have been so obtained, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years, with or without solitary confinement.

**154 Uttering Counterfeit Gold or Silver Coin**

Any person who utters any counterfeit gold or silver coin, knowing it to be counterfeit, is guilty of a misdemeanour.

If the offence is committed with respect to current coin, he is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years, with or without solitary confinement.

If the offence is committed with respect to coin of a Foreign Prince or State, he is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for one year.

A person found committing the offence may be arrested without warrant.

**155 Repeated Uttering of Counterfeit Current Gold or Silver Coin, or Possession of several such Coins**

Any person who:

- (1) Utters any counterfeit gold or silver coin, knowing it to be counterfeit, and at the time of such uttering has in his possession any other counterfeit gold or silver coin; or
- (2) Utters any counterfeit gold or silver coin, knowing it to be counterfeit, and either on the same day or on any of the ten days next ensuing utters any other counterfeit current gold or silver coin knowing it to be counterfeit; or
- (3) Has in his possession three or

more pieces of counterfeit current gold or silver coin,  
knowing them to be counterfeit, and with intent to utter  
any of them;

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As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years, with or without solitary confinement.

A person found committing the offence may be arrested without warrant.

**156 Offences after Previous Conviction**

Any person who commits any of the offences defined in the two last preceding sections, after having been previously convicted of any of those offences committed with respect to current coin or of any crime committed with respect to current coin, or after having been twice previously convicted of any of those offences committed with respect to coin of a Foreign Prince or State, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life, with or without solitary confinement.

**157 Counterfeiting Copper Coin**

Any person who:

- (1) Makes or begins to make any counterfeit copper coin; or
- (2) Without lawful authority or excuse, the proof of which lies on him:
  - (a) Makes or mends, or begins or prepares to make or mend, or has in his possession, or disposes of, any tool, instrument, or machine, which is adapted and intended for making any counterfeit copper coin, knowing the same to be so adapted and intended; or
  - (b) Buys, sells, receives, pays, or disposes of, any counterfeit copper coin at a lower rate than it imports or was apparently intended to import, or offers to do any such thing;

is guilty of an offence.

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If the offence is committed with respect to current coin, the offender is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years, with or

without solitary confinement.

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If the offence is committed with respect to coin of a Foreign Prince or State, the offender is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable on conviction to imprisonment with hard labour for twelve

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

months. If found committing the offence, he may be arrested without warrant.

If the offence is committed with respect to coin of a Foreign Prince or State, and the offender has been previously convicted of any such offence, he is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years, with or without solitary confinement.

**158 Uttering Base Copper Coin**

Any person who:

- (1) Utters any counterfeit current copper coin, knowing it to be counterfeit; or
- (2) Has in his possession three or more pieces of counterfeit current copper coin, knowing them to be counterfeit, and with intent to utter any of them;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for one year, with or without solitary confinement.

A person found committing the offence may be arrested without warrant.

**159 Defacing Coin by Stamping Words thereon**

Any person who defaces any current coin by stamping thereon any name or word, whether the weight of the coin is or is not thereby diminished, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for one year.

A person found committing the offence may be arrested without warrant.

**160 Uttering Foreign Coin, Medals, &c., as Current Coin with intent to Defraud**

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Any person who, with intent to defraud, utters as and for current gold or silver coin:

(a) Any coin which is not current coin; or

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(b) Any medal or piece of metal, whether a coin or not, which is of less value than the current coin as and for which it is uttered;

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for one year, with or without solitary confinement.

A person found committing the offence may be arrested without warrant.

**161 Exporting Counterfeit Coin**

Any person who without lawful authority or excuse, the proof of which lies on him, exports or puts on board of a vessel or vehicle of any kind, for the purpose of being exported from Queensland, any counterfeit current coin whatever, knowing it to be counterfeit, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years, with or without solitary confinement.

A person found committing the offence may be arrested without warrant.

**162 Having Possession of more than Five Pieces of Counterfeit Foreign Coin**

Any person who without lawful authority or excuse, the proof of which lies on him, has in his possession more than five pieces of counterfeit coin of any Foreign Prince or State is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding forty shillings and not less than ten shillings for every such counterfeit coin, which is to be destroyed by order of the justices.

In default of immediate payment of the fine, he is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three months, unless the fine is sooner paid.

**163 Tender of Defaced Coin not Legal Tender: Penalty for Uttering**

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Any person who utters any current coin which is defaced by the stamping of any name or word thereon is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of forty shillings.

A prosecution for any such offence

cannot be commenced without the consent of a Crown Law Officer.

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A tender of payment in money made in any coin so defaced is not a legal tender.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

### **Chapter XIX – Offences Relating to Posts and Telegraphs**

#### **164 Stopping Mails**

Any person who stops a mail conveyance, or stops any person engaged in conveying or delivering a mail, with intent to search the mail, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life.

#### **165 Intercepting things sent by Post or Telegraph**

Any person who unlawfully secretes or destroys anything which is in course of transmission by post or telegraph, or any part of any such thing, is guilty of a crime, and is liable on conviction to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

#### **166 Tampering with Things sent by Post or Telegraph**

Any person who, being employed by or under the Post and Telegraph Department, does with respect to anything which is in course of transmission by post or telegraph any act which he is not authorised to do by virtue of his employment, or knowingly permits any other person to do any such act with respect to any such thing, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

#### **167 Wilful Misdelivery of Things sent by Post or Telegraph**

Any person who, being charged, by virtue of his employment, or by virtue of any contract, with the delivery of anything sent by post or telegraph, wilfully delivers it to a person other than the person to whom it is addressed, or his authorised agent in that behalf, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

#### **168 Obtaining Letters by False Pretences**

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Any person who by means of any false pretence induces any person employed by or under the Post and Telegraph Department to deliver to him anything



sent by post or telegraph which is not addressed to him, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable on conviction to imprisonment for two years.

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As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**169      Secreting Letters**

Any person who wilfully secretes or detains anything sent by post or telegraph which is found by him, or which is wrongly delivered to him, and which, in either case, ought, to his knowledge, to have been delivered to another person, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

**170      Fraudulent Issue of Money Orders and Postal Notes**

Any person who, being employed by or under the Post and Telegraph Department, and being charged by virtue of his employment with any duty in connection with the issue of money orders or postal notes, unlawfully, and with intent to defraud, issues a money order or postal note, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

**171      Fraudulent Messages respecting Money Orders**

Any person who, being employed by or under the Post and Telegraph Department, and being charged by virtue of his employment with any duty in connection with money orders, sends to any other person, with intent to defraud, any false or misleading letter, telegram, or message, concerning a money order, or concerning any money payable under a money order, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**172      Sending Dangerous or Obscene Things by Post**

Any person who knowingly sends, or attempts to send, by post:

(a) Anything which encloses anything, whether living or inanimate, of such a nature as to be likely to injure any other thing in the course of conveyance, or to injure any person; or

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(b) Anything which encloses an indecent or obscene print, painting, photograph, lithograph, engraving,

book, card, or article, or which has on it, or in it, or on its cover, any indecent, obscene, or grossly offensive words, marks, or designs;

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is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for one year.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**173 Retarding Delivery of Mails, &c**

Any person who:

- (1) Being required by law or by virtue of his employment to do any act with respect to the receipt, despatch, or delivery, of anything which is or may be transmitted by post or telegraph:
  - (a) Neglects or refuses to do such act; or
  - (b) Wilfully detains or delays, or permits the detention or delay of, any such thing; or
- (2) Being employed by or under the Post and Telegraph Department, negligently loses anything sent by post or telegraph, or negligently detains or delays, or permits the detention or delay of, anything sent by post or telegraph;

is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of one hundred pounds.

**174 Obstructing Mails**

Any person who wilfully obstructs or delays the conveyance or delivery of a mail is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of fifty pounds.

**175 Penalty on Mail-coach Driver or Guards Loitering**

Any person who, being a driver of a vehicle used for the conveyance of mails, or being a person in charge of a mail, whether conveyed by a vehicle, or on horseback, or foot:

- (1) Loiters on the road; or
- (2) Wilfully misspends or loses time; or

~~(3) Is under the influence of intoxicating liquor; or~~

- (4) Does not convey the mail at the speed fixed by the Postmaster-General for the

conveyance thereof, unless prevented by some cause beyond his control, the proof whereof lies on the person charged;

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is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of ten pounds.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**176 Fraudulently Removing Stamps**

Any person who, with intent to defraud:

- (1) Removes from anything sent by post any stamp affixed thereon; or
- (2) Removes from any stamp previously used, any mark made thereon at a post office; or
- (3) Knowingly uses a postage stamp which has been obliterated or defaced by a mark made thereon at a post office;

is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to imprisonment with hard labour for one year, or to a fine of fifty pounds.

On the trial of a person charged with the offence of knowingly using a postage stamp which has been obliterated or defaced by a mark made thereon at a post office, proof that the person charged is the writer of the address of anything sent by post on which the stamp is affixed is sufficient evidence that he is the person who used the stamp, until the contrary is shown.

**177 Fraudulent Evasion of Postal Laws**

Any person who:

- (1) Knowingly and fraudulently puts into a post office anything in or upon which, or in or upon the cover of which, there is any letter, newspaper, or other thing, or any writing or mark, not allowed by law to be there placed; or
- (2) Wilfully subscribes on the outside of anything sent by post a false statement of its contents; or
- (3) Knowingly and fraudulently puts into a post office anything which falsely purports to be a thing falling

within any exemption or privilege declared by the laws relating to Posts and Telegraphs;

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is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of fifty pounds.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**178 Carrying Letters otherwise than by Post**

Any person who, not being authorised by the Postmaster-General to do so:

- (1) Sends or conveys a letter for hire or reward otherwise than by post; or
- (2) Takes charge of a letter for conveyance for hire or reward;

is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of fifty pounds.

Every letter sent, conveyed, or taken charge of to be conveyed otherwise than by post, is deemed to have been so sent, conveyed, or taken charge of, for hire or reward, until the contrary is proved.

This section does not extend to a letter exceeding the weight prescribed by law for letters sent by post, nor to a letter concerning goods sent and to be delivered with it, or containing process of, or proceedings or pleadings in, a court of justice, or briefs or cases or instructions for counsel and their opinions thereon, or containing a deed, affidavit, or power of attorney, nor to a letter sent by a special messenger and concerning the private affairs of the sender, nor to a letter sent or carried to or from the nearest post office.

**179 Illegally making Postal Envelopes or Setting up Post Office or Office for Sale of Stamps, or Obstructing Post Office**

Any person who:

- (1) Without lawful authority or excuse, the proof of which lies on him:

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(a) Makes any envelope, wrapper, card, form, or paper, in imitation of one issued by or under the authority of the Postmaster-General of Queensland or of the Postal

Authority of any other country, or having thereon any word, letter, or mark, which signifies or implies, or may reasonably induce a person receiving it to believe, that a letter, newspaper, packet, or parcel, bearing such word, letter, or mark, is sent on Her Majesty's service, or on the public service of another country; or

- (b) Makes on any envelope, wrapper, card, form, or paper, in order to its being issued or sent by post or

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

otherwise, any stamp or mark in imitation of a stamp or mark of any post office under the control of the Postmaster-General of Queensland or of the Postal Authority of any other country, or any other stamp or mark, or any word or letter, which signifies or implies, or may reasonably induce a person receiving it to believe, that a letter, newspaper, packet, or parcel, bearing such stamp, mark, word, or letter, is sent on Her Majesty's service, or on the public service of another country; or

- (c) Issues or sends by post or otherwise, any envelope, wrapper, card, form, or paper, so marked; or

(2) Without the authority of the Postmaster-General, the proof of which lies on the person charged:

- (d) Places or maintains, or permits to be placed or maintained, or to remain in, on, or near, any place under his control, the words, 'post office,' or any word, letter, or mark, which signifies or implies, or may reasonably induce any person to believe that the place is a post office; or

- (e) Places, or permits to be placed or to remain, on any vehicle under his control the words 'Royal mail,' or any word, letter, or mark, which signifies or implies, or may reasonably induce any person to believe that the vehicle is used for the conveyance of mails; or

(3) Without the license of the Postmaster-General, the proof of which lies on the person charged:

- (f) Sells, or offers or exposes for sale, any postage stamp; or

- (g) Places, or permits to be placed or to remain, on or near to his house or premises the words 'licensed to sell

stamps,' or may reasonably induce any person to believe, that he is duly licensed to sell postage stamps;

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is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of five pounds.

**180 Destroying or Damaging Letter Receivers**

Any person who wilfully destroys or damages any receptacle provided by authority of the Postmaster-General for the reception of anything intended to be sent by post, or any card or

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

notice relating to the postal service or telegraph service set up by authority of the Postmaster-General, or obliterates any letter or figure on any such thing, is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of fifty pounds.

**181 Placing Injurious Substances in or against Letter Boxes**

Any person who places in or against any receptacle provided by authority of the Postmaster-General for the reception of anything intended to be sent by post, or telegraph, any fire or match, or any explosive, dangerous, noxious, or deleterious, substance, or any fluid or filth, is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of twenty pounds.

**182 Obstructing Post and Telegraph Offices**

Any person who, by stopping or loitering opposite to or on the premises of a post office or telegraph office, obstructs the business of the office, or any person lawfully going to the office, is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of five pounds.

**183 Obstructing Post and Telegraph Officers in the Execution of Duty, &c**

Any person who:

(1) Wilfully obstructs a person employed by or under the Post and Telegraph Department in the execution of the duties of his employment; or

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(2) Being in a post office or telegraph office, or within any premises appertaining to a post office or telegraph office, or used therewith,

wilfully obstructs the business of the office;

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is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of two pounds.

Any person employed by or under the Post and Telegraph Department may require any person committing any of the offences defined in this section to leave the post office, or telegraph office, or premises.

Any person who refuses or fails to comply with such request is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to a further fine of five pounds, and may be removed by any person

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

authorized to make the request; and all police officers are required, on demand, to remove or assist in removing such person.

**184 Interference with Telegraphs**

Any person who wilfully and unlawfully:

- (1) Destroys, damages, or removes, any part of any apparatus used in the working of, or in connection with, an electric telegraph under the control of the Postmaster-General; or
- (2) Prevents or obstructs the sending or delivering of a communication by any such telegraph;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

Any justice before whom a person is charged with any such offence may, if he thinks fit, direct the charge to be dealt with summarily; and in that case the offender is liable on summary conviction to imprisonment for three months, or to a fine of twenty pounds.

A person found committing or attempting to commit any such offence may be arrested without warrant.

**185 Attempt to Injure Telegraphs**

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Any person who attempts to commit any of the offences defined in the last preceding section, is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to imprisonment for three months, or to a fine of ten pounds.

**186 Negligently Injuring Telegraphs**

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Any person who negligently destroys or damages any post, wire, or material, used in connection with an electric telegraph under the control of the Postmaster-General, is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of two pounds.

**187 Violation of Secrecy**

Any person who, being employed in a telegraph office, publishes or communicates the contents or substance of a

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

telegram, except to some person to whom he is authorised to deliver the telegram, is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to imprisonment with hard labour for six months, or to a fine of one hundred pounds.

**188 Making Charges for Use of Telegraph Line without Authority**

Any person who, having become entitled under an agreement with the Postmaster-General to the use of a telegraph line, demands or receives any payment or valuable consideration from any other person for the use of the line, is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of fifty pounds.

**189 Erection or Maintenance of Telegraph Lines without Authority**

Any person who, without the authority of the Postmaster-General, the proof of which lies on the person charged:

- (1) Sets up, maintains, or uses, a telegraph line on any Crown Lands, or on any public road, street, or highway; or
- (2) Knowingly uses a telegraph line that has been set up in or on any such lands or place;

and in either case neglects to comply with a notice from the Postmaster-General to pay such charges, if any, in respect of the line as may from time to time be fixed by the Governor in Council, is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of five pounds for every day during which ~~the line continues to be so set up,~~ maintained, or used.

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The Postmaster-General may at any time authorise any person to take absolute possession of, and to



cut down and destroy, the whole or any part of any telegraph line that has been set up in or on any such lands or place.

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**190            Obstructing Possession of Post and Telegraph Officers, &c**

Any person who wilfully obstructs or delays any person duly authorised by the Postmaster-General to enter into a post office or telegraph office, and to take possession of anything therein which belongs or appertains to the Post and Telegraph Department, in so entering or taking possession, or wilfully interferes with any such person who has so entered while he is

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

remaining in the post office or telegraph office, or on the premises where the post office or telegraph office is situated, for a reasonable time for the purpose of taking such possession, is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of twenty pounds.

**191            Resisting Officers**

Any person who resists a person employed by or under the Post and Telegraph Department while engaged in the execution of his duty under the laws relating to Posts and Telegraphs is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to imprisonment with hard labour for three months, or to a fine of twenty pounds.

***Chapter XX – Miscellaneous Offences against Public Authority***

**192            False Declaration as to Execution of Sentence of Death**

Any person who subscribes a certificate or declaration as to the execution of a sentence of death, which, in any material particular, is to his knowledge false, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years.

**193            False Statements in Statements required to be under Oath or Solemn Declaration**

Any person who, on any occasion on which a person making a statement touching any matter is required by law to make it on oath or under some sanction which may by law be substituted for an oath, or is required to verify it by solemn  

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declaration or affirmation, makes a statement touching such matter which, in any material particular, is to his knowledge false, and verifies it on oath

or under such other sanction or by solemn declaration or affirmation, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

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The offender cannot be arrested without warrant.

**194 False Declarations and Statements**

Any person who, on any occasion on which he is permitted or required by law to make a statement or declaration before any person authorised by law to permit it to be made before him, makes a statement or declaration before that person which, in any material particular, is to his knowledge false, is guilty of a

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**195 Evidence**

A person cannot be convicted of any of the offences defined in the two last preceding sections upon the uncorroborated testimony of one witness.

**196 Shooting at Customs Boats or Officers**

Any person who:

- (1) Shoots at a vessel of any kind which is in use by an officer of Customs while engaged in the execution of his duty as such officer; or
- (2) Shoots at, wounds, or causes any grievous bodily harm to, an officer of Customs while engaged in the execution of his duty in the prevention of smuggling, or any person acting in aid of an officer of Customs while so engaged;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years.

**197 Resisting Officers engaged in Preventing Smuggling**

Any person who with violence assaults, obstructs, or resists, an officer of Customs, or any person duly employed for the ~~prevention of smuggling, while engaged~~  
in the execution of his duty in the prevention of smuggling, or any person acting in aid of any such officer or person

while so engaged, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

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**198 Resisting Customs Officers**

Any person who:

- (1) Assaults or obstructs an officer of Customs, or any person duly employed for the prevention of smuggling, while engaged in the execution of his duty under any law relating to the Customs, or in the seizure of any goods claimed to be liable to forfeiture under any such law, or any person acting in aid of any such officer or person while so engaged; or

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

- (2) Rescues or attempts to rescue any goods which have been seized under any such law; or
- (3) Before, at, or after, the seizure of any goods under any such law, staves, breaks, or destroys, the goods with intent to prevent the seizure or the securing of the goods, or attempts to do any such act;

is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of one hundred pounds.

**199 Resisting Public Officers**

Any person who in any manner obstructs or resists any public officer while engaged in the discharge or attempted discharge of the duties of his office under any Statute, or obstructs or resists any person while engaged in the discharge or attempted discharge of any duty imposed on him by any Statute, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

**200 Refusal by Public Officer to Perform Duty**

Any person who, being employed in the Public Service, or as an officer of any court or tribunal, perversely and without lawful excuse omits or refuses to do any act which it is his duty to do by virtue of his employment is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for two years, and to be fined at the discretion of the Court.

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**201 Neglect of Officers to Suppress Riot**

Any person who, being a sheriff, under

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sheriff, justice, mayor, or police officer, and having notice that there is a riot in his neighbourhood, without reasonable excuse omits to do his duty in suppressing such riot, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for two years.

**202 Neglect to aid in Suppressing Riot**

Any person who, having reasonable notice that he is required to assist any sheriff, under sheriff, justice, mayor, or police officer, in suppressing a riot, without reasonable excuse omits to do so, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for one year.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**203 Neglect to Aid in Arresting Offenders**

Any person who, having reasonable notice that he is required to assist any sheriff, under sheriff, justice, mayor, or police officer, in arresting any person, or in preserving the peace, without reasonable excuse omits to do so, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for one year.

**204 Disobedience to Statute Law**

Any person who without lawful excuse, the proof of which lies on him, does any act which he is, by the provisions of any Public Statute in force in Queensland, forbidden to do, or omits to do any act which he is, by the provisions of any such Statute, required to do, is guilty of a misdemeanour, unless some mode of proceeding against him for such disobedience is expressly provided by Statute, and is intended to be exclusive of all other punishment.

The offender is liable to imprisonment for one year.

**205 Disobedience to Lawful Order Issued by Statutory Authority**

Any person who without lawful excuse, the proof of which lies on him, disobeys any lawful order issued by any court of justice, or by any person authorised by any Public Statute in force in Queensland to make the order, is guilty of a misdemeanour, unless some mode of proceeding against him for such disobedience is expressly provided by Statute, and is intended to be exclusive of all other punishment.

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The offender is liable to imprisonment for one year.

## **PART IV – ACTS INJURIOUS TO THE PUBLIC IN GENERAL**

### ***Chapter XXI – Offences relating to Religious Worship***

#### **206 Offering Violence to Officiating Ministers of Religion**

Any person who:

- (1) By threats or force prevents or attempts to prevent any minister of religion from lawfully officiating in any place of religious worship, or from performing his duty in the lawful burial of the dead in any cemetery or other burial place; or

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

- (2) By threats or force obstructs or attempts to obstruct any minister of religion while so officiating or performing his duty; or
- (3) Assaults, or, upon or under the pretence of executing any civil process, arrests, any minister of religion who is engaged in, or is, to the knowledge of the offender, about to engage in, any of the offices or duties aforesaid, or who is, to the knowledge of the offender, going to perform the same or returning from the performance thereof;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

#### **207 Disturbing Religious Worship**

Any person who wilfully and without lawful justification or excuse, the proof of which lies on him, disquiets or disturbs any meeting of persons lawfully assembled for religious worship, or assaults any person lawfully officiating at any such meeting, or any of the persons there assembled, is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to imprisonment for two months, or to a fine of five pounds.

### ***Chapter XXII – Offences against Morality***

#### **208 Unnatural Offences**

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Any person who:

- (1) Has carnal knowledge of any

person against the order of nature; or

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- (2) Has carnal knowledge of an animal; or
- (3) Permits a male person to have carnal knowledge of him or her against the order of nature;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years.

**209 Attempt to commit Unnatural Offences**

Any person who attempts to commit any of the crimes defined in the last preceding section is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

The offender cannot be arrested without warrant.

**210 Indecent Treatment of Boys under Fourteen**

Any person who unlawfully and indecently deals with a boy under the age of fourteen years is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

The term '*deal with*' includes doing any act which, if done without consent, would constitute an assault as hereinafter defined.

**211 Indecent Practices between Males**

Any male person who, whether in public or private, commits any act of gross indecency with another male person, or procures another male person to commit any act of gross indecency with him, or attempts to procure the commission of any such act by any male person with himself or with another male person, whether in public or private, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**212 Defilement of Girls under Twelve**

Any person who has unlawful carnal knowledge of a girl under the age of twelve years is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life.

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Any person who attempts to have unlawful carnal knowledge of a girl under the age of twelve years is guilty of a

misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

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In the case of an offender whose age does not exceed sixteen years, the Court, instead of sentencing him to any term of imprisonment, may order him to be sent to an industrial or reformatory school, and to be there detained for a period not exceeding three years.

A prosecution for either of the offences defined in this section must be begun within two months after the offence is committed.

A person cannot be convicted of either of the offences defined in this section upon the uncorroborated testimony of one witness.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

The wife of the accused person is a competent but not a compellable witness.

**213      Householder permitting Defilement of Young Girls on his Premises**

Any person who, being the owner or occupier of any premises, or having, or acting or assisting in, the management or control of any premises, induces or knowingly permits any girl of such age as is in this section mentioned to resort to or be in or upon such premises for the purpose of being unlawfully carnally known by any man, whether a particular man or not, is guilty of an indictable offence.

If the girl is under the age of seventeen years, he is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

If the girl is under the age of twelve years, he is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life.

It is a defence to a charge of any of the offences defined in this section to prove that the accused person believed, on reasonable grounds, that the girl was of or above the age of seventeen years.

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The husband or wife of the accused person is a competent but not a compellable witness.

Any person who attempts to have unlawful carnal knowledge of a girl under the age of ten years is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years.

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The offender cannot be arrested without warrant.

The wife of the accused person is a competent but not a compellable witness.

**215 Defilement of Girls under Fourteen and of Idiots**

Any person who:

- (1) Has or attempts to have unlawful carnal knowledge of a girl under the age of seventeen years; or

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

- (2) Knowing a woman or girl to be an idiot or imbecile, has or attempts to have unlawful carnal knowledge of her;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

It is a defence to a charge of either of the offences firstly defined in this section to prove that the accused person believed, on reasonable grounds, that the girl was of or above the age of seventeen years.

A prosecution for either of the offences firstly defined in this section must be begun within six months after the offence is committed.

A person cannot be convicted of any of the offences defined in this section upon the uncorroborated testimony of one witness.

The wife of the accused person is a competent but not a compellable witness.

**216 Indecent Treatment of Girls under Seventeen**

Any person who unlawfully and indecently deals with a girl under the age of seventeen years is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

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If the girl is under the age of twelve years he is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.



It is a defence to a charge of the offence defined in this section to prove that the accused person believed, on reasonable grounds, that the girl was of or above the age of seventeen years.

The wife of the accused person is a competent but not a compellable witness.

The term '**deal with**' includes doing any act which, if done without consent, would constitute an assault as hereinafter defined.

**217 Procuring girl or woman**

Whosoever procures, entices or leads away any girl or woman, whether with her consent or not, with intent that some other person may have carnal knowledge of her, either within or without the Territory shall, notwithstanding that some one or

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

more of the acts constituting the offence may have been committed outside the Territory, be guilty of an offence.

Penalty: Imprisonment for seven years.

**218 Procuring girl or woman by drugs, etc.**

Whosoever by means of any fraud, violence, threat or abuse of authority, or, by the use of any drug or intoxicating liquor, procures, entices or leads away any girl or woman, either within or without the Territory, shall, notwithstanding that some one or more of the acts constituting the offence may have been committed outside the Territory, be guilty of an offence.

Penalty: Imprisonment for ten years.

**219** *[Repealed]*

**220 Unlawful Detention with Intent to Defile or in a Brothel**

Any person who:

(1) Detains a woman or girl against her will in or upon any premises in order to her being unlawfully carnally known by any man, whether a particular man or not; or

(2) Detains a woman or girl against her

will in a brothel;

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is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

The husband or wife of the accused person is a competent but not a compellable witness.

When a woman or girl is in or upon any premises in order to her being unlawfully carnally known by any man, whether a particular man or not, or is in a brothel, a person is deemed to detain such woman or girl in or upon such premises in order to her being so unlawfully carnally known, or to detain her in such brothel, if, with intent to compel or induce her to remain in or upon the premises or in the brothel, he withholds from her any wearing apparel or other property belonging to her, or if, after wearing apparel has been lent or otherwise supplied to the woman or girl by or by the direction of such person or any other person, he threatens the woman or girl with legal proceedings if she takes away with her the wearing apparel so lent or supplied.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

It is lawful for a woman or girl to take any such wearing apparel as may be necessary to enable her to leave a brothel or any premises in or upon which she is in order to her being unlawfully carnally known by any man.

**221 Conspiracy to Defile**

Any person who conspires with another to induce any woman or girl, by means of any false pretence or other fraudulent means, to permit any man to have unlawful carnal knowledge of her is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**222 Incest by Man**

Any person who carnally knows a woman or girl who is, to his knowledge, his daughter or other lineal descendant, or his sister, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life.

Any person who attempts to have carnal knowledge of a woman or girl who is, to his knowledge, his daughter or other lineal descendant, or his sister, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

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It is immaterial that the carnal knowledge

was had, or that the attempt was made, with the consent of the woman or girl.

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The wife of the accused person is a competent but not a compellable witness.

**223 Incest by Adult Female**

Any woman or girl of or above the age of eighteen years who permits her father or other lineal ancestor, or her brother, to have carnal knowledge of her, knowing him to be her father or other lineal ancestor, or her brother, as the case may be, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

It is a defence to a charge of the offence defined in this section that the woman or girl was, at the time when she permitted her father or other lineal ancestor, or her brother, to have carnal knowledge of her, acting under his coercion.

The husband of the accused person is a competent but not a compellable witness.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**224 Attempts to Procure Abortion**

Any person who, with intent to procure the miscarriage of a woman, whether she is or is not with child, unlawfully administers to her or causes her to take any poison or other noxious thing, or uses any force of any kind, or uses any other means whatever, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years.

**225 The like by Women with Child**

Any woman who, with intent to procure her own miscarriage, whether she is or is not with child, unlawfully administers to herself any poison or other noxious thing, or uses any force of any kind, or uses any other means whatever, or permits any such thing or means to be administered or used to her, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

**226 Supplying Drugs or Instruments to Procure Abortion**

Any person who unlawfully supplies to or procures for any person any thing whatever, knowing that it is intended to be unlawfully used to procure the miscarriage of a woman, whether she is or is not with child, is

guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

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**227 Indecent Acts**

Any person who:

- (1) Wilfully and without lawful excuse does any indecent act in any place to which the public are permitted to have access, whether on payment of a charge for admission or not; or
- (2) Wilfully does any indecent act in any place with intent to insult or offend any person;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**228 Obscene Publications and Exhibitions**

Any person who knowingly, and without lawful justification or excuse:

- (1) Publicly sells or exposes for sale any obscene book or other obscene printed or written matter, or any obscene picture, photograph, drawing, or model, or any other object tending to corrupt morals; or
- (2) Exposes to view in any place to which the public are permitted to have access, whether on payment of a charge for admission or not, any obscene picture, photograph, drawing, or model, or any other object tending to corrupt morals; or
- (3) Publicly exhibits any indecent show or performance, whether on payment of a charge for admission to see the show or performance or not;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

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It is a defence to a charge of any of the offences defined in this section to prove that it was for the public benefit that the

act complained of should be done.

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Whether the doing of any such act is or is not for the public benefit is a question of fact.

**229 Knowledge of Age Immaterial**

Except as otherwise expressly stated, it is immaterial, in the case of any of the offences defined in this Chapter committed with respect to a woman or girl under a specified age, that the accused person did not know that the woman or girl was under that age, or believed that she was not under that age.

**Chapter XXIII – Nuisances: Misconduct Relating to Corpses**

**230 Common Nuisances**

Any person who:

(1) Without lawful justification or excuse, the proof of which lies on him, does any act, or omits to do any act with respect to any property under his control, by which act or

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

omission danger is caused to the lives, safety, or health, of the public; or

(2) Without lawful justification or excuse, the proof of which lies on him, does any act, or omits to do any act with respect to any property under his control, by which act or omission danger is caused to the property or comfort of the public, or the public are obstructed in the exercise or enjoyment of any right common to all Her Majesty's subjects, and by which injury is caused to the person of some person;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for two years.

**231 Bawdy Houses**

Any person who keeps a house, room, set of rooms, or place of any kind whatever, for purposes of prostitution, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

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**232** *[repealed]*

**233** *[repealed]*

234 [repealed]

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**235 Acting as Keeper of Bawdy Houses**

Any person who appears, acts, or behaves, as master or mistress, or as the person having the care or management, of any such house, room, set of rooms, or place, as is mentioned in the four last preceding sections, is to be taken to be the keeper thereof, whether he is or is not the real keeper.

**236 Misconduct with regard to Corpses**

Any person who, without lawful justification or excuse, the proof of which lies on him:

- (1) Neglects to perform any duty imposed upon him by law, or undertaken by him, whether for reward or otherwise, touching the burial or other disposition of a human body or human remains; or

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

- (2) Improperly or indecently interferes with, or offers any indignity to, any dead human body or human remains, whether buried or not;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

***Chapter XXIV – Offences against Public Health***

**237 False Information as to Health of Foreign Ships**

Any person who, being the master or medical officer of a ship arriving from beyond sea, neglects or refuses to give to any officer employed in the Public Service any information which he is required by law to give to him, or gives to any such officer, either verbally or in writing, any information touching any matter as to which he is required by law to give him information, which information is to his knowledge, false in any material particular, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years, and to a fine of three hundred pounds.

**238 Exposing for Sale things unfit for Food**

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Any person who knowingly exposes for sale for the food of man, or has in his possession with intent to sell it for the food of man, any article which he knows to be unfit for the

food of man, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

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**239 Dealing in Diseased Meat**

Any person who:

- (1) Knowingly takes into a slaughter house used for the slaughter of any animals intended for the food of man the whole or any part of the carcass of any animal which has died of any disease; or
- (2) Knowingly sells or exposes for sale the whole or part of the carcass of any animal which has died of any disease or which was diseased when slaughtered;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**240 Adulterating Liquor**

Any person who:

- (1) Puts any deleterious or poisonous substance into any spirituous or fermented liquor, or mixes any such substance with any such liquor; or
- (2) Sells or otherwise disposes of, or keeps for sale, any spirituous or fermented liquor into which any such substance has been put, or with which any such substance has been mixed;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable on conviction to imprisonment with hard labour for two years, or to a fine of two hundred pounds.

**241 Adulteration of Beverages**

Any person who, being a public brewer or maker of any liquor intended to be used as a beverage for man:

- (1) Uses in the brewing or making of the liquor any deleterious or poisonous substance; or
- (2) Puts any such substance into, or mixes any such substance with, the liquor, whether before or after the brewing or making is complete;

is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of two hundred pounds and to forfeiture of the liquor.

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If the offender, before committing the offence, had been previously convicted of any such offence, he is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for two years, as well as to forfeiture of the liquor.

### ***Chapter XXV – Miscellaneous Offences***

#### **242 Frauds on Land Laws**

Any person who, for the purpose of acquiring land from the Crown, fraudulently evades or attempts to evade any of the provisions of the Statutes relating to the sale or leasing of Crown lands, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

And all his interest, if any, in the land is forfeited to Her Majesty.

#### **243 Dealing with Land Fraudulently Acquired from the Crown**

Any person who buys or takes on lease any land, or any estate in any land, from any person who has acquired the land or the estate by means of any fraudulent evasion of the laws relating to the sale or leasing of Crown lands, knowing that the seller or lessor has so acquired the same, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for one year.

And all his estate in the land is forfeited to Her Majesty.

#### **244 Fraudulent Destruction or Removal of Goods Liable to Duty**

Any person who fraudulently destroys, or takes from their lawful place of deposit or detention, any goods which are liable to the payment of duty, and which are deposited or detained for the purpose of securing payment thereof, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

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## **PART V – OFFENCES AGAINST THE PERSON AND RELATING TO MARRIAGE AND PARENTAL RIGHTS AND DUTIES AND AGAINST THE REPUTATION OF INDIVIDUALS**

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**Person Generally:  
Justification and Excuse**

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**245 Definition of Assault**

A person who strikes, touches, or moves, or otherwise applies force of any kind to, the person of another, either directly or indirectly, without his consent, or with his consent if the consent is obtained by fraud, or who by any bodily act or gesture attempts or threatens to apply force of any kind to the person of another without his consent, under such circumstances that the person making the attempt or threat has actually or apparently a present ability to effect his purpose, is said to assault that other person, and the act is called an assault.

The term '**applies force**' includes the case of applying heat, light, electrical force, gas, odour, or any other substance or thing whatever if applied in such a degree as to cause injury or personal discomfort.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**246 Assaults Unlawful**

An assault is unlawful and constitutes an offence unless it is authorised or justified or excused by law.

The application of force by one person to the person of another may be unlawful, although it is done with the consent of that other person.

**247 Execution of Sentence**

It is lawful for a person who is charged by law with the duty of executing or giving effect to the lawful sentence of a Court to execute or give effect to that sentence.

**248 Execution of Process**

It is lawful for a person who is charged by law with the duty of executing the lawful process of a Court, and who is required to arrest or detain another person under such process, and for every person lawfully assisting a person so charged, to arrest or detain that other person according to the terms of the process.

**249 Execution of Warrants**

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It is lawful for a person who is charged by law with the duty of executing a lawful warrant issued by any Court or Justice or other person having jurisdiction to issue it, and who is required

to arrest or detain another person under such warrant, and for every person lawfully assisting a person so charged, to arrest or detain that other person according to the directions of the warrant.

**250 Erroneous Sentence or Process or Warrant**

If the sentence was passed, or the process was issued, by a Court having jurisdiction under any circumstances to pass such a sentence or to issue such process, or if the warrant was issued by a Court or justice or other person having authority under any circumstances to issue such a warrant, it is immaterial whether the Court or justice or person had or had not authority to pass the sentence or issue the process or warrant in the particular case; unless the person executing the same knows that the sentence or process or warrant was in fact passed or issued without authority.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**251 Sentence or Process or Warrant without Jurisdiction**

A person who executes or assists in executing any sentence, process, or warrant, which purports to be passed or issued by a Court, justice, or other person, and who would be justified, under the provisions of the four last preceding sections, in executing the same if it had been passed or issued by a Court, justice, or person having authority to pass or issue it, is not criminally responsible for any act done in such execution, notwithstanding that the Court, justice, or person, had no authority to pass the sentence or issue the process or warrant, if in such execution he acted in good faith and in the belief that the sentence, process, or warrant, was that of a Court, justice, or other person, having such authority.

**252 Arrest of Wrong Person**

A person who, being duly authorised to execute a warrant to arrest one person, arrests another person, believing in good faith and on reasonable grounds that the person arrested is the person named in the warrant, is not criminally responsible for doing so to any greater extent than if the person arrested had been the person named in the warrant.

Any person who lawfully assists in making such an arrest, believing that the person arrested is the  

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person named in the warrant, or who, being required by the warrant to receive and detain the person named in it, receives and detains the person so arrested, is not criminally

responsible for doing so to any greater extent than if the person arrested had been the person named in the warrant.

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**253 Irregular Process or Warrant**

When any process or warrant is bad in law by reason of some defect in substance or in form apparent on the face of it, a person who, in good faith and believing that it is good in law, acts in the execution of the process or warrant, is not criminally responsible for anything done in such execution to any greater extent than if the process or warrant were good in law.

**254 Force used in executing Process or in Arrest**

It is lawful for a person who is engaged in the lawful execution of any sentence, process, or warrant, or in making any arrest, and for any person lawfully assisting him, to use such force as

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

may be reasonably necessary to overcome any force used in resisting such execution or arrest.

**255 Duty of persons arresting**

It is the duty of a person executing any process or warrant to have it with him, and to produce it if required.

It is the duty of a person arresting another, whether with or without warrant, to give notice, if practicable, of the process or warrant under which he is acting or of the cause of the arrest.

A failure to fulfil either of the aforesaid duties does not of itself make the execution of the process or warrant or the arrest unlawful, but is relevant to the inquiry whether the process or warrant might not have been executed or the arrest made by reasonable means in a less forcible manner.

**256 Police Officer preventing Escape from Arrest**

When a police officer is proceeding lawfully to arrest, with or without warrant, a person for an offence which is such that the offender may be arrested without warrant, and the person sought to be arrested takes to flight in order to avoid arrest, it is lawful for the police officer, and for any person lawfully assisting him, to use such force as may be reasonably necessary to prevent the escape of the person sought to be arrested.

But this section does not authorise the use of force which is intended or is likely to cause death or grievous bodily harm, except in a case where the person sought to be arrested is reasonably suspected of having committed an offence punishable with death<sup>10</sup> or imprisonment for life under this Code, nor until the person sought to be arrested has been called upon to surrender.

**257 Other cases of preventing Escape from Arrest**

When a person who is not a police officer is proceeding lawfully to arrest, without warrant, another person for an offence which is such that the offender may be arrested without warrant, and when any person is proceeding lawfully to arrest another person for any cause other than such an offence, and, in either case, the person sought to be arrested takes to flight in order to avoid

<sup>10</sup> See Note 4 at the end of this compilation.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

arrest, it is lawful for the person seeking to arrest him to use such force as may be reasonably necessary to prevent his escape.

But this section does not authorise the use of force which is intended or is likely to cause death or grievous bodily harm.

**258 Preventing Escape or Rescue after Arrest**

When any person has lawfully arrested another person for any offence, it is lawful for him to use such force as he believes, on reasonable grounds, to be necessary to prevent the escape or rescue of the person arrested.

But, if the offence is not a crime which is such that the offender may be arrested without warrant, this section does not authorise the use of force which is intended or is likely to cause, death or grievous bodily harm.

**259 Examination of Person of Accused Persons in Custody**

When a person is in lawful custody upon a charge of committing any offence, it is lawful for a police officer to search his person, and to take from him anything found upon his person, and to use such force as is reasonably necessary for that purpose.

When a person is in lawful custody upon

a charge of committing any offence of such a nature and alleged to have been committed under such circumstances that there are reasonable grounds for believing that an examination of his person will afford evidence as to the commission of the offence, it is lawful for a legally qualified medical practitioner, acting at the request of a police officer, and for any person acting in good faith in his aid and under his direction, to make such an examination of the person of the person so in custody as is reasonably necessary in order to ascertain the facts which may afford such evidence, and to use such force as is reasonably necessary for that purpose.

**260 Preventing a Breach of the Peace**

It is lawful for any person who witnesses a breach of the peace to interfere to prevent the continuance or renewal of it, and to use such force as is reasonably necessary for such prevention and is reasonably proportioned to the danger to be apprehended from such continuance or renewal, and to detain any person who is committing or who is about to join in or to

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

renew the breach of the peace for such time as may be reasonably necessary in order to give him into the custody of a police officer.

It is lawful for a police officer who witnesses a breach of the peace, and for any person lawfully assisting him, to arrest any person whom he finds committing it, or whom he believes, on reasonable grounds, to be about to join in or renew the breach of the peace.

It is lawful for a police officer to receive into custody and detain in custody any person given into his charge as having been a party to a breach of the peace by a person whom the police officer believes, on reasonable grounds, to have witnessed the breach of the peace.

**261 Suppression of Riot**

It is lawful for any person to use such force as is necessary to suppress a riot, and is reasonably proportioned to the danger to be apprehended from its continuance.

**262 Suppression of Riot by Magistrates and Police Officers**

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It is lawful for a justice to use or order to be used, and for a police officer to use, such force as he believes, on reasonable grounds, to be necessary in order to

suppress a riot, and as is reasonably proportioned to the danger which he believes, on reasonable grounds, is to be apprehended from its continuance.

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**263      Suppression of Riot by Person acting under Lawful Orders**

It is lawful for any person acting in good faith in obedience to orders, not manifestly unlawful, given by a justice for the suppression of a riot, to use such force as he believes, on reasonable grounds, to be necessary for carrying such orders into effect.

Whether any particular order so given is or is not manifestly unlawful is a question of law.

**264      Suppression of Riot by Person acting without Order in case of Emergency**

When any person, whether subject to military law or not, believes, on reasonable grounds, that serious mischief will arise from a riot before there is time to procure the intervention of a

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

justice, it is lawful for him to use such force as he believes, on reasonable grounds, to be necessary for the suppression of the riot, and as is reasonably proportioned to the danger which he believes, on reasonable grounds, is to be apprehended from its continuance.

**265      Riot: Persons subject to Military Law**

It is lawful for a person who is bound by military law to obey the lawful commands of his superior officer to obey any command given him by his superior officer in order to the suppression of a riot, unless the command is manifestly unlawful.

Whether any particular command is or is not manifestly unlawful is a question of law.

**266      Prevention of Crimes and Offences for which an Offender may be Arrested without Warrant: Prevention of Violence by Persons of Unsound Mind**

It is lawful for any person to use such force as is reasonably necessary in order to prevent the commission of an offence which is such that the offender may be arrested without warrant; or in order to prevent any act from being done as to which he believes, on reasonable

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grounds, that it would, if done, amount to any such offence; or in order to prevent a person whom he believes, on reasonable grounds, to be of unsound mind from doing violence to any person or property.

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**267      Defence of Dwelling-house**

It is lawful for any person who is in peaceable possession of a dwelling-house, and for any person lawfully assisting him or acting by his authority, to use such force as he believes, on reasonable grounds, to be necessary in order to prevent the forcible breaking and entering of the dwelling-house, either by night or day, by any person whom he believes, on reasonable grounds, to be attempting to break and enter the dwelling-house with intent to commit any indictable offence therein.

**268      Provocation**

The term '*provocation*,' used with reference to an offence of which an assault is an element, means and includes, except as hereinafter stated, any wrongful act or insult of such a nature as to be likely, when done to an ordinary person, or in the presence of an ordinary person to another person who is under his

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

immediate care, or to whom he stands in a conjugal, parental, filial, or fraternal, relation, or in the relation of master or servant, to deprive him of the power of self-control, and to induce him to assault the person by whom the act or insult is done or offered.

When such an act or insult is done or offered by one person to another, or in the presence of another to a person who is under the immediate care of that other, or to whom the latter stands in any such relation as aforesaid, the former is said to give to the latter provocation for an assault.

A lawful act is not provocation to any person for an assault.

An act which a person does in consequence of incitement given by another person in order to induce him to do the act, and thereby to furnish an excuse for committing an assault, is not provocation to that other person for an assault.

An arrest which is unlawful is not necessarily provocation for an assault, but it may be evidence of provocation to a person who knows of the illegality.

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**269      Defence of Provocation**

A person is not criminally responsible for an assault committed upon a person who gives him

provocation for the assault, if he is in fact deprived by the provocation of the power of self-control, and acts upon it on the sudden and before there is time for his passion to cool; provided that the force used is not disproportionate to the provocation, and is not intended, and is not such as is likely, to cause death or grievous bodily harm.

Whether any particular act or insult is such as to be likely to deprive an ordinary person of the power of self-control and to induce him to assault the person by whom the act or insult is done or offered, and whether, in any particular case, the person provoked was actually deprived by the provocation of the power of self-control, and whether any force used is or is not disproportionate to the provocation, are questions of fact.

**270 Prevention of Repetition of Insult**

It is lawful for any person to use such force as is reasonably necessary to prevent the repetition of an act or insult of such a nature as to be provocation to him for an assault; provided that the force used is not intended, and is not such as is likely, to cause death or grievous bodily harm.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**271 Self-defence against Unprovoked Assault**

When a person is unlawfully assaulted, and has not provoked the assault, it is lawful for him to use such force to the assailant as is reasonably necessary to make effectual defence against the assault, provided that the force used is not intended, and is not such as is likely, to cause death or grievous bodily harm.

If the nature of the assault is such as to cause reasonable apprehension of death or grievous bodily harm, and the person using force by way of defence believes, on reasonable grounds, that he cannot otherwise preserve the person defended from death or grievous bodily harm, it is lawful for him to use any such force to the assailant as is necessary for defence, even though such force may cause death or grievous bodily harm.

**272 Self-defence against Provoked Assault**

When a person has unlawfully assaulted another or has provoked an assault from another, and that other assaults him with such violence as to cause reasonable apprehension of death or grievous bodily harm, and to induce him to believe, on reasonable grounds, that it is necessary for his preservation from death or grievous



bodily harm to use force in self-defence, he is not criminally responsible for using any such force as is reasonably necessary for such preservation, although such force may cause death or grievous bodily harm.

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This protection does not extend to a case in which the person using force which causes death or grievous bodily harm first began the assault with intent to kill or to do grievous bodily harm to some person; nor to a case in which the person using force which causes death or grievous bodily harm endeavoured to kill or to do grievous bodily harm to some person before the necessity of so preserving himself arose; nor, in either case, unless, before such necessity arose, the person using such force declined further conflict, and quitted it or retreated from it as far as was practicable.

**273 Aiding in Self-defence**

In any case in which it is lawful for any person to use force of any degree for the purpose of defending himself against an assault, it is lawful for any other person acting in good faith in his aid to use a like degree of force for the purpose of defending such first-mentioned person.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**274 Defence of Moveable Property against Trespassers**

It is lawful for any person who is in peaceable possession of any moveable property, and for any person acting by his authority, to use such force as is reasonably necessary in order to resist the taking of such property by a trespasser, or in order to retake it from a trespasser, provided that he does not do bodily harm to the trespasser.

**275 Defence of Moveable Property with Claim of Right**

When a person is in peaceable possession of any moveable property under a claim of right, it is lawful for him, and for any person acting by his authority, to use such force as is reasonably necessary in order to defend his possession of the property, even against a person who is entitled by law to possession of the property, provided that he does not do bodily harm to such other person.

**276 Defence of Moveable Property without Claim of Right**

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When a person who is entitled by law to the possession of moveable property attempts to take it from

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a person who is in possession of the property, but who neither claims right to it, nor acts by the authority of a person who claims right, and the person in possession resists him, it is lawful for the person so entitled to possession to use force in order to obtain possession of the property, provided that he does not do bodily harm to the person in possession.

**277      Defence of Premises against Trespassers: Removal of Disorderly Persons**

It is lawful for a person who is in peaceable possession of any land, structure, vessel, or place, or who is entitled to the control or management of any land, structure, vessel, or place, and for any person acting by his authority, to use such force as is reasonably necessary in order to prevent any person from wrongfully entering upon such land, structure, vessel, or place, or in order to remove therefrom a person who wrongfully remains therein, provided that he does not do bodily harm to such person.

It is lawful for a person who is in peaceable possession of any land, structure, vessel, or place, or who is entitled to the control or management of any land, structure, vessel, or place, and for any person acting by his authority, to use force in order to

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

remove therefrom any person who conducts himself in a disorderly manner therein, provided that he does not do him bodily harm.

The term '**place**' includes any part of an enclosure or structure, whether separated from the rest of the enclosure or structure by a partition, fence, rope, or any other means, or not.

**278      Defence of Possession of Real Property or Vessel with Claim of Right**

When a person is in peaceable possession of any land, structure, or vessel, with a claim of right, it is lawful for him, and for any person acting by his authority, to use such force as is reasonably necessary in order to defend his possession, even against a person who is entitled by law to the possession of the property, provided that he does not do bodily harm to such person.

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**279      Exercise of Right of Way or Easement**

When a person who is lawfully entitled to enter upon land for the exercise of a right

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of way or other easement or profit enters upon the land for the purpose of exercising such right of way, easement, or profit, after notice that his right to use such way or easement or to take such profit is disputed by the person in possession of the land, or having entered persists in his entry after such notice, it is lawful for the person in possession, and for any person acting by his authority, to use such force as is reasonably necessary for the purpose of making the person so entering desist from the entry, provided that he does not do him bodily harm.

**280 Domestic Discipline**

It is lawful for a parent or a person in the place of a parent, or for a schoolmaster or master, to use, by way of correction, towards a child, pupil, or apprentice, under his care such force as is reasonable under the circumstances.

**281 Discipline of Ship**

It is lawful for the master or other person in command of a vessel on a voyage to use, for the purpose of maintaining good order and discipline on board of the vessel, such force as he believes, on reasonable grounds, to be necessary, and as is reasonable under the circumstance.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**282 Surgical Operations**

A person is not criminally responsible for performing in good faith and with reasonable care and skill a surgical operation upon any person for his benefit, or upon an unborn child for the preservation of the mother's life, if the performance of the operation is reasonable, having regard to the patient's state at the time and to all the circumstances of the case.

**283 Excessive Force**

In any case in which the use of force by one person to another is lawful the use of more force than is justified by law under the circumstances is unlawful.

**284 Consent to Death Immaterial**

Consent by a person to the causing of his own death does not affect the criminal responsibility of any person by whom such death is caused.

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**285 Duty to provide Necessaries**

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It is the duty of every person having charge of another who is unable by reason of age, sickness, unsoundness of mind, detention, or any other cause, to withdraw himself from such charge, and who is unable to provide himself with the necessaries of life, whether the charge is undertaken under a contract, or is imposed by law, or arises by reason of any act, whether lawful or unlawful, of the person who has such charge, to provide for that other person the necessaries of life; and he is held to have caused any consequences which result to the life or health of the other person by reason of any omission to perform that duty.

**286 Duty of Head of Family**

It is the duty of every person who, as head of a family, has the charge of a child under the age of fourteen years, being a member of his household, to provide the necessaries of life for such child; and he is held to have caused any consequences which result to the life or health of the child by reason of any omission to perform that duty, whether the child is helpless or not.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**287 Duty of Masters**

It is the duty of every person who as a master or mistress has contracted to provide necessary food, clothing, or lodging, for any servant or apprentice under the age of sixteen years to provide the same: and he or she is held to have caused any consequences which result to the life or health of the servant or apprentice by reason of any omission to perform that duty.

**288 Duty of Persons doing Dangerous Acts**

It is the duty of every person who, except in a case of necessity, undertakes to administer surgical or medical treatment to any other person, or to do any other lawful act which is or may be dangerous to human life or health, to have reasonable skill and to take reasonable care in doing such act: and he is held to have caused any consequences which result to the life or health of any person by reason of any omission to observe or perform that duty.

**289 Duty of Persons in Charge of Dangerous Things**

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It is the duty of every person who has in his charge or under his control anything, whether living or inanimate, and whether moving or stationary,

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of such a nature that, in the absence of care or precaution in its use or management, the life, safety, or health, of any person may be endangered, to use reasonable care and take reasonable precautions to avoid such danger: and he is held to have caused any consequences which result to the life or health of any person by reason of any omission to perform that duty.

**290 Duty to do certain acts**

When a person undertakes to do any act the omission to do which is or may be dangerous to human life or health, it is his duty to do that act: and he is held to have caused any consequences which result to the life or health of any person by reason of any omission to perform that duty.

**Chapter XXVIII – Homicide: Suicide: Concealment of Birth**

**291 Killing of a Human Being Unlawful**

It is unlawful to kill any person unless such killing is authorised or justified or excused by law.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**292 When a Child becomes a Human Being**

A child becomes a person capable of being killed when it has completely proceeded in a living state from the body of its mother, whether it has breathed or not, and whether it has an independent circulation or not, and whether the navel-string is severed or not.

**293 Definition of Killing**

Except as hereinafter set forth, any person who causes the death of another, directly or indirectly, by any means whatever, is deemed to have killed that other person.

**294 Death by Acts done at Childbirth**

When a child dies in consequence of an act done or omitted to be done by any person before or during its birth, the person who did or omitted to do such act is deemed to have killed the child.

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**295 Causing Death by Threats**

A person who, by threats or intimidation of any kind, or by deceit, causes another person to do an act

or make an omission which results in the death of that other person, is deemed to have killed him.

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**296      Acceleration of Death**

A person who does any act or makes any omission which hastens the death of another person who, when the act is done or the omission is made, is labouring under some disorder or disease arising from another cause, is deemed to have killed that other person.

**297      When Injury or Death might be prevented by Proper Precaution**

When a person causes a bodily injury to another from which death results, it is immaterial that the injury might have been avoided by proper precaution on the part of the person injured, or that his death from that injury might have been prevented by proper care or treatment.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**298      Injuries causing Death in consequence of Subsequent Treatment**

When a person does grievous bodily harm to another, and such other person has recourse to surgical or medical treatment, and death results either from the injury or the treatment, he is deemed to have killed that other person, although the immediate cause of death was the surgical or medical treatment, provided that the treatment was reasonably proper under the circumstances, and was applied in good faith.

**299      Limitation as to Time of Death**

A person is not deemed to have killed another if the death of that other person does not take place within a year and a day of the cause of death.

Such period is reckoned inclusive of the day on which the last unlawful act contributing to the cause of death was done.

When the cause of death is an omission to observe or perform a duty, the period is reckoned inclusive of the day on which the omission ceased.

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When the cause of death is in part an unlawful act, and in part an omission to

observe or perform a duty, the period is reckoned inclusive of the day on which the last unlawful act was done or the day on which the omission ceased, whichever is the later.

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**300 Unlawful Homicide**

Any person who unlawfully kills another is guilty of a crime, which is called wilful murder, murder, or manslaughter, according to the circumstances of the case.

**301 Definition of Wilful Murder**

Except as hereinafter set forth, a person who unlawfully kills another, intending to cause his death or that of some other person, is guilty of wilful murder.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**302 Definition of Murder<sup>11</sup>**

Except as hereinafter set forth, a person who unlawfully kills another under any of the following circumstances, that is to say:

- (1) If the offender intends to do to the person killed or to some other person some grievous bodily harm;
- (2) If death is caused by means of an act done in the prosecution of an unlawful purpose, which act is of such a nature as to be likely to endanger human life;
- (3) If the offender intends to do grievous bodily harm to some person for the purpose of facilitating the commission of a crime which is such that the offender may be arrested without warrant, or for the purpose of facilitating the flight of an offender who has committed or attempted to commit any such crime;
- (4) If death is caused by administering any stupefying or overpowering thing for either of the purposes last aforesaid;
- ~~(5) If death is caused by wilfully~~  
stopping the breath of any person  
for either of such purposes;

is guilty of murder.

In the first case it is immaterial that the offender did not intend to hurt the particular person who is killed.

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In the second case it is immaterial that the offender did not intend to hurt any person.

In the three last cases it is immaterial that the offender did not intend to cause death or did not know that death was likely to result.

**303 Definition of Manslaughter**

A person who unlawfully kills another under such circumstances as not to constitute wilful murder or murder is guilty of manslaughter.

<sup>11</sup> In relation to the punishment for murder, see Notes 4 and 5 at the end of this compilation.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**304 Killing on Provocation**

When a person who unlawfully kills another under circumstances which, but for the provisions of this section, would constitute wilful murder or murder, does the act which causes death in the heat of passion caused by sudden provocation, and before there is time for his passion to cool, he is guilty of manslaughter only.

**304A Diminished responsibility**

(1) Where a person kills, or is a party to the killing of, another he shall not be convicted of wilful murder or murder if he was suffering, at the time of doing the act or making the omission which caused death, from such abnormality of mind, whether arising from a condition of arrested or retarded development of mind or inherent causes or induced by disease, injury or emotional shock, as substantially impaired his capacity to understand what he was doing, or his capacity to know that he ought not to do the act or make the omission.

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(2) On a charge of wilful murder or murder, it shall be for the defence to prove on a balance of probabilities that the person charged is by virtue of this section not liable to be convicted of wilful murder or murder.

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(3) A person who but for this section would be liable, whether as principal or



accessory, to be convicted of wilful murder or murder shall be liable instead to be convicted of manslaughter.

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- (4) The fact that one party to a killing is by virtue of this section not liable to be convicted of wilful murder or murder shall not affect the question whether the killing amounted to wilful murder or murder in the case of any other party to it.

**305 Punishment of Wilful Murder<sup>12</sup>**

Any person who commits the crime of wilful murder is liable to the punishment of death.

<sup>12</sup> See Notes 4 and 5 at the end of this compilation.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**306 Attempt to Murder**

Any person who:

- (1) Attempts unlawfully to kill another; or
- (2) With intent unlawfully to kill another does any act, or omits to do any act which it is his duty to do, such act or omission being of such a nature as to be likely to endanger human life;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life, with or without solitary confinement.

**307 Accessory after the Fact to Murder**

Any person who becomes an accessory after the fact to wilful murder or murder is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life.

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**308 Written Threats to Murder**

Any person who, knowing the contents thereof, directly or indirectly causes any person to receive any writing threatening to kill any person, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years, with or without solitary confinement.

**309 Conspiring to Murder**

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Any person who conspires with any other person to kill any person, whether such person is in Queensland or elsewhere, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years.

**310 Punishment of Manslaughter**

Any person who commits the crime of manslaughter is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life.

**311 Aiding Suicide**

Any person who:

(1) Procures another to kill himself; or

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

(2) Counsels another to kill himself and thereby induces him to do so; or

(3) Aids another in killing himself;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life.

**312 Attempting to Commit Suicide**

Any person who attempts to kill himself is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for one year.

**313 Killing Unborn Child**

Any person who, when a woman is about to be delivered of a child, prevents the child from being born alive by any act or omission of such a nature that, if the child had been born alive and had then died, he would be deemed to have unlawfully killed the child, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life.

**314 Concealing the Birth of Children**

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Any person who, when a woman is delivered of a child, endeavours, by any secret disposition of the dead body of the child, to conceal the birth, whether the

child died before, at, or after, its birth, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

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### **Chapter XXIX – Offences Endangering Life or Health**

#### **315 Disabling in order to Commit Indictable Offence**

Any person who, by any means calculated to choke, suffocate, or strangle, and with intent to commit or to facilitate the commission of an indictable offence, or to facilitate the flight of an offender after the commission or attempted commission of an indictable offence, renders or attempts to render any person incapable of resistance, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

#### **316 Stupefying in order to Commit Indictable Offence**

Any person who, with intent to commit or to facilitate the commission of an indictable offence, or to facilitate the flight of an offender after the commission or attempted commission of an indictable offence, administers, or attempts to administer, any stupefying or overpowering drug or thing to any person, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life.

#### **317 Acts intended to Cause Grievous Bodily Harm or Prevent Arrest**

Any person who, with intent to maim, disfigure, or disable, any person, or to do some grievous bodily harm to any person, or to resist or prevent the lawful arrest or detention of any person:

- (1) Unlawfully wounds or does any grievous bodily harm to any person by any means whatever; or
  - (2) Unlawfully attempts in any manner to strike any person with any kind of projectile; or
  - (3) Unlawfully causes any explosive substance to explode; or
  - (4) Sends or delivers any explosive substance or other dangerous or noxious thing to any person; or
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(5) Causes any such substance or thing to be taken or received by any person; or

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(6) Puts any corrosive fluid or any destructive or explosive substance in any place; or

(7) Unlawfully casts or throws any such fluid or substance at or upon any person, or otherwise applies any such fluid or substance to the person of any person;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life, with or without solitary confinement.

**318 Preventing Escape from Wreck**

Any person who unlawfully:

(1) Prevents or obstructs any person who is on board of or is escaping from a vessel which is in distress or wrecked or cast ashore, in his endeavours to save his life; or

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

(2) Obstructs any person in his endeavours to save the life of any person so situated;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life, with or without solitary confinement.

**319 Intentionally Endangering Safety of Persons Travelling by Railway**

Any person who, with intent to injure or to endanger the safety of any person travelling by any railway, whether a particular person or not:

(1) Deals with the railway, or with anything whatever upon or near the railway in such a manner as to affect or endanger the free and safe use of the railway or the safety of any such person; or

(2) Shows any light or signal, or in any way deals with any existing light or signal, upon or near the railway; or

(3) By any omission to do any act which it is his duty to do causes the safety of any such person to be endangered;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life.

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Any person who unlawfully does grievous bodily harm to another is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

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**321 Attempting to Injure by Explosive Substances**

Any person who unlawfully, and with intent to do any bodily harm to another, puts any explosive substance in any place whatever, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years, with or without solitary confinement.

**322 Maliciously Administering Poison with Intent to Harm**

Any person who unlawfully, and with intent to injure or annoy another, causes any poison or other noxious thing to be administered to, or taken by, any person, and thereby endangers his life, or does him some grievous bodily harm, is

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years.

**323 Wounding and Similar Acts**

Any person who:

- (1) Unlawfully wounds another; or
- (2) Unlawfully, and with intent to injure or annoy any person, causes any poison or other noxious thing to be administered to, or taken by, any person;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**324 Failure to Supply Necessaries**

Any person who, being charged with the duty of providing for another the necessaries of life, without lawful excuse fails to do so, whereby the life of that other person is or is likely to be endangered or his health is or is likely to be permanently injured, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**325 Endangering Life or Health of Apprentices or Servants**

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Any person who, being charged as a master or mistress with the duty of providing necessary food,

clothing, or lodging, for a servant or apprentice under the age of sixteen years, unlawfully fails to perform that duty, or in any other manner does any bodily harm or causes any bodily harm to be done to such servant or apprentice whereby, in either case, the life of such servant or apprentice is or is likely to be endangered, or his health is or is likely to be permanently injured, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**326            Endangering Life of Children by Exposure**

Any person who unlawfully abandons or exposes a child under the age of two years, whereby the life of such child is or is likely to be endangered, or his health is or is likely to be permanently injured, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**327            Setting Man-traps**

Any person who sets or places any spring-gun, man-trap, or other engine calculated to destroy human life or to inflict grievous bodily harm, or causes any such thing to be set or placed, in any place with the intent that it may kill or inflict grievous bodily harm upon a trespasser or other person coming in contact with it, or sets or places any such thing in any such place and in any such manner that it is likely to cause any such result, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

Any person who knowingly permits any such spring-gun, man-trap, or other engine, which has been set or placed by another person in any such place and in any such manner that it is likely to cause any such result, to continue so set or placed in any place which is then in, or afterwards comes into, his possession or occupation, is deemed to have set and placed the gun, trap, or engine, with the intent aforesaid.

This section does not make it unlawful to set any gin or trap such as is usually set for the purpose of destroying vermin; or to set any spring-gun, man-trap, or engine, at night in a dwelling-house for the protection of the dwelling-house.

**328            Negligent Acts causing Harm**

Any person who unlawfully does any act, or omits to do any act which it is his duty to do, by which act or omission bodily harm is actually caused to any person, is guilty of a

misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

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**329            Endangering Safety of Persons Travelling by Railway**

Any person who by any unlawful act, or by any omission to do any act which it is his duty to do, causes the safety of any person travelling by any railway to be endangered, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

**330            Sending or Taking Unseaworthy Ships to Sea**

Any person who:

- (1) Sends or attempts to send a ship to sea in such an unseaworthy state that the life of any person is likely to be thereby endangered; or

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

- (2) Being a master of a British ship, knowingly takes or attempts to take the ship to sea in such an unseaworthy state that the life of any person is likely to be thereby endangered;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years.

It is a defence to a charge of any of the offences defined in this section to prove that the going of the ship to sea in such unseaworthy state was, under the circumstances, reasonable and justifiable.

It is a defence to a charge of either of the offences firstly defined in this section to show that the accused person used all reasonable means to ensure the ship being sent to sea in a seaworthy state.

**331            Endangering Steamships by Tampering with Machinery**

Any person who, being a person having actual control over a steam vessel, or over any part of the machinery of a steam vessel, does any act or makes any omission or is privy to any act or omission with respect to the machinery of the vessel, whereby, to his knowledge, the safety of any person on board the vessel is, or is likely to be, endangered, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

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**332 The like by Engineers**

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Any person who is engineer, or one of the engineers, in charge of the machinery of a steam vessel at any time when any act is done or omitted to be done by any other person with respect to the machinery of the vessel, whereby the safety of any person on board the vessel is, or is likely to be, endangered, is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of one hundred pounds.

It is a defence to a charge of the offence defined in this section to prove that the act or omission was done or made without the knowledge of the accused person, and without any neglect or default on his part.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**333 Evading Laws as to Equipment of Ships and Shipping Dangerous Goods**

Any person who:

- (1) Being a person having actual control over a vessel on board of which any article has been placed with his knowledge or consent in order to the obtaining of permission or authority to leave a port, removes or allows the removal of such article from the vessel after such permission or authority has been obtained; or
- (2) Knowingly sends by any vessel, or carries in any vessel, any explosive substance, or any acid or other thing of a dangerous or destructive nature, under a false description of the substance or thing, or with a false description of the sender thereof;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**334 Landing Explosives**

Any person who:

- (1) Being charged by law with any duty respecting the ~~landing or delivery of any~~ explosive substance, or of any acid or other thing of a dangerous or destructive nature, from any vessel, fails to perform that duty; or



- (2) Being concerned in the landing of any such substance or thing from any vessel, violates the provisions of the laws relating to such landing;
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is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

This section does not apply to gunpowder the property of Her Majesty while it is under the control of an officer of Her Majesty's army or navy, or ordnance, or of the Defence Force of Queensland.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

### **Chapter XXX – Assaults**

#### **335 Common Assault**

Any person who unlawfully assaults another is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable, if no greater punishment is provided, to imprisonment with hard labour for one year.

#### **336 Assault with Intent to Commit Unnatural Offence**

Any person who assaults another with intent to have carnal knowledge of him or her against the order of nature is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years.

#### **337 Indecent Assault on Males**

Any person who unlawfully and indecently assaults any male person is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

#### **338 Assaults on Persons protecting Wrecks**

Any person who unlawfully assaults and uses actual violence to a justice or any other person while acting in the execution of his duty in or concerning the preservation of a vessel in distress, or of any vessel or goods wrecked, stranded, or cast on shore, or lying under water, is

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guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

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**339 Assaults occasioning Bodily Harm**

Any person who unlawfully assaults another and thereby does him bodily harm is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**340 Serious Assaults**

Any person who:

- (1) Assaults another with intent to commit a crime, or with intent to resist or prevent the lawful arrest or detention of himself or of any other person; or

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

- (2) Assaults, resists, or wilfully obstructs, a police officer while acting in the execution of his duty, or any person acting in aid of a police officer while so acting; or
- (3) Unlawfully assaults, resists, or obstructs, any person engaged in the lawful execution of any process against any property, or in making a lawful distress, while so engaged; or
- (4) Assaults, resists, or obstructs, any person engaged in such lawful execution of process, or in making a lawful distress, with intent to rescue any property lawfully taken under such process or distress; or
- (5) Assaults any person on account of any act done by him in the execution of any duty imposed on him by law; or
- (6) Assaults any person in pursuance of any unlawful conspiracy respecting any manufacture, trade, business, or occupation, or respecting any person or persons concerned or employed in any manufacture, trade, business, or occupation, or the wages of any such person or persons;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

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**341 Jurisdiction of Justices**

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Any person who unlawfully assaults another may, subject to the provisions of this Chapter, be summarily convicted before two justices.

**342 Some Assaults not to be so dealt with**

If the justices find that the assault complained of was accompanied by an attempt to commit a crime, or if for any reason the justices are of opinion that the charge is a fit subject for prosecution by indictment they are required to abstain from dealing with the case summarily.

**343 Common Assaults**

Any person who unlawfully assaults another is liable on summary conviction to a fine of five pounds, inclusive of costs,

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

and in default of payment to imprisonment with hard labour for two months unless the fine and costs are sooner paid, or to imprisonment with hard labour for two months in the first instance.

If the justices are of opinion that the assault was so trifling as not to deserve any punishment, they may convict the defendant, and discharge him without inflicting any punishment.

This section does not authorise justices to deal summarily with a charge of assault on which a question arises as to the title to land, or an estate in land, or to any interest in or accruing from land, or as to any insolvency, or as to the execution of the process of any court of justice.

**344 Aggravated Assaults**

If the person assaulted is a male child whose age does not in the opinion of the justices exceed fourteen years, or is a female, and the justices are of opinion that the assault is of such an aggravated nature that the offender cannot be sufficiently punished under the provisions of the last preceding section, the offender is liable on summary conviction to a fine of twenty pounds, inclusive of costs, and in default of payment to imprisonment for six months unless the fine and costs are ~~sooner paid, or to imprisonment with~~ hard labour for six months in the first instance.

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The justices may also, if they think fit,

require the offender to enter into a recognizance to keep the peace and be of good behaviour for any term not exceeding six months from the expiration of the sentence.

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**345 Effect of Summary Conviction or Dismissal**

When a complaint of an assault has been heard upon the merits before justices, on complaint by or on behalf of the party aggrieved, under either of the two last preceding sections, and they dismiss the complaint, they are required forthwith to make out a certificate of the fact of such dismissal and to give it to the accused person.

Any person who has obtained such a certificate of dismissal, or who has been convicted, and has paid the fine and costs or has endured the punishment adjudged, if any, is released from all further proceedings, civil or criminal, for the same cause.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**346 Assaults in Interference with Freedom of Trade or Work**

Any person who assaults another with intent to binder or prevent him from working at or exercising his lawful trade, business, or occupation, or from buying, selling, or otherwise dealing, with any property intended for sale, is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to imprisonment with hard labour for three months.

***Chapter XXXII – Assaults on Females: Abduction***

**347 Definition of Rape**

Any person who has carnal knowledge of a woman or girl, not his wife, without her consent, or with her consent, if the consent is obtained by force, or by means of threats or intimidation of any kind, or by fear of bodily harm, or by means of false and fraudulent representations as to the nature of the act, or, in the case of a married woman, by personating her husband, is guilty of a crime, which is called rape.

**348 Punishment of Rape**

Any person who commits the crime of rape is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life.

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**349 Attempt to Commit Rape**

Any person who attempts to commit the crime of rape is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years.

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The offender cannot be arrested without warrant.

**350 Indecent Assaults on Females**

Any person who unlawfully and indecently assaults a woman or girl is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**351 Abduction**

Any person who:

- (1) With intent to marry or carnally know a woman, or to cause her to be married or carnally know by any other person, takes her away, or detains her, against her will; or
- (2) From motives of gain, and with any such intent as aforesaid, takes or entices away, or detains, a woman who is under the age of twenty-one years, and who has any interest, whether legal or equitable, present or future, absolute, conditional, or contingent, in any property, or who is a presumptive heiress or co-heiress, or the presumptive next of kin, or one of the presumptive next of kin, to any person who has such an interest, out of the custody or protection of her father or mother, or other person having the lawful care or charge of her, and against the will of such father or mother or other person;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

A person convicted of any of the offences defined in this section, which was committed with respect to a woman who has any such interest in property, or who

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is a presumptive heiress or co-heiress, or the presumptive next of kin, or one of the presumptive next of kin, to any person who has such an interest as aforesaid, is incapable of taking

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any estate or interest, legal or equitable, in any property of such woman, or in which she has any interest, or which comes to her as such heiress, coheiress, or next of kin as aforesaid; and, if he has married the woman, such property is, upon his conviction, to be settled in such manner as the Supreme Court may, upon an information at the suit of a Crown Law Officer, appoint.

**352 Abduction of Girls under Seventeen**

Any person who unlawfully takes an unmarried girl under the age of seventeen years out of the custody or protection of her father or mother, or other person having the lawful care or charge of her, and against the will of such father or mother or other person, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

It is immaterial that the offender believed the girl to be of or above the age of seventeen years.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

It is immaterial that the girl was taken with her own consent or at her own suggestion.

**353 Rule of Evidence**

Upon a charge of any of the offences defined in this Chapter, the wife of the accused person is a competent but not a compellable witness.

***Chapter XXXIII – Offences against Liberty***

**354 Kidnapping**

Any person who forcibly takes or detains another with intent to compel that other person to work for him against his will is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

**355 Deprivation of Liberty**

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Any person who unlawfully confines or detains another in any place against his will, or otherwise unlawfully deprives another of his personal liberty, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**356 False Certificates by Officers Charged**

**with Duties Relating  
to Liberty**

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Any person who:

- (1) Being required by law to give any certificate touching any matter by virtue whereof the liberty of any person may be affected, gives a certificate which, in any material particular, is to his knowledge false; or
- (2) Not being a person authorised by law to give such a certificate as aforesaid, gives such a certificate, and represents himself to be a person authorised to give the same;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**357 Concealment of Matters affecting Liberty**

Any person who:

- (1) Being required by law to keep any record touching any matter relating to any person in confinement, refuses or neglects to keep such record, or makes in such record an entry which, in any material particular, is to his knowledge false; or
- (2) Being required by law to give any information to any person touching any person in confinement, or to show to any person any person in confinement, or any place in which a person is confined:
  - (a) Refuses or neglects to give such information, or to show such person or place, to any person to whom he is so required to give the information or show the person or place; or
  - (b) Gives to any person to whom he is so required to give it, information touching any such matter which, in any material particular, is to his knowledge false;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for three years.

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Any person who detains or assumes the custody of an insane person contrary to the provisions of the laws relating to insane persons is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for two years.

**359 Threats to injure or kill**

- (1) Any person who threatens to kill or to do any injury, or cause any detriment, of any kind to another with intent to prevent or hinder that other person from doing any act which the other person is lawfully entitled to do, or with intent to compel the other person to do any act which the other person is lawfully entitled to abstain from doing, or with intent to cause public alarm or anxiety, commits a crime.

Penalty:

- (a) 5 years imprisonment; or

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

- (b) 10 years imprisonment if the threat includes a threat to kill.

**Chapter XXXIV – Offences relating to Marriage and Parental Rights and Duties**

**360 Bigamy**

Any person who:

- (1) Being married, goes through the form of marriage with any other person during the life of his or her wife or husband; or
- (2) Goes through the form of marriage with any person whom he or she knows to be married;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

It is a defence to a charge of either of the offences defined in this section to prove that at the time of committing the alleged offence the wife or husband of the person already married had been continually absent from him or her for the space of seven years then last past, unless it is shown that the accused person knew that such wife or husband was living within that time.

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**361 Unlawful Celebration of Marriage**

Any person who:



- (1) Celebrates, or attempts or professes to celebrate, the marriage of any person who, to his knowledge, is under the age of twenty-one years, and is not a widower or widow, without the written consent of some person authorised by law to give such consent, or with a written consent which, to his knowledge, is not given by a person authorised by law to give it; or
- (2) Celebrates, or attempts or professes to celebrate, any marriage contrary to the provisions of the laws relating to the solemnization of marriage; or
- (3) Celebrates, or attempts or professes to celebrate, any marriage in any case in which any provision of those laws has not been complied with, knowing that it has not been complied with; or

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

- (4) Induces, or attempts to induce, any person to celebrate the marriage of any person who is to the knowledge of the offender under the age of twenty-one years, and is not a widower or widow, without such consent as aforesaid, or with a consent which, to his knowledge, is not given by a person authorised by law to give it, or to celebrate any marriage contrary to or without compliance with the laws relating to the solemnization of marriage; or
- (5) Marries a person who is, to his or her knowledge, under the age of twenty-one years, and is not a widow or widower, without such consent as aforesaid, or with a consent which, to his or her knowledge, is not given by a person authorised by law to give it;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for three years.

**362 Unqualified Persons procuring Registration as Persons Qualified to Celebrate Marriages**

Any person who, not being a person entitled to be registered under the laws relating to the solemnization of marriage as a person authorized to celebrate marriages, and knowing that he is not such a person, procures his name to be registered as a person so entitled, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for two years, and to a fine of two hundred pounds.

**363 Child-stealing**

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Any person who, with intent to deprive

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any parent, guardian, or other person who has the lawful care or charge, of a child under the age of fourteen years, of the possession of such child, or with intent to steal any article upon or about the person of any such child:

- (1) Forcibly or fraudulently takes or entices away, or detains, the child; or
- (2) Receives or harbours the child, knowing it to have been so taken or enticed away or detained;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

It is a defence to a charge of any of the offences defined in this section to prove that the accused person claimed a right to the

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

possession of the child, or, in the case of an illegitimate child, is its mother or claimed to be its father.

**364      Desertion of Children**

Any person who, being the parent of a child under the age of fourteen years, and being able to maintain such child, wilfully and without lawful or reasonable cause deserts the child and leaves it without means of support, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for one year.

***Chapter XXXV – Defamation***

**365      Definition of ‘Periodical’**

In this Chapter the term ‘*periodical*’ includes any newspaper, review, magazine, or other writing or print, published periodically.

**366      Definition of Defamatory Matter**

Any imputation concerning any person, or any member of his family, whether living or dead, by which the reputation of that person is likely to be injured, or by which he is likely to be injured in his profession or trade, or by which other persons are likely to be induced to shun or avoid or ridicule or despise him, is called defamatory, and the matter of the imputation is called defamatory matter.

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An imputation may be expressed either directly or by insinuation or irony.

**367 Questions of Fact and Law**

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The question whether any matter is or is not defamatory is a question of fact.

The question whether any matter alleged to be defamatory is or is not capable of bearing a defamatory meaning is a question of law.

**368 Definition of Defamation**

Any person who, by spoken words or audible sounds, or by words intended to be read either by sight or touch, or by signs, signals, gestures, or visible representations, publishes any

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

defamatory imputation concerning any person is said to defame that person.

**369 Publication**

Publication is, in the case of spoken words or audible sounds, the speaking of such words or making of such sounds in the presence and hearing of any other person than the person defamed, and, in the case of signs, signals, or gestures, the making of such signs, signals, or gestures, so as to be seen or felt by, or otherwise come to the knowledge of, any person other than the person defamed, and, in the case of other defamatory matter, the exhibiting of it in public, or causing it to be read or seen, or showing or delivering it, or causing it to be shown or delivered, with a view to its being read or seen by any other person than the person defamed.

**370 Publication of Defamatory Matter prima facie Unlawful**

It is unlawful to publish defamatory matter unless such publication is protected, or justified, or excused by law.

**371 Absolute Protection: Privilege of Parliament**

(1) A member of either House of Parliament does not incur any liability as for defamation by the publication of any defamatory matter in the course of a speech made by him in Parliament.

(2) A person who presents a petition to either House of Parliament does not incur any liability as for defamation by the publication to that House of Parliament of any defamatory matter contained in the petition.

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- (3) A person does not incur any liability as for defamation by publishing, by order or under the authority of either House of Parliament, a paper containing defamatory matter.
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**372 Absolute Protection: Privileges of Judges, Witnesses, and Others in Courts of Justice**

A person does not incur any liability as for defamation by publishing, in the course of a proceeding held before or under the authority of any court of justice, or in the course of an inquiry made under the authority of a Statute, or under the authority of Her Majesty, or of the Governor in Council, or of either House of Parliament, any defamatory matter.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**373 Absolute Protection: Reports of Official Inquiries**

A person appointed under the authority of a Statute, or by or under the authority of Her Majesty, or of the Governor in Council, to hold any inquiry, does not incur any liability as for defamation by publishing any defamatory matter in an official report made by him of the result of such inquiry.

**374 Protection: Reports of Matters of Public Interest**

It is lawful:

- (1) To publish in good faith for the information of the public a fair report of the proceedings of either House of Parliament, or of any Committee of either House, or of any joint Committee of both Houses;
  - (2) To publish in good faith for the information of the public a copy of, or an extract from or abstract of, any paper published by order or under the authority of either House of Parliament;
  - (3) To publish in good faith for the information of the public a fair report of the public proceedings of any court of justice, whether such proceedings are preliminary or interlocutory or final, or of the result of any such proceedings, unless, in the case of proceedings which are not final, the publication has been prohibited by the court, or unless the matter published is blasphemous or obscene;
  - (4) To publish in good faith for the information of the public a fair report of the proceedings of any inquiry held under the authority of a Statute, or by or under the authority of Her Majesty,
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or of the Governor in Council, or an extract from or abstract of any such proceedings, or a copy of, or an extract from or abstract of, an official report made by the person by whom the inquiry was held;

- (5) To publish in good faith for the information of the public at the request of any Government Department, officer of State, or police officer, any notice or report issued by such department or officer for the information of the public;
- (6) To publish in good faith for the information of the public a fair report of the proceedings of any local authority, board, or body of trustees or other persons, duly constituted under the provisions of any Statute for the discharge of

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

public functions, so far as the matter published relates to matters of public concern;

- (7) To publish in good faith for the information of the public a fair report of the proceedings of any public meeting, so far as the matter published relates to matters of public concern.

A publication is said to be made in good faith for the information of the public if the person by whom it is made is not actuated in making it by ill-will to the person defamed, or by any other improper motive, and if the manner of the publication is such as is ordinarily and fairly used in the case of the publication of news.

The term '**public meeting**' means and includes any meeting lawfully held for a lawful purpose, and for the furtherance or discussion in good faith of a matter of public concern, or for the advocacy of the candidature of any person for a public office, whether the admission to the meeting was open or restricted.

In the case of a publication of a report of the proceedings of a public meeting in a periodical, it is evidence of want of good faith if the proprietor, publisher, or editor, has been requested by the person defamed to publish in the periodical a reasonable letter or statement by way of contradiction or explanation of the defamatory matter, and has refused or neglected to publish the same.

- (1) To publish a fair comment respecting any of the matters with respect to which the publication of a fair report in good faith for the information of the public is by the last preceding section declared to be lawful;
- (2) To publish a fair comment respecting the public conduct of any person who takes part in public affairs, or respecting the character of any such person, so far as his character appears in that conduct;
- (3) To publish a fair comment respecting the conduct of any public officer or public servant in the discharge of his public functions, or respecting the character of any such person, so far as his character appears in that conduct;

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

- (4) To publish a fair comment respecting the merits of any case, civil or criminal, which has been decided by any court of justice, or respecting the conduct of any person as a judge, party, witness, counsel, solicitor, or officer of the court, in any such case, or respecting the character of any such person, so far as his character appears in that conduct;
- (5) To publish a fair comment respecting any published book or other literary production, or respecting the character of the author, so far as his character appears by such book or production;
- (6) To publish a fair comment respecting any composition or work of art, or performance publicly exhibited, or respecting the character of the author or performer or exhibitor, so far as his character appears from the matter exhibited;
- (7) To publish a fair comment respecting any public entertainment or sports, or respecting the character of any person conducting or taking part therein, so far as his character appears from the matter of the entertainment or sports, or the manner of conducting the same;
- (8) To publish a fair comment respecting any communication made to the public on any subject.

Whether a comment is or is not fair is a question of fact. If it is not fair, and is defamatory, the publication of it is unlawful.

It is lawful to publish defamatory matter if the matter is true, and if it is for the public benefit that the publication complained of should be made.

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**377 Qualified Protection: Excuse**

It is a lawful excuse for the publication of defamatory matter:

- (1) If the publication is made in good faith by a person having over another any lawful authority in the course of a censure passed by him on the conduct of that other in matters to which such lawful authority relates;
- (2) If the publication is made in good faith for the purpose of seeking remedy or redress for some private or public

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

wrong or grievance from a person who has, or whom the person making the publication believes, on reasonable grounds, to have, authority over the person defamed with respect to the subject-matter of such wrong or grievance;

- (3) If the publication is made in good faith for the protection of the interests of the person making the publication, or of some other person, or for the public good;
- (4) If the publication is made in good faith in answer to an inquiry made of the person making the publication relating to some subject as to which the person by whom or on whose behalf the inquiry is made has, or is believed, on reasonable grounds, by the person making the publication to have, an interest in knowing the truth;
- (5) If the publication is made in good faith for the purpose of giving information to the person to whom it is made with respect to some subject as to which that person has, or is believed, on reasonable grounds, by the person making the publication to have, such an interest in knowing the truth as to make his conduct in making the publication reasonable under the circumstances;
- (6) If the publication is made in good faith on the invitation or challenge of the person defamed;
- (7) If the publication is made in good faith in order to answer or refute some other defamatory matter published by the person defamed concerning the person making the ~~publication or some other person;~~

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- (8) If the publication is made in good faith in the course of, or for the purposes of, the discussion of some subject of public

interest, the public discussion of which is for the public benefit, and if, so far as the defamatory matter consists of comment, the comment is fair.

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For the purposes of this section, a publication is said to be made in good faith if the matter published is relevant to the matters the existence of which may excuse the publication in good faith of defamatory matter; if the manner and extent of the publication does not exceed what is reasonably sufficient for the occasion; and if the person by whom it is made is not actuated by ill-will to the person defamed, or by any other improper motive, and does not believe the defamatory matter to be untrue.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**378 Good Faith**

When any question arises whether a publication of defamatory matter was or was not made in good faith, and it appears that the publication was made under circumstances which would afford lawful excuse for the publication if it was made in good faith, the burden of proof of the absence of good faith lies upon the party alleging such absence.

**379 Relevancy and Public Benefit Questions of Fact**

Whether any defamatory matter is or is not relevant to any other matter, and whether the public discussion of any subject is or is not for the public benefit, are questions of fact.

**380 Unlawful Publication of Defamatory Matter**

Any person who unlawfully publishes any defamatory matter concerning another is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for twelve months, and to a fine of three hundred pounds.

If the offender knows the defamatory matter to be false, he is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years, and to a fine of five hundred pounds.

**381 Defamation of Members of Parliament by Strangers**

Any person who, not being a member of either House of Parliament, unlawfully publishes any false or scandalous defamatory matter touching the conduct of any member or members of either House of Parliament as such member or members, is guilty of a misdemeanour,



and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years, and to a fine of five hundred pounds.

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**382      Defence in Case of Defamation by Words, Sounds, Signs, Signals, or Gestures**

In any case other than that of words intended to be read, it is a defence to a prosecution for publishing defamatory matter to prove that the publication was made on an occasion and under circumstances when the person defamed was not likely to be injured thereby.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**383      Publishing or Threatening to Publish Defamatory Matter with Intent to Extort Money**

Any person who publishes, or directly or indirectly threatens to publish, or directly or indirectly proposes to abstain from publishing, or directly or indirectly offers to prevent the publication of, any defamatory matter concerning another, with intent to extort any property from such person or any other person, or with intent to induce any person to give or confer or procure, or to attempt to procure, to, upon, or for, any person any property or benefit of any kind, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**384      Liability of Proprietor, Publisher, and Editor of Periodicals**

Upon a charge against a proprietor, publisher, or editor, of a periodical, of the unlawful publication in the periodical of defamatory matter, it is a defence to prove that the matter complained of was inserted in the periodical without his knowledge and without negligence on his part.

General authority given to the person who actually inserted the defamatory matter to manage or conduct the periodical as editor or otherwise, and to insert therein what in his discretion he thinks fit, is not negligence within the meaning of this section, unless it is proved that the proprietor or publisher or editor, when giving such general authority, meant that it should extend to and authorise the unlawful publication of defamatory matter, or continued such general authority, knowing that it had been exercised by unlawfully publishing defamatory matter in any number or part

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of the periodical.

**385      Protection of Innocent Sellers of Periodicals**

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A person is not criminally responsible as for the unlawful publication of defamatory matter merely by reason of selling any number or part of a periodical containing the defamatory matter, unless he knows that such number or part contains the defamatory matter, or that defamatory matter is habitually or frequently contained in that periodical.

**386 Protection of Innocent Sellers of Books**

A person is not criminally responsible as for the unlawful publication of defamatory matter merely by reason of selling a book, pamphlet, print, or writing, or other thing not forming part of a periodical, although it contains the defamatory matter, if at

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

the time of the sale he does not know that the defamatory matter is contained therein.

**387 Protection of Employers**

An employer is not responsible as for the unlawful publication of defamatory matter merely by reason of the sale by his servant of a book, pamphlet, print, writing, or other thing, whether a periodical or not, containing the defamatory matter, unless it is proved that he authorised the sale, knowing that the book, pamphlet, print, writing, or other thing, contained the defamatory matter, or, in the case of a number or part of a periodical, that defamatory matter was habitually or frequently contained in that periodical.

**388 Prosecution of Newspapers to be by sanction of a Judge after Notice**

A criminal prosecution cannot be begun before justices against the proprietor, or publisher, or editor, or any person responsible for the publication, of any periodical, for the unlawful publication of any defamatory matter contained therein, without the order of the Supreme Court or a Judge thereof, made after notice to the person accused, and after that person has had an opportunity of being heard in opposition to the application for the order.

**389 Summary Jurisdiction in Trivial Cases of Defamation**

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If, on the hearing before a justice of a charge of the unlawful publication of defamatory matter, the justice is of opinion that a case has been made out against the accused person but that the case is of a trivial nature, he may ask him whether he desires to be tried by a jury, or consents to the charge being dealt with summarily: And if the accused person consents to

the charge being dealt with summarily, he may be summarily convicted before two justices, and is liable on such conviction to a fine of fifty pounds.

As in force from 3 December 2011

## PART VI – OFFENCES RELATING TO PROPERTY AND CONTRACTS

### Division I – Stealing and Like Offences

#### Chapter XXXVI – Stealing

#### 390 Things capable of being Stolen

Every inanimate thing whatever which is the property of any person, and which is moveable, is capable of being stolen.

Every inanimate thing which is the property of any person, and which is capable of being made moveable, is capable of being stolen as soon as it becomes moveable, although it is made moveable in order to steal it.

Every tame animal, whether tame by nature or wild by nature and tamed, which is the property of any person, is capable of being stolen: But tame pigeons are not capable of being stolen except while they are in a pigeon-house or on their owner's land.

Animals wild by nature, of a kind which is not ordinarily found in a condition of natural liberty in Queensland, which are the property of any person, and which are usually kept in a state of confinement, are capable of being stolen, whether they are actually in confinement or have escaped from confinement.

Animals wild by nature, of a kind which is ordinarily found in a condition of natural liberty in Queensland, which are the property of any person, are capable of being stolen while they are in confinement and while they are being actually pursued after escaping from confinement, but not at any other time.

An animal wild by nature is deemed to be in a state of confinement so long as it is in a den, cage, sty, tank, or other small enclosure, or is otherwise so placed that it cannot escape and that its owner can take possession of it at pleasure.

The term '*animal*' includes any living creature other than mankind.

Oysters and oyster brood are capable of being stolen while in oyster beds, layings, or fisheries, which are the property of any person, and which are sufficiently marked out, or are known by general repute as his property.

Wild animals in the enjoyment of their natural liberty are not capable of being stolen, but their dead bodies are capable of being stolen.

Everything produced by or forming part of the body of an animal capable of being stolen is capable of being stolen.

**391 Definition of Stealing**

- (1) A person who fraudulently takes anything capable of being stolen, or fraudulently converts to his own use or to the use of any other person anything capable of being stolen, is said to steal that thing.
- (2) A person who takes or converts anything capable of being stolen is deemed to do so fraudulently if he does so with any of the following intents, that is to say:
  - (a) An intent to permanently deprive the owner of the thing of it;
  - (b) An intent to permanently deprive any person who has any special property in the thing of such property;
  - (c) An intent to use the thing as a pledge or security;
  - (d) An intent to part with it on a condition as to its return which the person taking or converting it may be unable to perform;
  - (e) An intent to deal with it in such a manner that it cannot be returned in the condition in which it was at the time of the taking or conversion;
  - (f) In the case of money, an intent to use it at the will of the person who takes or converts it, although he may intend to afterwards repay the amount to the owner.

The term '**special property**' includes any charge or lien upon the thing in question, and any right arising from or dependent upon holding possession of the thing in question, whether by the person entitled to such right or by some other person for his benefit.

- (3) The taking or conversion may be fraudulent, although it is effected without secrecy or attempt at concealment.

- (4) In the case of conversion, it is immaterial whether the thing converted is taken for the purpose of conversion, or whether it is at the time of the conversion in the possession of the person who converts it. It is also immaterial that the person who converts the property is the holder of a power of attorney for the disposition of it, or is otherwise authorised to dispose of the property.
- (5) When a thing converted has been lost by the owner and found by the person who converts it, the conversion is not deemed to be fraudulent if at the time of the conversion the person taking or converting the thing does not know who is the owner, and believes, on reasonable grounds, that the owner cannot be discovered.
- (6) The act of stealing is not complete until the person taking or converting the thing actually moves it or otherwise actually deals with it by some physical act.

**392 Special Cases**

- (1) When a wild animal in the enjoyment of its natural liberty has been killed by any person, the taking of the dead body of the animal by that person, or by any person acting under his orders, before it has been reduced into actual possession by the owner of the land on which the animal was killed or on which it died, is not deemed to be stealing.
- (2) When a factor or agent pledges or gives a lien on any goods or document of title to goods entrusted to him for the purpose of sale or otherwise for any sum of money not greater than the amount due to him from his principal at the time of pledging or giving the lien, together with the amount of any bill of exchange or promissory note accepted or made by him for or on account of his principal, such dealing with the goods or document of title is not deemed to be stealing.
- (3) When a servant, contrary to his master's orders, takes from his possession any food in order that it may be given to an animal belonging to or in the possession of his master, such taking is not deemed to be stealing.

**393 Funds, &c., held under Direction**

When a person receives, either alone or jointly with another person, any money or valuable security, or a power of attorney for the sale, mortgage, pledge, or other disposition, of any property, whether capable of being stolen or not, with a direction

in either case that such money or any part thereof, or any other money received in exchange for it, or any part thereof, or the proceeds or any part of the proceeds of such security, or of such mortgage, pledge, or other disposition, shall be applied to any purpose or paid to any person specified in the direction, such money and proceeds are deemed to be the property of the person from whom the money, security, or power of attorney, was received until the direction has been complied with:

Provided that if the person receiving the money, security, or power of attorney, and the person from whom he receives it ordinarily deal with each other on such terms that in the absence of any special direction all money paid to the former on account of the latter would be properly treated as an item in a debtor and creditor account between them, the former cannot be charged with stealing the money or any such proceeds unless the direction is in writing.

**394 Funds, &c., received by Agents for Sale**

When a person receives, either alone or jointly with another person, any property from another on terms authorising or requiring him to sell it or otherwise dispose of it, and requiring him to pay or account for the proceeds of the property, or any part of such proceeds, or to deliver anything received in exchange for the property, to the person from whom it is received, or some other person, then the proceeds of the property, and anything so received in exchange for it, are deemed to be the property of the person from whom the property was so received, until they have been disposed of in accordance with the terms on which the property was received, unless it is a part of those terms that the proceeds, if any, shall form an item in a debtor and creditor account between him and the person to whom he is to pay them or account for them, and that the relation of debtor and creditor only shall exist between them in respect thereof.

**395 Money received for Another**

When a person receives, either alone or jointly with another person, any money on behalf of another, the money is deemed to be the property of the person on whose behalf it is received, unless the money is received on the terms that it shall form an item in a debtor and creditor account, and that the relation of debtor and creditor only shall exist between the parties in respect of it.

**396 Stealing by Persons having an Interest in the thing Stolen**

When any person takes or converts anything capable of being stolen, under such circumstances as would otherwise amount to stealing, it is immaterial that he himself has a special property or interest therein, or that he himself is the owner of the thing taken or converted subject to some special property or interest of some other person therein; or that he is lessee of the thing, or that he himself is one of two or more joint owners of the thing; or that he is a director or officer of a corporation or company or society who are the owners of it.

**397 Husband and Wife**

A person who, while a man and his wife are living together, procures either of them to deal with anything which is, to his knowledge, the property of the other in a manner which would be stealing if they were not married, is deemed to have stolen the thing, and may be charged with stealing it.

**398 Punishment of Stealing**

Any person who steals anything capable of being stolen is guilty of a crime, and is liable, if no other punishment is provided, to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

PUNISHMENT IN SPECIAL CASES

Stealing Wills

- I. If the thing stolen is a testamentary instrument, whether the testator is living or dead, the offender is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life.

Stealing things sent by Post

- II. If the thing stolen is anything in course of transmission by post, the offender is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life.

Stealing Cattle

- III. If the thing stolen is any of the things following, that is to say, A horse, mare, gelding, ass, mule, camel, bull, cow, ox, ram, ewe, or wether, or the young of any such animal, the offender is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.



Stealing from the Person; Stealing Goods in Transit, &c

IV. If the offence is committed under any of the circumstances following, that is to say:

- (1) If the thing is stolen from the person of another;
- (2) If the thing is stolen in a dwelling-house, and its value exceeds five pounds, or the offender at or immediately before or after the time of stealing uses or threatens to use violence to any person in the dwelling-house;
- (3) If the thing is stolen from any kind of vessel or vehicle or place of deposit used for the conveyance or custody of goods in transit from one place to another;
- (4) If the thing is stolen from a vessel which is in distress or wrecked or stranded;
- (5) If the thing is stolen from a public office in which it is deposited or kept;
- (6) If the offender, in order to commit the offence, opens any locked room, box, or other receptacle, by means of a key or other instrument;

the offender is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

Stealing by Persons in the Public Service

V. If the offender is a person employed in the Public Service, and the thing stolen is the property of Her Majesty, or came into the possession of the offender by virtue of his employment, he is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

Stealing by Clerks and Servants

VI. If the offender is a clerk or servant, and the thing stolen is the property of his employer, or came into the possession of the offender on account of his employer, he is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

Stealing by Directors or Officers of Companies

VII. If the offender is a director or officer of a corporation or company, and the thing stolen is the property of the

corporation or company, he is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

*Stealing by Agents, &c*

VIII. If the thing stolen is any of the things following, that is to say:

- (a) Property which has been received by the offender with a power of attorney for the disposition thereof;
- (b) Money received by the offender with a direction that the same should be applied to any purpose or paid to any person specified in the direction;
- (c) The whole or part of the proceeds of any valuable security which has been received by the offender with a direction that the proceeds thereof should be applied to any purpose or paid to any person specified in the direction;
- (d) The whole or part of the proceeds arising from any disposition of any property which have been received by the offender by virtue of a power of attorney for such disposition, such power of attorney having been received by the offender with a direction that such proceeds should be applied to any purpose or paid to any person specified in the direction;

the offender is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

*Stealing Property of Value of £500*

IX. If the thing stolen is of the value of five hundred pounds or upwards, the offender is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

*Stealing by Tenants or Lodgers*

X. If the thing stolen is a fixture or chattel let to the offender to be used by him with a house or lodging, and its value exceeds five pounds, he is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

*Stealing after Previous Conviction*

XI. If the offender, before committing the offence, had been convicted upon indictment of any of the indictable offences

defined in this Division of this Part of this Code, or had been twice previously summarily convicted of an offence punishable on summary conviction under this Division of this Part of this Code, whether each of the convictions was in respect of an offence of the same character or not, he is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

**Chapter XXXVII – Offences Analogous to Stealing**

**399 Concealing Registers**

Any person who, with intent to defraud, conceals or takes from its place of deposit any register which is authorised or required by law to be kept for authenticating or recording the title to any property, or for recording births, baptisms, marriages, deaths, or burials, or a copy of any part of any such register which is required by law to be sent to any public officer, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years.

**400 Concealing Wills**

Any person who, with intent to defraud, conceals any testamentary instrument, whether the testator is living or dead, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years.

**401 Concealing Deeds**

Any person who, with intent to defraud, conceals the whole or part of any document which is evidence of title to any land or estate in land is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**402 Killing Animals with Intent to Steal**

Any person who kills any animal capable of being stolen with intent to steal the skin or carcass, or any part of the skin or carcass, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to the same punishment as if he had stolen the animal.

**403 Severing with Intent to Steal**

Any person who makes anything moveable with intent to steal it is guilty of a crime, and is liable to the same punishment as if he had stolen the thing after it became moveable.

**404 Using Registered Brands with Criminal Intention**

Any person who, with intent to facilitate the commission of a crime, brands or marks any animal with a registered brand or registered mark without the permission of the owner of the brand or mark is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**405 Fraudulently Dealing with Minerals in Mines**

Any person who takes, conceals, or otherwise disposes of, any ore of any metal or mineral in or about a mine, with intent to defraud any person, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

**406 Bringing Stolen Goods into Queensland**

Any person who, having at any place not in Queensland obtained any property by any act which if it had been done in Queensland would have constituted the crime of stealing, and which is an offence under the laws in force in the place where it was done, brings such property into Queensland, or has it in his possession in Queensland, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to the same punishment as if he had stolen it in Queensland; but so that the punishment does not exceed that which would be incurred for the same act under the laws in force in the place where the act by which he obtained the property was done.

**407 Fraudulent Disposition of Mortgaged Goods**

Any person who, being the mortgagor of mortgaged goods, removes or disposes of the goods without the consent of the mortgagee, and with intent to defraud, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

The term '**mortgaged goods**' includes any goods and chattels of any kind, and any live animals, and any progeny of any animals, and any crops or produce of the earth, whether growing or severed, which are subject for the time being to the provisions of any written instrument by which a valid charge or lien is created upon them by way of security for any debt or obligation.

The consent of the mortgagee may be either express or implied from the nature of the property mortgaged.

**408      Fraudulent Appropriation of Power**

Any person who fraudulently abstracts or diverts to his own use or to the use of any other person any mechanical, illuminating, or electrical, power derived from any machine, apparatus, or substance, the property of another person, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

***Chapter XXXVIII – Stealing with Violence: Extortion by Threats***

**409      Definition of Robbery**

Any person who steals anything, and, at or immediately before or immediately after the time of stealing it, uses or threatens to use actual violence to any person or property in order to obtain the thing stolen or to prevent or overcome resistance to its being stolen, is said to be guilty of robbery.

**410      Loaded Arms**

Any arm which is loaded in the barrel or chamber with any explosive substance, and with any solid substance capable of being projected, is deemed to be loaded arms, although an attempt to discharge the same may fail from want of proper appliances or from any other cause.

**411      Punishment of Robbery**

Any person who commits the crime of robbery is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years.

If the offender is armed with any dangerous or offensive weapon or instrument, or is in company with one or more other person or persons, or if, at or immediately before or immediately after the time of the robbery, he wounds or uses any other personal violence to any person, he is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life, with or without solitary confinement.

**412      Attempted Robbery: Accompanied by Wounding, or in Company**

Any person who assaults any person with intent to steal anything, and, at or immediately before or immediately after the time of the assault, uses or threatens to use actual violence to any person or property in order to obtain the thing intended to be stolen, or to prevent or overcome resistance to its being

stolen, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

If the offender is armed with any dangerous or offensive weapon or instrument, or is in company with one or more other person or persons, he is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years, with or without solitary confinement.

If the offender is armed with any kind of loaded arms, and at or immediately before or immediately after the time of the assault he wounds any person by discharging the loaded arms, he is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life, with or without solitary confinement.

**413 Assault with Intent to Steal**

Any person who assaults any person with intent to steal anything is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**414 Demanding Property with Menaces with Intent to Steal**

Any person who, with intent to steal anything, demands it from any person with threats of any injury or detriment of any kind to be caused to him, either by the offender or by any other person, if the demand is not complied with, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**415 Demanding Property by Written Threats**

Any person who, with intent to extort or gain anything from any person, and knowing the contents of the writing, causes any person to receive any writing demanding anything from any person without reasonable or probable cause, and containing threats of any injury or detriment of any kind to be caused to any person, either by the offender or any other person, if the demand is not complied with, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years.

**416 Attempts at Extortion by Threats**

Any person who, with intent to extort or gain anything from any person:

- (1) Accuses or threatens to accuse any person of committing any indictable offence, or of offering or making any solicitation or threat to any person as an inducement to

commit or permit the commission of any indictable offence; or

- (2) Threatens that any person shall be accused by any other person of any indictable offence or of any such act; or
- (3) Knowing the contents of the writing, causes any person to receive any writing containing any such accusation or threat as aforesaid;

is guilty of a crime.

If the accusation or threat of accusation is of:

- (a) An offence for which the punishment of death or imprisonment for life may be inflicted; or
- (b) Any of the offences defined in Chapter XXII, or an attempt to commit any of such offences; or
- (c) An assault with intent to have carnal knowledge of any person against the order of nature, or an unlawful and indecent assault upon a male person; or
- (d) An attempt to commit the crime of rape, or an assault with intent to commit the crime of rape, or an unlawful and indecent assault upon a woman or girl; or
- (e) A solicitation or threat offered or made to any person as an inducement to commit or permit the commission of any of the offences aforesaid;

the offender is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years, with or without solitary confinement.

In any other case the offender is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

It is immaterial whether the person accused or threatened to be accused has or has not committed the offence or act of which he is accused or threatened to be accused.

**417 Procuring Execution of Deeds, &c., by Threats**

Any person who, with intent to defraud, and by means of any unlawful violence to, or restraint of, the person of another, or by means of any threat of violence or restraint to be used to the person of another, or by means of accusing or threatening to

accuse any person of committing any indictable offence, or of offering or making any solicitation or threat to any person as an inducement to commit or permit the commission of any indictable offence, compels or induces any person:

- (a) To execute, make, accept, indorse, alter, or destroy, the whole or any part of any valuable security; or
- (b) To write, impress, or affix, any name or seal upon or to any paper or parchment, in order that it may be afterwards made or converted into or used or dealt with as a valuable security;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years, with or without solitary confinement.

### **Chapter XXXIX – Burglary : Housebreaking : and Like Offences**

#### **418 Definitions**

A person who breaks any part, whether external or internal, of a building, or opens, by unlocking, pulling, pushing, lifting, or any other means whatever, any door, window, shutter, cellar, flap, or other thing, intended to close or cover an opening in a building, or an opening giving passage from one part of a building to another, is said to break the building.

A person is said to enter a building as soon as any part of his body or any part of any instrument used by him is within the building.

A person who obtains entrance into a building by means of any threat or artifice used for that purpose, or by collusion with any person in the building, or who enters any chimney or other aperture of the building permanently left open for any necessary purpose, but not intended to be ordinarily used as a means of entrance, is deemed to have broken and entered the building.

#### **419 Housebreaking : Burglary**

Any person who:

- (1) Breaks and enters the dwelling-house of another with intent to commit a crime therein; or
- (2) Having entered the dwelling-house of another with intent to commit a crime therein, or having committed a crime in



the dwelling-house of another, breaks out of the dwelling-house;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years.

If the offence is committed in the night, the offender is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life.

**420 Entering Dwelling-house with Intent to Commit Crime**

Any person who enters or is in the dwelling-house of another with intent to commit a crime therein, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

If the offence is committed in the night, the offender is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years.

**421 Breaking into Buildings and Committing Crime**

Any person who:

- (1) Breaks and enters a schoolhouse, shop, warehouse, or counting-house, or a building which is adjacent to a dwelling-house and occupied with it but is not part of it, and commits a crime therein; or
- (2) Having committed a crime in a schoolhouse, shop, warehouse, or counting-house, or in any such other building as last mentioned, breaks out of the building;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years.

**422 Breaking into Buildings with Intent to Commit Crime**

Any person who breaks and enters a schoolhouse, shop, warehouse, or counting-house, or a building which is adjacent to a dwelling-house and occupied with it but is not part of it, with intent to commit a crime therein, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

**423 Breaking into Place of Worship and Committing Crime**

Any person who breaks and enters a building ordinarily used for religious worship and commits a crime therein, or having committed a crime in any such building breaks out of it, is guilty

of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years.

**424 Breaking into Place of Worship with Intent to Commit a Crime**

Any person who breaks and enters a building ordinarily used for religious worship, with intent to commit a crime therein, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

**424A Persons found in Dwelling-house, etc., without Lawful Excuse**

A person who, without lawful excuse (proof of which lies upon him) is in or upon, or in or at a place adjacent to:

- (a) a dwelling-house, shop, office, factory, garage, out-house or other building;
- (b) an enclosed yard, garden or other area;
- (c) a ship or other vessel; or
- (d) an area in which mining operations are being carried on,

is guilty of a misdemeanour and is liable, on summary conviction, to imprisonment with hard labour for one year.

**425 Persons found Armed, &c., with Intent to Commit Crime**

Any person who is found under any of the circumstances following, that is to say:

- (a) Being armed with any dangerous or offensive weapon or instrument, and being so armed with intent to break or enter a dwelling-house, and to commit a crime therein;
- (b) Being armed as aforesaid by night, and being so armed with intent to break or enter any building whatever, and to commit a crime therein;
- (c) Having in his possession by night without lawful excuse, the proof of which lies on him, any instrument of house breaking;

- (d) Having in his possession by day any such instrument with intent to commit a crime;
- (e) Having his face masked or blackened or being otherwise disguised, with intent to commit a crime; or
- (f) Being in any building whatever by night with intent to commit a crime therein;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

If the offender has been previously convicted of a crime relating to property, he is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

#### ***Chapter XL – Obtaining Property by False Pretences: Cheating***

##### **426 Definition**

Any representation made by words or otherwise of a matter of fact, either past or present, which representation is false in fact, and which the person making it knows to be false or does not believe to be true, is a false pretence.

##### **427 Obtaining Goods by False Pretences**

Any person who by any false pretence, and with intent to defraud, obtains from any other person any thing capable of being stolen, or induces any other person to deliver to any person any thing capable of being stolen, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years, with or without solitary confinement.

If the thing is of the value of five hundred pounds or upwards, he is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years, with or without solitary confinement.

It is immaterial that the thing is obtained or its delivery is induced through the medium of a contract induced by the false pretence.

The offender cannot be arrested without warrant unless found committing the offence.

**428      Obtaining Execution of a Security by False Pretences**

Any person who by any false pretence, and with intent to defraud, induces any person to execute, make, accept, indorse, alter, or destroy, the whole or any part of any valuable security, or to write, impress, or affix, any name or seal upon or to any paper or parchment, in order that it may be afterwards made or converted into or used or dealt with as a valuable security, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years, with or without solitary confinement.

The offender cannot be arrested without warrant unless found committing the offence.

**429      Cheating**

Any person who by means of any fraudulent trick or device obtains from any other person anything capable of being stolen, or induces any other person to deliver to any person anything capable of being stolen, or to pay or deliver to any person any money or goods, or any greater sum of money or greater quantity of goods than he would have paid or delivered but for such trick or device, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

A person found committing the offence may be arrested without warrant.

**430      Conspiracy to Defraud**

Any person who conspires with another by deceit or any fraudulent means to affect the market price of anything publicly sold, or to defraud the public, or any person, whether a particular person or not, or to extort any property from any person, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

The offender cannot be arrested without warrant.

**431 Frauds on Sale or Mortgage of Property**

Any person who, being a seller or mortgagor of any property, or being the solicitor or agent of any such seller or mortgagor, with intent to induce the purchaser or mortgagee to accept the title offered or produced to him, and with intent to defraud:

- (1) Conceals from the purchaser or mortgagee any instrument material to the title, or any incumbrance; or
- (2) Falsifies any pedigree on which the title depends or may depend;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

**432 Pretending to Exercise Witchcraft or Tell Fortunes**

Any person who pretends to exercise or use any kind of witchcraft, sorcery, enchantment, or conjuration, or undertakes to tell fortunes, or pretends from his skill or knowledge in any occult science to discover where or in what manner anything supposed to have been stolen or lost may be found, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for one year.

***Chapter XLI – Receiving Property Stolen or Fraudulently Obtained and Like Offences***

**433 Receiving Stolen Property, &c**

Any person who receives anything which has been obtained by means of any act constituting an indictable offence, or by means of any act done at a place not in Queensland which if it had been done in Queensland would have constituted an indictable offence, and which is an offence under the laws in force in the place where it was done, knowing the same to have been so obtained, is guilty of a crime.

If the offence by means of which the thing was obtained is a crime, the offender is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years.

In any other case the offender is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

For the purpose of proving the receiving of anything it is sufficient to show that the accused person has, either alone or jointly with some other person, had the thing in his possession, or has aided in concealing it or disposing of it.

**434 Receiving after Change of Ownership**

When a thing has been obtained by means of any act constituting an indictable offence, or by means of an act done at a place not in Queensland which if it had been done in Queensland would have constituted an indictable offence, and which is an offence under the laws in force in the place where it was done, and another person has acquired a lawful title to it, a subsequent receiving of the thing is not an offence although the receiver knows that the thing had previously been so obtained.

**435 Taking Reward for Recovery of Property obtained by means of Indictable Offences**

Any person who corruptly receives or obtains, or corruptly agrees to receive or obtain, any property or benefit of any kind upon an agreement or understanding that he will help any person to recover anything which has been obtained by means of any act constituting an indictable offence, or by means of any act done at a place not in Queensland which if it had been done in Queensland would have constituted an indictable offence, and which is an offence under the laws in force in the place where it was done, is, unless he has used all due diligence to cause the offender to be brought to trial for the offence, guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

***Chapter XLII – Frauds by Trustees and Officers of Companies and Corporations: False Accounting.***

**436 Trustees Fraudulently Disposing of Trust Property**

Any person who, being a trustee of any property, destroys the property with intent to defraud, or with intent to defraud converts the property to any use not authorised by the trust, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years, with or without solitary confinement.

The offender cannot be arrested without warrant.

If civil proceedings have been taken against a trustee in respect of any act done by him which is an offence under the provisions

of this section, he cannot be afterwards prosecuted for the same cause, as for an offence, on the complaint of the person by whom the civil proceedings were taken, without the sanction of the court or judge before whom the civil proceedings were had or are pending.

For the purposes of this section the term '**Trustee**' includes the following persons and no others, that is to say:

Trustees upon express trusts created by a deed, will, or instrument in writing, whether for a public or private or charitable purpose;

Trustees appointed by or under the authority of a Statute for any such purpose;

Persons upon whom the duties of any such trust as aforesaid devolve;

Executors and administrators;

Liquidators, trustees, and other like officers, acting under any law relating to joint stock companies or to insolvent debtors, by whomsoever appointed or elected.

**437 Directors and Officers of Corporations or Companies  
Fraudulently Appropriating Property, or Keeping Fraudulent  
Accounts, or Falsifying Books or Accounts**

Any person who:

- (1) Being a director or officer of a corporation or company, receives or possesses himself as such of any of the property of the corporation or company otherwise than in payment of a just debt or demand, and, with intent to defraud, omits either to make a full and true entry thereof in the books and accounts of the corporation or company, or to cause or direct such an entry to be made therein; or
- (2) Being a director, officer, or member, of a corporation or company, does any of the following acts with intent to defraud, that is to say:
  - (a) Destroys, alters, mutilates, or falsifies, any book, document, valuable security, or account, which belongs to the corporation or company, or any entry in any such book, document, or account, or is privy to any such act; or

- (b) Makes or is privy to making any false entry in any such book, document, or account; or
- (c) Omits or is privy to omitting any material particular from any such book, document, or account;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years, with or without solitary confinement.

The offender cannot be arrested without warrant.

**438 False Statements by Officials of Companies**

Any person who, being a promoter, director, officer, or auditor of a corporation or company, either existing or intended to be formed, makes, circulates, or publishes, or concurs in making, circulating, or publishing, any written statement or account which, in any material particular, is to his knowledge false, with intent thereby to effect any of the purposes following, that is to say:

- (a) To deceive or defraud any member, shareholder, or creditor, of the corporation or company, whether a particular person or not;
- (b) To induce any person, whether a particular person or not, to become a member of, or to intrust or advance any property to, the corporation or company, or to enter into any security for the benefit thereof;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years, with or without solitary confinement.

The offender cannot be arrested without warrant.

**439 Defence**

It is a defence to a charge of any of the offences hereinbefore in this Chapter defined to prove that the accused person, before being charged with the offence, and in consequence of the compulsory process of a court of justice in an action or proceeding instituted in good faith by a party aggrieved, or in a compulsory examination or deposition before a court of justice, disclosed on oath the act alleged to constitute the offence.

A person is not entitled to refuse to answer any question or interrogatory in any civil proceeding in any court, on the ground



that his doing so might tend to show that he had committed any such offence.

**440 Misappropriation by Members of Local Authorities**

Any person who, being a member of a Local Authority:

- (1) Advisedly applies any money forming part of any fund under the control of the Local Authority to any purpose to which, to his knowledge, it cannot lawfully be applied; or
- (2) Advisedly concurs in any such application of any such money;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

The term '**Local Authority**' includes any corporation or board constituted or appointed under the authority of a Statute, and charged with the administration of moneys for any purposes of local concern.

A prosecution for either of the offences defined in this section cannot be begun except by the direction of a Crown Law Officer.

**441 Fraudulent False Accounting**

Any person who, being a clerk or servant, or being employed or acting in the capacity of a clerk or servant, does any of the acts following with intent to defraud, that is to say:

- (a) Destroys, alters, mutilates, or falsifies, any book, document, valuable security, or account, which belongs to or is in the possession of his employer, or has been received by him on account of his employer, or any entry in any such book, document, or account, or is privy to any such act; or
- (b) Makes or is privy to making any false entry in any such book, document, or account; or
- (c) Omits or is privy to omitting any material particular from any such book, document, or account;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

**442 False Accounting by Public Officer**

Any person who, being an officer charged with the receipt, custody, or management of any part of the public revenue or property, knowingly furnishes any false statement or return of any money or property received by him or entrusted to his care, or of any balance of money or property in his possession or under his control, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

**Chapter XLIII – Summary Conviction for Stealing and Like Indictable Offences**

**443 Indictable Offences which may be dealt with Summarily**

When a person is charged before two justices with any of the indictable offences following, that is to say:

- (a) Stealing anything of such a kind and under such circumstances that the greatest punishment to which an offender convicted of the offence is liable does not exceed imprisonment for three years with hard labour;
- (b) Killing, with intent to steal the skin or carcass or any part of the skin or carcass, any animal of such a kind that the greatest punishment to which an offender convicted of the offence of stealing the animal is liable does not exceed imprisonment for three years with hard labour;
- (c) Stealing anything from the person of another;
- (d) Stealing by a clerk or servant of anything which is the property of his employer, or which came into his possession on account of his employer;
- (e) Making anything moveable with intent to steal it, without circumstances of aggravation;
- (f) Obtaining or procuring the delivery of anything by a false pretence with intent to defraud;
- (g) Obtaining by means of a fraudulent trick or device anything capable of being stolen, or inducing, by means of any such trick or device, the delivery or payment of any money or goods or other thing capable of being stolen;
- (h) Attempting to commit any of the offences aforesaid;

- (i) Receiving anything which has been obtained by means of a crime or misdemeanour of such a nature, or committed under such circumstances, that the offender who committed the crime or misdemeanour might be summarily convicted under the provisions of this section;
- (j) Counselling or procuring the commission of any of the offences aforesaid;

then, if the age of the accused person at the time of the alleged commission of the offence was in the opinion of the justices greater than twelve years, and if:

- (1) The value of the property in question does not exceed five pounds; or
- (2) The age of the accused person at the time of the alleged commission of the offence did not in the opinion of the justices exceed sixteen years; or
- (3) The accused person admits that he is guilty of the offence, and it appears to the justices that the nature of the offence is such, whatever may be the value of the property in question, that the offender may be adequately punished upon summary conviction;

the justices may deal with the charge summarily.

The offender is liable on such summary conviction to imprisonment with hard labour for six months, or to a fine of twenty-five pounds.

#### **444 Procedure**

Before the accused person is asked to show cause why he should not be convicted, the justices are required to explain to him that he is entitled to be tried by a jury, and is not obliged to make any defence before them, and to ask him whether he objects to the charge being dealt with summarily.

If the accused person, or, in a case where the age of the accused person at the time of the alleged commission of the offence did not, in the opinion of the justices, exceed sixteen years, his parent or guardian, does not object to the justices dealing with the charge summarily, the justices are required to reduce the charge to writing and to read it to the accused person, and then to ask him whether he is guilty or not guilty of the offence; and if he says that he is guilty they are to convict

him of the offence, but if he says that he is not guilty they are required to hear his defence, and then deal with the charge summarily.

If the justices find that the charge is proved, they may, whether they impose any punishment or not, order the offender to make restitution of the property, if any, in respect of which the offence was committed, to the owner thereof; and if the property is not at once restored, they may order the offender to pay the amount of its value, to be assessed by them, to the owner, either in one sum or by such instalments, and at such times, as they think fit.

- (1) If the age of the accused person at the time of the alleged commission of the offence did not in the opinion of the justices exceed sixteen years, and his parent or guardian objects to the charge being dealt with summarily; or
- (2) If the age of the accused person at that time in their opinion exceeded sixteen years, and it appears that, by reason of his having been previously convicted of some offence on indictment, he is liable, on conviction of the offence charged, to imprisonment for a term of more than three years; or
- (3) If for any reason the justices are of opinion that the charge is a fit subject for prosecution by indictment;

the justices are required to abstain from dealing with the case summarily.

#### ***Chapter XLIV – Offences Analogous to Stealing Punishable on Summary Conviction***

##### **445 Unlawfully using Cattle**

Any person who unlawfully uses a horse, mare, gelding, ass, mule, camel, bull, cow, ox, ram, ewe, wether, goat, or pig, or the young of any such animal, without the consent of the owner, or of the person in lawful possession thereof, is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to imprisonment with hard labour for one year, or to a fine of twenty pounds for every animal so used.

##### **446 Suspicion of Stealing Cattle**

When any horse, mare, gelding, ass, mule, camel, bull, cow, ox, ram, ewe, wether, goat, or pig, or the young of any such animal,

is suspected, on reasonable grounds, to have been stolen, any person in whose possession or custody the skin or carcass, or any part of the skin or carcass, of the animal so suspected to have been stolen, is found, is guilty of an offence, unless he proves that he came lawfully by the thing in question; and he is liable on summary conviction to a fine of fifty pounds.

It is a defence to a charge of the offence defined in this section to prove that the accused person came lawfully by the thing in question.

**447      Illegal Branding**

Any person who, knowing that he is not the owner of an animal, brands or marks it, or knowingly permits it to be branded or marked, with his registered brand or his registered mark, is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of fifty pounds.

**448      Defacing Brands**

Any person who:

- (1) Alters, defaces, or otherwise renders undistinguishable, any registered brand or registered brand or registered mark upon an animal; or
- (2) Knowingly permits any such act to be done by any person over whom he has control;

is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of twenty pounds for every animal with respect to which the act is done.

**449      Time for Prosecution**

A prosecution for any of the offences defined in the two last preceding sections may be began within six months after the offence is committed, or within one month after the discovery of the offence, whichever is the later period.

**450      Committal for Trial**

If the justices before whom any person is brought, charged with any of the offences hereinbefore in this Chapter defined, are of opinion that there ought to be a prosecution for an indictable offence, they may abstain from dealing with the case summarily,

and commit the defendant to take his trial for the indictable offence.

**451 Unlawful Possession of Shipwrecked Goods**

Any person in whose possession or on whose premises any thing which belongs to a vessel in distress, or wrecked, or stranded, is found, and which is suspected, on reasonable grounds, to have been unlawfully taken from the vessel, is guilty of an offence unless he proves that he came lawfully by the thing in question; and he is liable on summary conviction to imprisonment with hard labour for six months, or to a fine of an amount equal to the value of the thing so found, and twenty pounds in addition.

The justices are required to order the thing in question to be delivered up to the rightful owner.

It is a defence to a charge of the offence defined in this section to prove that the accused person came lawfully by the thing in question.

**452 Offering Shipwrecked Goods for Sale**

Any person who offers or exposes for sale any thing which is suspected, on reasonable grounds, to have been unlawfully taken from a vessel in distress, or wrecked, or stranded, is guilty of an offence unless he proves that he came lawfully by the thing in question; and he is liable on summary conviction to imprisonment with hard labour for six months, or to a fine of an amount equal to the value of the thing in question, and twenty pounds in addition.

Any person employed in the Public Service may seize any such thing so offered for sale.

If the accused person is convicted, the justices before whom the charge is tried are required to order the thing in question to be delivered up to the rightful owner thereof upon payment of a reasonable reward, to be ascertained by the justices, to the person who seized the same.

It is a defence to a charge of either of the offences defined in this section to prove that the accused person came lawfully by the thing in question.

**453 Unlawfully Dredging for Oysters**

Any person who unlawfully, and otherwise than in the course of catching or fishing for floating fish with a net or other instrument adapted for taking floating fish only:

- (1) Uses, for the purpose of taking oysters or oyster brood, any net or other instrument within the limits of an oyster bed, laying, or fishery, which is the property of any other person, and which is sufficiently marked out, or is known by general repute as his property, whether any oysters or oyster brood are actually taken or not; or
- (2) Drags upon the ground or soil of any such fishery with any net or instrument;

is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to imprisonment with hard labour for three months.

**454 Unlawfully taking Fish**

Any person who unlawfully takes or destroys, or attempts to take or destroy, any fish in any water which is private property, or in which there is a private right of fishery, is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of an amount equal to the value of the fish taken or destroyed, if any, and five pounds in addition.

**455 Arrest without Warrant**

A person found committing any of the offences defined in this Chapter may be arrested without warrant by a police officer, or by the owner of the property in question or his servant, or by any person authorised by such owner or servant.

**456 Warrant in First Instance**

A justice may issue a warrant in the first instance for the arrest of any person charged with any of the offences defined in this Chapter.

**457 Effect of Summary Conviction and of Civil Proceedings**

A person who has been summarily convicted of any of the offences defined in this Chapter, except those defined in the first four sections thereof, and who has paid the fine or sum adjudged to be paid under the conviction, together with the

costs, if any, or has suffered the imprisonment adjudged for non-payment thereof, or has suffered the imprisonment adjudged in the first instance, or has received the Royal mercy, or has been discharged without punishment upon making satisfaction to the person aggrieved, or whose sentence has been conditionally suspended, is not liable to any civil proceedings for the same cause at the suit of the person on whose complaint he was convicted.

If civil proceedings have been taken against any person in respect of any act done by him which is an offence under any of the provisions of this Chapter, he cannot be afterwards prosecuted for the same cause, as for an offence, on the complaint of the person by whom the civil proceedings were taken.

## **Division II – Injuries to Property**

### ***Chapter XLV – Definitions***

#### **458 Unlawful Acts**

An act which causes injury to the property of another, and which is done without his consent, is unlawful unless it is authorized or justified or excused by law.

It is immaterial that the person who does the injury is in possession of the property injured, or has a partial interest in it.

A person is not criminally responsible for an injury caused to property by the use of such force as is reasonably necessary for the purpose of defending or protecting himself, or any other person, or any property, from injury which he believes, on reasonable grounds, to be imminent.

#### **459 Acts done with Intent to Defraud**

When an act which causes injury to property, and which would be otherwise lawful, is done with intent to defraud any person, it is unlawful.

When an act which causes injury to property is done with intent to defraud any person, it is immaterial that the property in question is the property of the offender himself.



**460      Damage**

The term '**damage**' used in relation to a document, or to a writing or inscription, includes obliterating and rendering illegible, either in whole or in part.

**Chapter XLVI – Offences**

**461      Arson**

Any person who wilfully and unlawfully sets fire to any of the things following, that is to say:

- (a) Any building or structure whatever, whether completed or not;
- (b) Any vessel, whether completed or not;
- (c) Any stack of cultivated vegetable produce, or of mineral or vegetable fuel;
- (d) A mine, or the workings, fittings, or appliances of a mine;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life.

**462      Attempts to Commit Arson**

Any person who:

- (1) Attempts unlawfully to set fire to any such thing as is mentioned in the last preceding section; or
- (2) Wilfully and unlawfully sets fire to anything which is so situated that any such thing as is mentioned in the last preceding section is likely to catch fire from it;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years.

**463      Setting Fire to Crops and Growing Plants**

Any person who wilfully and unlawfully sets fire to any of the things following, that is to say:

- (a) A crop of cultivated vegetable produce, whether standing or cut;

- (b) A crop of hay or grass, whether the natural or indigenous product of the soil or not, and whether under cultivation or not, and whether standing or cut;
- (c) Any standing trees, saplings, or shrubs, whether indigenous or cultivated;
- (d) Any heath, gorse, furze, or fern;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years, with or without solitary confinement.

**464 Attempting to Set Fire to Crops, &c**

Any person who attempts unlawfully to set fire to any such thing as is mentioned in the last preceding section is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years, with or without solitary confinement.

**465 Casting away Ships**

Any person who:

- (1) Wilfully and unlawfully casts away or destroys any vessel, whether complete or not; or
- (2) Wilfully and unlawfully does any act which tends to the immediate loss or destruction of a vessel in distress; or
- (3) With intent to bring a vessel into danger interferes with any light, beacon, mark, or signal, used for purposes of navigation, or for the guidance of seamen, or exhibits any false light or signal;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life, with or without solitary confinement.

**466 Attempts to Cast Away Ships**

Any person who attempts unlawfully to cast away or destroy a vessel, whether completed or not, or attempts unlawfully to do any act tending to the immediate loss or destruction of a vessel in distress, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years, with or without solitary confinement.

**467 Obstructing and Injuring Railways**

Any person who unlawfully, and with intent to obstruct the use of a railway or to injure any property upon a railway:

- (1) Deals with the railway, or with anything whatever upon or near the railway in such a manner as to affect or endanger the free and safe use of the railway; or
- (2) Shows any light or signal, or in any way deals with any existing light or signal, upon or near the railway; or
- (3) By any omission to do any act which it is his duty to do causes the free and safe use of the railway to be endangered;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life.

**468 Injuring Animals**

Any person who wilfully and unlawfully kills, maims, or wounds, any animal capable of being stolen is guilty of an indictable offence.

If the animal in question is a horse, mare, gelding, ass, mule, camel, bull, cow, ox, ram, ewe, or wether, or the young of any such animal, the offender is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years, with or without solitary confinement.

In any other case the offender is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years, or, if the offence is committed by night, to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**469 Malicious Injuries in General**

Any person who wilfully and unlawfully destroys or damages any property is guilty of an offence which, unless otherwise stated, is a misdemeanour, and he is liable, if no other punishment is provided, to imprisonment with hard labour for two years, or, if the offence is committed by night, to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

PUNISHMENT IN SPECIAL CASES

Destroying or Damaging an Inhabited House or a Vessel with Explosives

- I. If the property in question is a dwelling-house or a vessel, and the injury is caused by the explosion of any explosive substance, and if:
  - (a) Any person is in the dwelling-house or vessel; or
  - (b) The destruction or damage actually endangers the life of any person;

the offender is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life, with or without solitary confinement.

Sea Bank, or Sea Wall, Navigation Works, or Bridges

- II.
  - (a) If the property in question is a bank or wall of the sea or of a river, canal, aqueduct, reservoir, or inland water, or a work which appertains to a port, harbour, dock, reservoir, or inland water, and the injury causes actual danger of inundation or damage to any land or building; or
  - (b) If the property in question is a railway, or is a bridge, viaduct, or aqueduct, which is constructed over a highway, railway, or canal, or over which a highway, railway, or canal, passes, and the property is destroyed; or
  - (c) If the property in question, being a railway or being any such bridge, viaduct, or aqueduct, is damaged, and the damage is done with intent to render the railway, bridge, viaduct, or aqueduct, or the highway, railway, or canal, passing over or under the same, or any part thereof, dangerous or impassable, and the same or any part thereof is thereby rendered dangerous or impassable;

the offender is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life, with or without solitary confinement.

Wills and Registers

- III. If the property in question is a testamentary instrument, whether the testator is living or dead, or a register which is

authorised or required by law to be kept for authenticating or recording the title to any property, or for recording births, baptisms, marriages, deaths, or burials, or a copy of any part of any such register which is required by law to be sent to any public officer, the offender is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years, with or without solitary confinement.

#### Wrecks

- IV. If the property in question is a vessel in distress, or wrecked, or stranded, or any thing which belongs to such a vessel, the offender is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years, with or without solitary confinement.

#### Railways

- V. If the property in question is any part of a railway, or any work connected with a railway, the offender is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years.

#### Other things of Special Value

- VI.
- (1) If the property in question, being a vessel, whether complete or not, is destroyed; or
  - (2) If the property in question, being a vessel, whether complete or not, is damaged, and the damage is done with intent to destroy it or render it useless; or
  - (3) If the property in question is a light, beacon, buoy, mark, or signal, used for purposes of navigation, or for the guidance of seamen; or
  - (4) If the property in question is a bank or wall of the sea, or of a river, canal, aqueduct, reservoir, or inland water, or a work which appertains to a port, harbour, dock, canal, aqueduct, reservoir, or inland water, or which is used for the purpose of lading or unlading goods; or
  - (5) If the property in question, being a railway, or being a bridge, viaduct, or aqueduct, which is constructed over a highway, railway, or canal, or over which a highway, railway, or canal passes, is damaged, and the damage is done with intent to render the railway, bridge, viaduct, or aqueduct, or the highway,

railway, or canal, passing over or under the same, or any part thereof, dangerous or impassable; or

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- (6) If the property in question, being anything in process of manufacture, or an agricultural or manufacturing machine, or a manufacturing implement, or a machine or appliance used or intended to be used for performing any process connected with the preparation of any agricultural or pastoral produce, is destroyed; or
- (7) If the property in question, being any such thing, machine, implement, or appliance, as last aforesaid, is damaged, and the damage is done with intent to destroy the thing in question or to render it useless; or
- (8) If the property in question is a shaft or passage of a mine, and the injury is done with intent to damage the mine or to obstruct its working; or
- (9) If the property in question is a machine, appliance, apparatus, building, erection, bridge, or road, appertaining to or used with a mine, whether the thing in question is completed or not; or
- (10) If the property in question, being a rope, chain, or tackle, of whatever material, which is used in a mine, or upon any way or work appertaining to or used with a mine, is destroyed; or
- (11) If the property in question, being any such rope, chain, or tackle, as last aforesaid, is damaged, and the damage is done with intent to destroy the thing in question or to render it useless; or
- (12) If the property in question is a well, or bore for water, or the dam, bank, wall, or floodgate of a millpond or pool;

the offender is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

#### Deeds and Records

- VII. If the property in question is a document which is deposited or kept in a public office, or which is evidence of title to any land or estate in land, the offender is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years, with or without solitary confinement.

As in force from 3 December 2011

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*Criminal Code 1899*

## Explosives

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Any person who, unlawfully, and with intent to destroy or damage any property, puts any explosive substance in any place whatever, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years, with or without solitary confinement.

### 471 Attempts to Injure Mines

Any person who, with intent to injure a mine or to obstruct the working of a mine:

- (1) Unlawfully, and otherwise than by an act done underground in the course of working an adjoining mine:
  - (a) Causes water to run into the mine or into any subterranean passage communicating with the mine; or
  - (b) Obstructs any shaft or passage of the mine; or
- (2) Unlawfully obstructs the working of any machine, appliance, or apparatus, appertaining to or used with the mine, whether the thing in question is completed or not; or
- (3) Unlawfully, and with intent to render it useless, injures or unfastens a rope, chain, or tackle, of whatever material, which is used in the mine or upon any way or work appertaining to or used with the mine;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years, with or without solitary confinement.

### 472 Interfering with Marine Signals

Any person who wilfully and unlawfully removes, defaces, or renders invisible, any light, beacon, buoy, mark, or signal, used for purposes of navigation, or for the guidance of seamen, or unlawfully attempts to remove, deface, or render invisible, any such thing, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years, with or without solitary confinement.

As in force from 3 December 2011

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*Criminal Code 1899*

Any person who:

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- (1) Wilfully and unlawfully removes or disturbs any fixed object or materials used for securing a bank or wall of the sea, or of a river, canal, aqueduct, reservoir, or inland water, or for securing any work which appertains to a port, harbour, dock, canal, aqueduct, reservoir, or inland water, or which is used for purposes of navigation or lading or unloading goods; or
  - (2) Unlawfully does any act with intent to obstruct the carrying on, completion, or maintenance, of the navigation of a navigable river or canal, and thereby obstructs such carrying on, completion, or maintenance;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years, with or without solitary confinement.

**474 Communicating Infectious Diseases to Animals**

Any person who wilfully and unlawfully causes, or is concerned in causing, or attempts to cause, any infectious disease to be communicated to or among any animal or animals capable of being stolen, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

**475 Travelling with Infected Animals**

Any person who causes any four-footed animal which is infected with an infectious disease to travel, or, being the owner or one of two or more joint owners of any four-footed animal which is infected with an infectious disease, permits or connives at the travelling of any such animal, contrary to the provisions of any Statute relating to infected animals of that kind, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for two years.

**476 Removing Boundary Marks**

Any person who wilfully and unlawfully, and with intent to defraud, removes or defaces any object or mark which has been lawfully erected or made as an indication of the boundary of any land is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

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**477 Obstructing Railways**

Any person who, by any unlawful act, or



by any intentional omission to do any act which it is his duty to do, causes any engine or vehicle in use upon a railway to be obstructed in its passage on the railway, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

**478      Sending Letters threatening to Burn or Destroy**

Any person who, knowing the contents of the writing, causes any person to receive any writing threatening that any building or vessel, whether complete or not, or any stack of cultivated vegetable produce, or any such produce that is in or under a building, shall be burnt or destroyed, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

**479      Arrest without Warrant**

A person found committing any of the misdemeanours defined in this Chapter may be arrested without warrant by a police officer, or by the owner of the property injured or his servant, or by any person authorised by such owner or servant.

***Chapter XLVII – Summary Conviction for Certain Offences***

**480      Offences which may be dealt with Summarily**

When a person is charged before two justices with any of the indictable offences following, that is to say:

- (a) Wilfully and unlawfully destroying or damaging any property, under such circumstances that the greatest punishment to which an offender convicted of the offence is liable, does not exceed imprisonment for three years with hard labour;
- (b) Wilfully and unlawfully killing, maiming, or wounding, any animal capable of being stolen;

then, if the age of the accused person at the time of the alleged commission of the offence was in the opinion of the justices greater than twelve years, and if:

- (1) The amount of the injury done does not exceed five pounds;  
or

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

- (2) The age of the accused person at the time of the alleged commission of the offence did not in the opinion

of the justices exceed sixteen years; or

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- (3) The accused person admits that he is guilty of the offence, and it appears to the justices that the nature of the offence is such, whatever may be the amount of the injury done, that the offender may be adequately punished upon summary conviction;

the justices may, except as hereinafter stated, deal with the charge summarily.

The offender is liable on such summary conviction to imprisonment with hard labour for six months, or to a fine of an amount equal to the amount of the injury done, to be assessed by the justices, and twenty-five pounds in addition.

The justices may order the offender to pay the amount awarded in respect of the injury either in one sum or by such instalments and at such times as they think fit.

If it appears that the injury complained of was done in the course of hunting or fishing, or in the pursuit of game, and was not done with an intention to destroy or damage the property injured, the justices cannot deal with the case summarily.

**481 Procedure**

Such summary jurisdiction is to be exercised in the manner and subject to the conditions prescribed in Chapter XLIII with respect to the summary trial and punishment of offenders who may be summarily convicted of indictable offences under the provisions of that Chapter.

**482 Trivial Charges**

If on the trial of any person under the provisions of this Chapter the justices are of opinion that the injury is of so trivial a nature as not to deserve any punishment, they may convict the defendant and discharge him without inflicting any punishment.

**483 Effect of Summary Conviction and of Civil Proceedings**

A person who has been summarily convicted of any offence under the provisions of this Chapter, and who has paid the fine or sum adjudged to be paid under the conviction, if any,

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

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together with the costs, if any, or has suffered the imprisonment adjudged for non-payment thereof, or has suffered the

imprisonment adjudged in the first instance, or has received the Royal mercy, or has been discharged without punishment, or whose sentence has been conditionally suspended, is not liable to any civil proceedings for the same cause at the suit of the person on whose complaint he was convicted.

If civil proceedings have been taken against any person in respect of any act done by him which is an offence of which he might have been convicted under the provisions of this Chapter, he cannot be afterwards prosecuted for the same cause, as for an offence, on the complaint of the person by whom the civil proceedings were taken.

### **Division III – Forgery and Like Offences; Personation**

#### ***Chapter XLVIII – Forgery in General: Definitions***

#### **484 Definitions**

In this Division of this Part of this Code:

The term '**document**' includes a register or register-book or part of either, and any other book, and any paper, parchment, or other material whatever, used for writing or printing, which is marked with any letters or marks denoting words, or with any other signs capable of conveying a definite meaning to persons conversant with them; but does not include trade marks on articles of commerce;

The term '**writing**' includes an inscription on wood, stone, metal, or other material: It also includes a mere signature and a mark of any kind;

The term '**seal**' includes any stamp, die, or other thing, of whatever material, from which an impression can be taken by means of pressure or of ink, or by any other means;

The term '**bank note**' includes any negotiable instrument issued by or on behalf of any person or corporation in any part of the world, or issued by the authority of any State, Prince, or Government, and intended to be used as equivalent to money, either immediately on issue or at any time afterwards: It also includes a bank bill or bank post bill.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

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#### **485 Further Definitions**

A document or writing is said to be false:

- (a) In the case of a document which is a register or record kept by lawful authority, or an entry in any such register, or which purports to be issued by lawful authority as testifying to the contents of any register or record kept by lawful authority, or as testifying to any fact or event, if any material particular stated in the document is untrue;
- (b) If the whole or some material part of the document or writing purports to be made by or on behalf of some person who did not make it or authorise it to be made, or if, in a case when the time or place of making is material, although the document or writing is made by or by the authority of the person by whom it purports to be made, it is with a fraudulent intent falsely dated as to the time or place of making;
- (c) If the whole or some material part of the document or writing purports to be made by or on behalf of some person who does not, in fact, exist; or
- (d) If the document or writing is made in the name of an existing person, either by that person himself or by his authority, with the fraudulent intention that it should pass as being made by some person, real or fictitious, other than the person who makes it or authorises it to be made.

A seal or mark is said to be counterfeit if it is made without lawful authority, and is in such a form as to resemble a genuine seal or mark, or, in the case of a seal, in such a form as to be capable of producing impressions resembling those produced by a genuine seal.

A representation of the impression of a seal is said to be counterfeit if it is not in fact made by the seal.

The term '**resemble,**' applied to any thing, includes the case where the thing is made to resemble, or is apparently intended to resemble, the object spoken of.

#### **486 Definition of Forgery**

A person who makes a false document or writing, knowing it to be false, and with intent that it may in any way be used or acted upon as genuine, whether in Queensland or elsewhere, to the

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

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prejudice of any person, or with intent that any person may, in the belief that it is genuine, be induced to do or refrain from doing any act, whether in Queensland or elsewhere, is said to forge the document or writing.

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A person who makes a counterfeit seal or mark, or makes an impression of a counterfeit seal knowing the seal to be counterfeit, or makes a counterfeit representation of the impression of a genuine seal, or makes without lawful authority an impression of a genuine seal, with intent in either case that the thing so made may in any way be used or acted upon as genuine, whether in Queensland or elsewhere, to the prejudice of any person, or with intent that any person may, in the belief that it is genuine, be induced to do or refrain from doing any act, whether in Queensland or elsewhere, is said to forge the seal or mark.

The term **'make a false document or writing'** includes altering a genuine document or writing in any material part, either by erasure, obliteration, removal, or otherwise; and making any material addition to the body of a genuine document or writing; and adding to a genuine document or writing any false date, attestation, seal, or other material matter.

It is immaterial in what language a forged document or writing is expressed.

It is immaterial that the forger of anything forged may not have intended that any particular person should use or act upon it, or that any particular person should be prejudiced by it, or be induced to do or refrain from doing any act.

It is immaterial that the thing forged is incomplete, or does not purport to be a document, writing, or seal, which would be binding in law for any particular purpose, if it is so made, and is of such a kind, as to indicate that it was intended to be used or acted upon.

**487 Certain Matters Immaterial**

In the case of an offence which involves the forging or uttering of a document or writing relating to the payment of money, or to the delivery or transfer of any property, or to the creation or performance of any obligation, it is immaterial in what country the money or property is, or purports to be, payable, deliverable, or transferable, or the obligation is, or purports to be, to be performed; and, if the money or the property purports to be payable, deliverable, or transferable, or the obligation purports

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

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to be an obligation to be performed, in some country out of Queensland, it is immaterial whether the document or writing is under seal or not.

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Any person who forges any document, writing, or seal is guilty of an offence which, unless otherwise stated, is a crime, and he is liable, if no other punishment is provided, to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

PUNISHMENT IN SPECIAL CASES

Public Seals, &c

- I. If the thing forged:
- (a) Purports to be, or is intended by the offender to be understood to be or to be used as, the great seal of the United Kingdom or of Queensland, or Her Majesty's privy seal, or any privy signet of Her Majesty, or Her Majesty's royal sign manual, or the seal of the Governor, or any public seal lawfully appointed to be used for authenticating an act of State in any part of Her Majesty's Dominions; or
  - (b) Is a document having on it or affixed to it any such seal, signet, or sign manual, or anything which purports to be, or is intended by the offender to be understood to be, any such seal, signet, or sign manual;

the offender is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for life.

Securities, Titles, Registers, &c

- II. If the thing forged purports to be, or is intended by the offender to be understood to be or to be used as, any of the things following, that is to say:
- (a) A document which is evidence of title to any portion of the public debt of any of Her Majesty's Dominions or of any Foreign State, or to any dividend or interest payable in respect of any such debt, or a transfer or assignment of any such document, or a receipt or certificate for any interest or money

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

payable or accruing on or in respect of any such public debt;

- (b) A transfer or assignment of a share in any corporation, company, or society, whether domestic or foreign, or of any share or interest in the capital stock of any such corporation, company, or society, or in the

debt of any such corporation, company, or society,  
or a receipt or certificate for any interest or money  
payable or accruing on or in respect of any such  
share, interest, or debt;

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- (c) A document acknowledging or being evidence of the indebtedness of the Government of Queensland or of the Government of any of Her Majesty's dominions, or of any foreign Prince or State, to any person;
- (d) A document which by the law of Queensland or any other country is evidence of the title to any land or estate in land in Queensland or that other country, or an entry in any register or book which is such evidence;
- (e) A document which by law is required for procuring the registration of any title to any land or estate in land;
- (f) A testamentary instrument, whether the testator is living or dead, or a probate or letters of administration, whether with or without a will annexed;
- (g) A bank note, bill of exchange, or promissory note, or an acceptance, indorsement, or assignment of either;
- (h) A deed, bond, or writing obligatory, or a warrant, order, or other security for the payment of money, or for the delivery or transfer of a valuable security, or for procuring or giving credit, whether negotiable or not, or an indorsement or assignment of any such document;
- (i) An accountable receipt, or an acknowledgment of the deposit, receipt, payment, or delivery, of money or goods, or of any valuable security, or an indorsement or assignment of any such document;
- (j) A bill-of-lading, dock warrant, warehousekeeper's certificate, warrant or order for the delivery of goods,

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

or any other document used in the ordinary course  
of business as proof of the possession or control of  
goods, or as authorising, or purporting to authorise,  
either by indorsement or by  
delivery, the possessor of  
the document to transfer or  
receive the goods

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represented by the document, or an indorsement or assignment of any such document;

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- (k) A charter-party, or a shipping document accompanying a bill-of-lading, or an indorsement or assignment of either;
- (l) A policy of insurance of any kind;
- (m) A power of attorney or other authority to execute any such document as is hereinbefore in this section mentioned;
- (n) The signature of a witness to any of the documents hereinbefore in this section mentioned to which attestation is by law required;
- (o) A register of births, baptisms, marriages, deaths, or burials, authorised or required by law to be kept, or any entry in any such register;
- (p) A copy of any such register or entry as last aforesaid, which is authorised or required by law to be given or sent to or by any person;
- (q) A seal used by a registrar appointed to keep any such register as is hereinbefore mentioned, or the impression of any such seal, or the signature of any such registrar;

the offender is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years, with or without solitary confinement.

Documents relating to Revenue and Acts of State, &c

- III. If the thing forged purports to be, or is intended by the offender to be understood to be or to be used as, any of the things following, that is to say:
  - (a) The signature of the Governor, or of a member of the Executive Council, or of any of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State or Under Secretaries of State, upon any grant, commission, warrant, or order;

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

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- (b) A seal or stamp used for the purposes of the public revenue in Queensland or of any other part of Her Majesty's dominions or in any foreign State;
  - (c) A document relating to the obtaining or receiving of any money payable on



account of the public service of Queensland or any other part of Her Majesty's dominions, or any other property of Her Majesty in any part of Her dominions, or a power of attorney or other authority to execute any such document;

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the offender is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years, with or without solitary confinement.

Court Seals, Records, Process, Evidence, &c

IV. If the thing forged purports to be, or is intended by the offender to be understood to be or to be used as, any of the things following, that is to say:

- (a) The seal of a Court of Record in any part of Her Majesty's dominions, or a seal used at the Chambers of a Judge of the Supreme Court for stamping or sealing summonses or orders;
- (b) A seal or signature by virtue whereof any document can by law be used as evidence;
- (c) Any process of any court of justice in any part of Her Majesty's dominions;
- (d) A document issued or made by or out of or by the authority of any such court as last aforesaid;
- (e) A document or copy of a document of any kind, which document or copy is intended by the offender to be used as evidence in any such court as last aforesaid;
- (f) A record or other document of or belonging to a Court of Record in any part of Her Majesty's dominions;
- (g) A copy or certificate of any record of any such Court as last aforesaid;
- (h) An instrument, whether written or printed, or partly written and partly printed, which is made evidence by any Statute in force in Queensland;

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

- (i) A document which a justice is required or authorised by law to make, attest, or issue, and purporting to be made, attested, or issued, by a justice;
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- (j) A stamp used for denoting the payment of fees or percentages in any court of justice;
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- (k) A license or certificate required or authorised by law to be given for the celebration of a marriage;
- (l) A consent to the marriage of a minor given by a person authorised by law to give it;
- (m) A certificate of marriage given under the provisions of the laws relating to the solemnisation of marriage;
- (n) A copy of the registry of a marriage;
- (o) A stamp issued or made under the laws relating to the Post Office;
- (p) A power of attorney or letter of attorney;
- (q) The signature of a witness to a power of attorney or letter of attorney;
- (r) A contract, or a writing which with other writings constitutes a contract or is evidence of a contract;
- (s) An authority or request for the payment of money or for the delivery of property;
- (t) An acquittance or discharge, or a voucher of having received any property, or any document which is evidence of the receipt of any property;
- (u) Any mark which under the authority of any Statute is impressed upon or otherwise attached to or connected with any article for the purpose of denoting the quality of the article or the fact that it has been examined or approved by or under the authority of some public body or public officer;
- (v) A certificate given under the provisions of the laws relating to quarantine;

the offender is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years, with or without solitary confinement.

#### Telegrams

- V. If the thing forged purports to be, or is intended by the offender to be understood to be or to be used as, a

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

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message to be sent by telegraph,  
or a message received by  
telegraph, the offender is liable to  
the same punishment as if he had  
forged a document to the same effect as the message.

**489 Uttering False Documents and Counterfeit Seals**

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Any person who knowingly and fraudulently utters a false document or writing, or a counterfeit seal, is guilty of an offence of the same kind and is liable to the same punishment as if he had forged the thing in question.

It is immaterial whether the false document or writing, or counterfeit seal, was made in Queensland or elsewhere.

The term '*fraudulently*' means an intention that the thing in question shall be used or acted upon as genuine, whether in Queensland or elsewhere, to the prejudice of some person, whether a particular person or not, or that some person, whether a particular person or not, shall, in the belief that the thing in question is genuine, be induced to do or refrain from doing some act, whether in Queensland or elsewhere.

**490 Uttering Cancelled or Exhausted Documents**

Any person who knowingly utters as and for a subsisting and effectual document any document which has by any lawful authority been ordered to be revoked, cancelled, or suspended, or the operation of which has ceased by effluxion of time, or by death, or by the happening of any other event, is guilty of an offence of the same kind and is liable to the same punishment as if he had forged the document.

**491 Uttering Cancelled Stamps**

Any person who knowingly utters as and for a valid and uncanceled stamp a stamp, or an impression of a seal used for any purpose connected with the public revenue of Queensland or of any other part of Her Majesty's dominions, which has been already used, or which has been cancelled, is guilty of an offence of the same kind and is liable to the same punishment as if he had forged the stamp or seal.

**492 Procuring Execution of Documents by False Pretences**

Any person who, by means of any false and fraudulent representation as to the nature, contents, or operation, of a

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

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document, procures another to sign or execute the document, is guilty of an offence of the same kind and is liable to the same punishment as if he had forged the document.

**493 Obliterating Crossings on Cheques**

Any person who, with intent to defraud:

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- (1) Obliterates, adds to, or alters, the crossing on a cheque;  
or
  - (2) Knowingly utters a crossed cheque, the crossing on  
which has been obliterated, added to, or altered;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

**494 Making Documents Without Authority**

Any person who, with intent to defraud:

- (1) Without lawful authority or excuse, makes, signs, or executes, for or in the name or on account of another person, whether by procuration or otherwise, any document or writing; or
- (2) Knowingly utters any document or writing so made, signed, or executed, by another person;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

**495 Demanding Property upon Forged Testamentary Instruments**

Any person who procures the delivery or payment to himself or any other person of any property or money by virtue of any probate or letters of administration granted upon a forged testamentary instrument, knowing the testamentary instrument to have been forged, or upon or by virtue of any probate or letters of administration obtained by false evidence, knowing the grant to have been so obtained, is guilty of an offence of the same kind and is liable to the same punishment as if he had forged the document or thing by virtue whereof he procures the delivery or payment.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**496 Purchasing Forged Bank Notes**

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Any person who, without lawful authority or excuse, the proof of ~~which lies on him, purchases or receives~~ from any person, or has in his possession, a forged bank note, whether filled up or in blank, knowing it to be

forged, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

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**497 False Certificate of Message received by Telegraph**

Any person who knowingly signs upon a document, which purports to be a copy of a document the contents whereof have been received by telegraph under the provisions of the laws authorising the transmission by telegraph of the contents of documents requiring signature or seal, a false certificate that it has been duly received under the provisions of those laws is guilty of an offence of the same kind, and is liable to the same punishment as if he had forged the document of which it purports to be a copy.

**498 Falsifying Warrants for Money Payable under Public Authority**

Any person who, being employed in the Public Service, knowingly and with intent to defraud makes out or delivers to any person a warrant for the payment of any money payable by public authority for a greater or less amount than that to which the person on whose behalf the warrant is made out is entitled is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

**499 Falsification of Registers**

Any person who, having the actual custody of any register or record kept by lawful authority, knowingly permits any entry which, in any material particular, is to his knowledge false, to be made in the register or record is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

The offender cannot be arrested without warrant.

**500 Sending False Certificate of Marriage to Registrar**

Any person who signs or transmits to a person authorised by law to register marriages a certificate of marriage, or any document purporting to be a certificate of marriage, which, in any material particular, is to his knowledge false, is guilty of a

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

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**501 False Statements for the Purpose of Registers of Births, Deaths, and Marriages**

Any person who knowingly, and with intent to procure the same to be inserted in a register of births, deaths, or marriages, makes any false statement touching any matter required by law to be registered in any such register, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**502 Attempts to Procure Unauthorised Status**

Any person who:

- (1) By any false representation procures any authority authorised by any Statute to issue certificates testifying that the holders thereof are entitled to any right or privilege, or to enjoy any rank or status, to issue to himself or any other person any such certificate; or
- (2) Falsely represents to any person that he has obtained any certificate issued by any such authority; or
- (3) By any false representation procures himself or any other person to be registered on any register kept by lawful authority as a person entitled to such a certificate, or as a person entitled to any right or privilege, or to enjoy any rank or status;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**503 Counterfeiting Trade Marks**

Any person who, with intent to defraud or to enable another person to defraud:

- (1) Makes a counterfeit trade mark; or
- (2) Knowingly uses a trade mark, whether genuine or counterfeit, on any article or on anything containing or connected with any article, in such a manner that the trade mark so used signifies or implies, or may reasonably

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

induce any person to believe, contrary to the fact, that the article is such as is designated by the trade mark;

~~is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable~~  
to imprisonment with hard labour for two years, and to be fined at the discretion of the Court.

And every thing which he has in his possession to which the trade mark or counterfeit trade mark has been so applied, and every instrument which he has in his possession by means of which any such mark has been so applied, or which is intended for applying any such mark, is forfeited to Her Majesty.

The term '**trade mark**' includes any word or mark of any kind whatever, which is lawfully used by any person to denote that any article is of his manufacture, workmanship, production, or merchandise, or is a thing of a peculiar or particular description made or sold by him.

The term '**counterfeit**' includes any imitation of a genuine mark which is not genuine and which resembles the genuine mark.

**504      Circulating False Copies of Rules or Lists of Members of Societies or Companies**

Any person who knowingly, and with intent to deceive or defraud, or to enable another person to deceive or defraud, utters to any person a document which purports to be a copy of the memorandum or articles of association or other constitution of a corporation or joint stock company, or of the rules or by-laws of any corporation or society, constituted under the authority of any Statute, but is not a true copy thereof, or a document which purports to be a list of the members of any such corporation, company, or society, but is not a true list of such members, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**Chapter L – Forgery and Like Offences Punishable on Summary Conviction**

**505      Sending False Telegrams**

Any person who:

- (1) Knowingly and without the authority of the pretended sender, sends or delivers, or causes to be sent or delivered, to any person employed by or under the Post

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

and Telegraph Department, for the purpose of being transmitted as a telegram, a message or writing purporting to be sent by another person; or

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- (2) Signs a telegram in the name of another person without that person's authority, or in the name of a fictitious person; or

- (3) Wilfully alters a telegram without the authority of the sender; or
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- (4) Writes, issues, or delivers, as and for a telegram received through a telegraph office, a writing purporting to be a telegram so received, and which is not a telegram so received;

is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to imprisonment with hard labour for twelve months, and to a fine of one hundred pounds.

**506      Forgery of Seamen's Tickets or Documents under Factories and Shops Act**

Any person who:

- (1) Forges any document purporting to be, or intended by the offender to be understood to be or to be used as, a document required to be obtained or used under the provisions of the laws 'relating to the engagement or discharge of seamen, or the laws relating to the regulation of factories and shops; or
- (2) Utters any document which is required to be obtained or used under the provisions of these laws, and which has been issued to another person, and falsely represents himself to be the person named in the document;

is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to imprisonment with hard labour for one year, or to a fine of fifty pounds.

**507      Fraudulent Use of Adhesive Stamps**

Any person who:

- (1) Fraudulently, and with intent that the stamp may be used again, removes an adhesive stamp, or causes an adhesive stamp to be removed, from any document; or

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

- (2) Fraudulently, and with intent that the stamp may be used again, affixes an adhesive stamp which has been removed from any document to another document; or
- (3) Knowingly utters an adhesive stamp which has been fraudulently, and with intent that it may be used again, removed from any document; or
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- (4) Knowingly utters any document which has on it an adhesive stamp that has been fraudulently, and with intent that it may be used again, removed from another document;

is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of fifty pounds.

**508 False Warranties or Labels relating to the Sale of Food**

Any person who:

- (1) Knowingly gives to a purchaser a false warranty in writing with respect to an article of food or a drug sold by him, whether as principal or agent; or
- (2) Knowingly gives with any article of food or drug sold by him a label which falsely describes the article or drug sold; or
- (3) In any proceedings under the laws relating to the sale of food and drugs knowingly applies to an article of food or a drug a certificate or warranty given with respect to another article or drug;

is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of twenty pounds.

**509 Provisions of this Chapter Alternative**

The provisions of this Chapter are alternative and without prejudice to any other provisions of this Code relating to the same matters, but so that an offender cannot be twice convicted for the same act.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

***Chapter LI – Preparation for Forgery***

**510 Instruments and Materials for Forgery**

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Any person who without lawful authority or excuse, the proof of which lies on him:

- (1) Makes, or begins or prepares to make, or uses, or knowingly has in his possession or

disposes of, any paper resembling any paper such as is specially provided by the proper authority for the purpose of being used for making any of the things following, that is to say:

- (a) Any document acknowledging or being evidence of the indebtedness of the Government of Queensland, or of the Government of any of Her Majesty's dominions, or of any foreign Prince or State, or of any person carrying on the business of banking, to any person; or
  - (b) Any stamp, license, permit, or other document used for the purposes of the public revenue of Queensland, or of any other part of Her Majesty's dominions; or
  - (c) Any bank note; or any machinery or instrument or material for making any such paper, or capable of producing in or on paper any words, figures, letters, marks, or lines, resembling any words, figures, letters, marks, or lines, used in or on any paper specially provided for any such purpose; or
- (2) Impresses or makes upon any plate or material any words, figures, letters, marks, or lines, the print whereof resembles, in whole or part, the words, figures, letters, marks, or lines, used in any such document as aforesaid; or
- (3) Uses, or knowingly has in his possession, or disposes of any plate or material upon which any such words, figures, letters, marks, or lines, are impressed or made; or
- (4) Uses, or knowingly has in his possession or disposes of, any paper on which is written or printed the whole or any part of the usual contents of any such document as aforesaid;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

## 511 Counterfeit Stamps

Any person who, without lawful authority or excuse, the proof of which lies on him:

- (1) ~~Makes or mends, or begins or~~ prepares to make or mend, or uses, or knowingly has in his possession or disposes of, any die, plate, or instrument, capable of making an impression

resembling that made by any die, plate, or instrument, used for the purpose of making any stamp, whether impressed or adhesive, which is used for the purposes of the public revenue or of the Post Office in Queensland or any other part of Her Majesty's Dominions or in any foreign State, or capable of producing in or on paper any words, figures, letters, marks, or lines, resembling any words, figures, letters, marks, or lines, used in or on any paper specially provided by the proper authority for any such purpose; or

- (2) Knowingly has in his possession or disposes of any paper or other material which has on it the impression of any such die, plate, or instrument, or any paper which has on it or in it any such words, figures, letters, marks, or lines, as aforesaid; or
- (3) Fraudulently, and with intent that use may be made of any such stamp as aforesaid, or of any part of it, removes the stamp from any material in any way whatever; or
- (4) Fraudulently, and with intent that use may be made of any part of any such stamp, mutilates the stamp; or
- (5) Fraudulently fixes or places upon any material, or upon any such stamp, any stamp or part of a stamp which has been in any way removed from any other material, or out of or from any other stamp; or
- (6) Fraudulently, and with intent that use may be made of any such stamp which has been already impressed upon or attached to any material, erases or otherwise removes, either really or apparently, from such material anything whatever written on it; or
- (7) Knowingly has in his possession or disposes of anything obtained or prepared by any such unlawful act as aforesaid;

is guilty of crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

## **512 Paper for Postal Purposes**

Any person who, without lawful authority or excuse, the proof of which lies on him, knowingly has in his possession or disposes of any paper which has been specially provided by the proper authority for the purpose of being used for postage stamps, money orders, or postal notes, before such paper has been lawfully issued for public use, is guilty of a

misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

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**513 Paper and Dies for Postage Stamps**

Any person who, without lawful authority or excuse, the proof of which lies on him:

- (1) Makes, or begins or prepares to make, or uses for any postal purpose, or has in his possession, or disposes of any imitation or representation, on paper or any other material, of any stamp used for denoting any rate of postage of Queensland or of any other part of Her Majesty's Dominions or of any foreign country; or
- (2) Makes or mends, or begins or prepares to make or mend, or uses, or has in his possession or disposes of, any die, plate, instrument, or material, for making any such imitation or representation;

is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to imprisonment with hard labour for one year, or to a fine of fifty pounds: And any stamps, and any other such things as aforesaid, which are found in his possession are forfeited to Her Majesty.

For the purposes of this section a stamp purporting to denote a rate of postage of any country is to be taken to be a stamp used for postal purposes in that country until the contrary is shown.

***Chapter LII – Personation***

**514 Personation in General**

Any person who, with intent to defraud any person, falsely represents himself to be some other person, living or dead, is guilty of an offence which, unless otherwise stated, is a misdemeanour and he is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

If the representation is that the offender is a person entitled by will or operation of law to any specific property, and he commits the offence with intent to obtain such property or possession thereof, he is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for fourteen years.

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Any person who, without lawful authority or excuse, the proof of which lies on him, makes, in the name of any other person, before any court or person lawfully authorized to take such an acknowledgment, an acknowledgment of liability of any kind, or an acknowledgment of a deed or other instrument, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

**516 Personation of a Person named in a Certificate**

Any person who utters any document which has been issued by lawful authority to another person, and whereby that other person is certified to be a person possessed of any qualification recognized by law for any purpose, or to be the holder of any office, or to be entitled to exercise any profession, trade, or business, or to be entitled to any right or privilege, or to enjoy any rank or status, and falsely represents himself to be the person named in the document, is guilty of an offence of the same kind, and is liable to the same punishment as if he had forged the document.

**517 Lending Certificates for Personation**

Any person who, being a person to whom any document has been issued by lawful authority, whereby he is certified to be a person possessed of any qualification recognised by law for any purpose, or to be the holder of any office, or to be entitled to exercise any profession, trade, or business, or to be entitled to any right or privilege, or to enjoy any rank or status, lends the document to another person with intent that that other may represent himself to be the person named therein, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**Division IV – Offences connected with Trade and Breach of Contract**

***Chapter LIII – Fraudulent Debtors***

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**518 Definition**

In this Chapter the term '*an insolvent*' means a person with respect to whom any proceedings have

been taken under the provisions of the laws relating to insolvent debtors which result in his affairs being administered under the provisions of those laws for the benefit of his creditors.

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Such a person is deemed to have been an insolvent from the time when the proceedings were taken, whether that result had or had not happened when the unlawful act in question was done.

**519 Absconding with Property in Contemplation of or immediately after Insolvency**

Any person who:

- (1) Being an insolvent, departs from Queensland and takes with him, or attempts or prepares to depart from Queensland and to take with him, any part of his property to the amount of twenty pounds, which ought by law to be divided amongst his creditors; or
- (2) Departs from Queensland and takes with him, or attempts or prepares to depart from Queensland and to take with him, any part of his property to the amount of twenty pounds, which ought by law, in the event of his becoming insolvent, to be divided among his creditors, and within four months afterwards becomes an insolvent;

is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

It is a defence to a charge of any of the offences defined in this section to prove that the accused person had no intent to defraud.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**520 Frauds by Insolvents**

Any person who:

(1) Being an insolvent:

- (a) Fraudulently removes any part of his property to ~~the value of ten pounds or~~  
upwards; or

- (b) Fraudulently parts with, 202  
alters, or makes any omission in, or is privy to

fraudulently parting with, altering, or making any omission in, any document affecting or relating to his property or affairs; or

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- (2) Does any such act as aforesaid, and within four months afterwards becomes an insolvent; or
- (3) Being an insolvent, attempts to account for any part of his property by alleging fictitious losses or expenses; or
- (4) Attempts at a meeting of his creditors to account for any part of his property by fictitious losses or expenses, and within four months afterwards becomes an insolvent; or
- (5) By any false representation or other fraud obtains any property on credit and does not pay for the same, and within four months afterwards becomes an insolvent;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

## **521 Other Frauds by Insolvents**

Any person who:

- (1) Being an insolvent:
  - (a) Conceals any part of his property to the amount of ten pounds; or
  - (b) Conceals any debt due to or from him; or
- (2) Does any of the following acts, that is to say:
  - (a) Conceals any part of his property to the amount of ten pounds; or
  - (b) Conceals any debt due to or from him; or
  - (c) Obtains any property on credit under the false pretence of carrying on business and dealing in the

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

ordinary way of trade, and does not pay for the same; or

- (d) Pawns, pledges, or disposes of otherwise than in the ordinary way of trade, any property which he has obtained on credit and has not paid for;

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and within four months afterwards becomes an insolvent;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable

to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

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It is a defence to a charge of any of the offences defined in this section to prove that the accused person had no intent to defraud.

**522 Falsification of Books by Insolvents**

Any person who:

(1) Being an insolvent:

- (a) Conceals, destroys, alters, mutilates, or falsifies, any book, document, valuable security, or account, relating to his property or affairs, or any entry in any such book, document, or account, or is privy to any such act; or
- (b) Makes or is privy to making any false entry in any such book, document, or account; or

(2) Does or is privy to any such act as aforesaid, and within four months afterwards becomes an insolvent;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

It is a defence to a charge of any of the offences defined in this section to prove that the accused person had no intent to conceal the state of his affairs or to defraud.

**523 Frauds by Insolvents in course of Insolvency Proceedings**

Any person whose affairs are in course of administration under the provisions of the laws relating to insolvent debtors who:

(1) Knowing or believing that a false debt has been proved by any person in the course of such administration, fails for

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

the period of a month to give information thereof to the trustee of his property; or

(2) Makes any false representation or commits any other fraud for the purpose of obtaining the consent of his creditors or any of them to any agreement with reference to his ~~affairs or to any proceedings~~ taken under or by virtue of such administration;

204

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable



to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

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**524 Failure by Insolvents to Discover Property**

Any person whose affairs are in course of administration under the provisions of the laws relating to insolvent debtors who:

- (1) Fails to fully and truly discover to the trustee of his property, to the best of his knowledge and belief, all his property, real and personal, and how, and to whom, and for what consideration, and when, he disposed of every part thereof, except such part as has been disposed of in the ordinary way of his trade, if any, or laid out in the ordinary expense of his family; or
- (2) Fails to deliver to the trustee, or as he directs, any part of his real and personal property which is in his custody or under his control, and which he is required by law to deliver; or
- (3) Fails to deliver to the trustee, or as he directs, any book, document, paper, or writing, which is in his custody or under his control, and which relates to his property or affairs; or
- (4) Omits or is privy to omitting any material particular from any statement relating to his affairs;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

It is a defence to a charge of any of the offences defined in this section to prove that the accused person had no intent to conceal the state of his affairs or to defraud.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**525 Failure to Keep Proper Books**

Any person who omits to keep proper books of account showing the true state of his affairs, and who within three years afterwards becomes an insolvent, is guilty of a misdemeanour and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

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It is a defence to a charge of the offence defined in this section to prove that the accused person had no intention to conceal the state of his affairs or to

defraud.

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**526      Concealing Documents**

Any person who, being an insolvent, prevents the production of any book, document, paper, or writing, affecting or relating to his property or affairs, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

It is a defence to a charge of the offence defined in this section to prove that the accused person had no intent to conceal the state of his affairs or to defraud.

**527      Receiving Insolvent's Property with Intent to Defraud**

Any person who, with intent to defraud the creditors of an insolvent, receives any property from the insolvent, or fails to deliver to the trustee of the property of the insolvent any property which forms part of the estate of the insolvent, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**528      Making False Claim in Insolvency**

Any person who:

- (1) Being a creditor of an insolvent, or being a creditor of a debtor who has taken proceedings for a composition with his creditors under the provisions of the laws relating to insolvent debtors, makes in the insolvency, or in the proceedings for a composition, with intent to defraud, a proof or declaration of debt or statement of account, which, in any material particular, is to his knowledge false; or
- (2) Not being a creditor of an insolvent, or of a person who has taken any such proceedings, makes in the insolvency,

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

or in the proceedings for a composition, with intent to defraud, a proof or declaration of debt;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for one year.

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**529      Concealing Property of Insolvents**

Any person who conceals any part of the property of an insolvent, and does not, within forty-two days after

the appointment of a trustee of the property of the insolvent, discover such property to the trustee, or to the Registrar of the Supreme Court, is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to imprisonment with hard labour for six months.

**530 Fraudulent Dealing with Property by Debtors**

Any person who, with intent to defraud his creditors or any of them:

- (1) Makes any gift, delivery, or transfer of his property, or any charge on his property; or
- (2) Conceals or removes any part of his property after or within two months before the date of any unsatisfied judgment or order for payment of money obtained against him;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for one year.

***Chapter LIV – Other Offences***

**531 Concealment by Officers of Companies on Reduction of Capital**

Any person who, being a director or officer of a joint stock company, the capital of which is proposed to be reduced:

- (1) Conceals the name of any creditor of the company who is entitled to object to the proposed reduction; or
- (2) Knowingly misrepresents the nature or amount of the debt or claim of any creditor of the company; or
- (3) Is privy to any such concealment or misrepresentation as aforesaid;

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**532 Falsification of Books of Companies**

Any person who, being a director, officer, or contributory, of a company which is in course of being wound up under the provisions of the laws relating to joint stock companies, does any of the following acts with intent to deceive or defraud, or to make another person to

deceive or defraud, that is to say:

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- (1) Conceals, destroys, alters, mutilates, or falsifies, any book, document, valuable security, or account, relating to the affairs of the company, or any entry in any such book, document, or account, or is privy to any such act; or
  - (2) Makes or is privy to making any false entry in any book, document, or account, belonging to the company;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

**533      Mixing Uncertified with Certified Articles**

When a mark has been attached to any article, or a certificate has been given with respect to any article, under the authority of any Statute, for the purpose of denoting the quality of the article, or the fact that it has been examined or approved by or under the authority of some public body or public officer, any person who mixes with the article so marked or certified any other article which has not been so examined or approved, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

**534      Intimidation of Workmen and Employers**

Any person who:

- (1) By violence to the person or property of another, or by threats or intimidation of any kind, or by besetting the house or place of work of another, or by following another in a disorderly manner in a public highway, or by molesting, or in any way obstructing, another by any physical act in the pursuit of his lawful vocation:
  - (a) Compels or attempts to compel any person employed in any manufacture, trade, business, or

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

occupation, to depart from his employment, or to return his work before it is finished; or

- (b) Prevents any person who is not employed from accepting employment from any other person; or

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- (2) Uses violence to the person or property of another, or uses threats or intimidation of any kind to another, or by any physical act molests or in any way obstructs another:

- (c) For the purpose of inducing any person to belong to any club or association, or to contribute to any common fund, or to pay any fine or penalty; or
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- (d) On account of any person not belonging to any particular club or association, or not having contributed or having refused to contribute to any common fund, or having refused to pay any fine or penalty; or
- (e) On account of any person not having complied, or refusing to comply, with any rules, orders, resolutions, or regulations, made or pretended to be made by any person, or persons, or club, or association, in order to obtain an advance of wages or to reduce the rate of wages, or to lessen or alter the hours of working in, or to decrease or alter the quantity of work done in, or to regulate the mode of carrying on, any manufacture, trade, or business, or the management thereof; or
- (3) By violence to the person or property of another, or by threats or intimidation of any kind, or by molesting or in any way obstructing another, compels, or endeavours to compel, any person carrying on any manufacture, trade, or business, to make any alteration in his mode of carrying it on, or to limit the number of his apprentices, or the number or description of his journeymen, workmen, or servants;

is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to imprisonment with hard labour for three months.

It is lawful for one or more person or persons acting in contemplation of or during the continuance of any industrial dispute to attend peaceably and in a reasonable manner at or near a house or place where a person resides or works or carries on business, or happens to be, if he or they so attend merely for the purpose of obtaining or communicating

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

information, and such attending is not deemed a besetting within the meaning of this section.

Notification or warning of an intention to lock out or strike, or of an intention on the part of any workman or workmen to refuse to enter into or continue in the employment of any employer, is ~~not deemed a threat or intimidation or~~ molestation or obstruction within the meaning of this section.

particular manufacture, trade, or business, in or concerning which any of the offences defined in this section is charged to have been committed cannot act as a justice upon a charge of such an offence.

A person cannot refuse to give evidence upon a charge of any of the offences defined in this section on the ground that he is liable to punishment under the provisions thereof, but every person who gives evidence on any such charge is indemnified against any prosecution against himself for having offended in the matter with respect to which he gives evidence.

The action of persons who merely agree together to fix the rate of wages or prices which they will pay or accept for any work or article, or to fix the hours during which they will work in, or carry on, any manufacture, trade, or business, in which they are engaged, or who merely meet together and consult for the purpose of making any such agreement, is not deemed to be a physical act for the purposes of this section.

For the purposes of this section:

*'Industrial dispute'* has the same meaning as in the *Industrial Peace Act of 1912*.

## **PART VII – PREPARATION TO COMMIT OFFENCES: CONSPIRACY: ACCESSORIES AFTER THE FACT**

### ***Chapter LV – Attempts and Preparation to Commit Offences***

#### **535      Attempts to Commit Offences**

Any person who attempts to commit any indictable offence is guilty of an indictable offence, which, unless otherwise stated, is a misdemeanour.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

When a person who commits an indictable offence is punishable on summary conviction, a person who attempts to commit such an offence may also be summarily convicted.

#### **536      Punishment of Attempts to Commit Crimes**

Any person who attempts to commit a crime of such a kind that a person convicted of it is liable to the punishment of death or of imprisonment with hard labour for a term of

fourteen years or upwards, with or without any other punishment, is liable, if no other punishment is provided, to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

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Any person who attempts to commit a crime of any other kind is liable, if no other punishment is provided, to a punishment equal to one-half of the greatest punishment to which an offender convicted of the crime which he attempted to commit is liable.

**537 Punishment of Attempts to Commit Misdemeanours**

Any person who attempts to commit a misdemeanour is liable, if no other punishment is provided, to a punishment equal to one-half of the greatest punishment to which an offender convicted of the offence which he attempted to commit is liable.

**538 Reduction of Punishment**

When a person is convicted of attempting to commit an offence, if it is proved that he desisted of his own motion from the further prosecution of his intention, without its fulfilment being prevented by circumstances independent of his will, he is liable to one-half only of the punishment to which he would otherwise be liable. If that punishment is imprisonment with hard labour for life, the greatest punishment to which he is liable is imprisonment with hard labour for seven years.

**539 Attempts to Procure Commission of Criminal Acts**

Any person who attempts to procure another to do any act or make any omission, whether in Queensland or elsewhere, of such a nature that, if the act were done or the omission were made an offence would thereby be committed under the laws of Queensland, or the laws in force in the place where the act or omission is proposed to be done or made, whether by himself or by that other person, is guilty of an offence of the same kind and is liable to the same punishment as if he had himself attempted to do the same act or make the same omission in Queensland.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

Provided that if the act or omission is proposed to be done or made at a place not in Queensland, the punishment cannot exceed that which he would have incurred under the laws in force where the act or omission was proposed to be done or made, if he had himself attempted to do the proposed act or make the proposed omission.

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Provided also that in the last-mentioned case a prosecution cannot be instituted except at the request of the Government

of the State having jurisdiction in the place where the act or omission was proposed to be done or made.

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**540 Preparation to Commit Crimes with Explosives, &c**

Any person who makes or knowingly has in his possession any explosive substance, or any dangerous or noxious engine, instrument, or thing whatever, with intent by means thereof to commit, or for the purpose of enabling any other person by means thereof to commit, any crime, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years, with or without solitary confinement.

***Chapter LVI – Conspiracy***

**541 Conspiracy to Commit Crime**

Any person who conspires with another to commit any crime, or to do any act in any part of the world which if done in Queensland would be a crime, and which is an offence under the laws in force in the place where it is proposed to be done, is guilty of a crime, and is liable, if no other punishment is provided, to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years; or, if the greatest punishment to which a person convicted of the crime in question is liable is less than imprisonment with hard labour for seven years, then to such lesser punishment.

**542 Conspiracy to Commit other Offences**

Any person who conspires with another to commit any offence which is not a crime, or to do any act in any part of the world which if done in Queensland would be an offence but not a crime, and which is an offence under the laws in force in the place where it is proposed to be done, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**543 Other Conspiracies**

Any person who conspires with another to effect any of the purposes following, that is to say:

(1) To prevent or defeat the execution or enforcement of  

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any Statute law;

(2) To cause any injury to the person  
or reputation of any person, or to



depreciate the value of any property of any person; or

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- (3) To prevent or obstruct the free and lawful disposition of any property by the owner thereof for its fair value; or
  - (4) To injure any person in his trade or profession; or
  - (5) To prevent or obstruct, by means of any act or acts which if done by an individual person would constitute an offence on his part, the free and lawful exercise by any person of his trade, profession, or occupation; or
  - (6) To effect any unlawful purpose; or
  - (7) To effect any lawful purpose by any unlawful means;

is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

#### **543A Industrial Disputes**

Notwithstanding anything contained in section five hundred and thirty-four or the last preceding section, no act done or omission made by any two or more persons in contemplation or furtherance of any industrial dispute, and no agreement or combination by any two or more persons to do any act or make any omission or to procure any act to be done or omission to be made in contemplation or furtherance of any industrial dispute, shall render any of such persons guilty of any offence if such act or omission when done or made by an individual person would not have rendered such person guilty of an offence. For the purposes of this section, the expression '*industrial dispute*' has the same meaning as in the *Industrial Peace Act of 1912*.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

### ***Chapter LVII – Accessories after the Fact***

#### **544 Accessories after the Fact to Crimes**

Any person who becomes an accessory after the fact to a crime is guilty of a crime, and is liable, if no other punishment is provided, to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

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#### **545 Accessories after the Fact to**

## **Misdemeanours and some other Offences**

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Any person who becomes an accessory after the fact to a misdemeanour, or to any offence of such a nature that the offender may be sentenced on summary conviction to imprisonment with or without hard labour for one year, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to a punishment equal to one-half of the greatest punishment to which the principal offender is liable on conviction.

If the principal offence is such that an offender is punishable on summary conviction, the accessory may also be summarily convicted.

## **PART VIII – PROCEDURE**

### ***Chapter LVIII – Arrest***

#### **546 Arrest without Warrant generally**

When an offence is such that the offender may be arrested without warrant generally:

- (a) It is lawful for a police officer who believes on reasonable grounds that the offence has been committed, and that any person has committed it, to arrest that person without warrant, whether the offence has been actually committed or not, and whether the person arrested committed the offence or not:
- (b) It is lawful for any person who is called upon to assist a police officer in the arrest of a person suspected of having committed the offence, and who knows that the person calling upon him to assist is a police officer, to assist him, unless he knows that there is no reasonable ground for the suspicion:

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

- (c) It is lawful for any person who finds another committing the offence to arrest him without warrant:
  - (d) If the offence has been actually committed, it is lawful for any person who believes on reasonable grounds that another person has committed the offence to arrest that person without warrant, whether that other person has committed the offence or not:
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(e) It is lawful for any person who finds another by night, under such circumstances as to afford reasonable grounds for believing that he is committing the offence, and who does in fact so believe, to arrest him without warrant:

(f) It is lawful for a police officer who finds any person lying or loitering in any place by night, under such circumstances as to afford reasonable grounds for believing that he has committed or is about to commit the offence, and who does in fact so believe, to arrest him without warrant.

**547 Arrest without Warrant in Special Cases**

When it is provided with respect to an offence that the offender may be arrested without warrant subject to certain conditions, the provisions of the last preceding section apply to the offence in question, subject to those conditions.

**548 Arrest of persons Found committing Offences**

(1) It is lawful for a justice or police officer to arrest without warrant any person whom he finds committing any indictable offence or committing any simple offence with respect to which it is provided that a person found committing it may be arrested by a police officer without warrant.

(2) When it is provided with respect to an offence that a person found committing the offence may be arrested without warrant generally, it is lawful for any person who finds another committing the offence to arrest him without warrant.

(3) When it is provided with respect to an offence that a person found committing the offence may be arrested without warrant by a specified person, or specified persons, it is lawful for any such person who finds another committing the offence to arrest him without warrant.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**549 Arrest of Offender committing Indictable Offences by Night**

It is lawful for any person who finds another person by night committing any indictable offence to arrest him without warrant.

**550 Arrest during Flight**

It is lawful for any person to arrest without warrant any other person whom he believes, on reasonable grounds, to have committed an

offence and to be escaping from, and to be freshly pursued by, some person whom, on reasonable grounds, he believes to have authority to arrest him for that offence.

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**551 Arrest of persons offering Stolen Property for Sale, &c**

It is lawful for any person to whom another offers to sell, pawn, or deliver, any property, and who believes, on reasonable grounds, that the property has been acquired by means of an offence with respect to which it is provided that a person found committing it may be arrested without warrant, to arrest that other person without warrant.

**552 Duty of persons Arresting**

It is the duty of a person who has arrested another upon a charge of an offence to take him forthwith before a justice to be dealt with according to law.

***Chapter LIX – Jurisdiction: Preliminary Proceedings: Bail***

**553 Jurisdiction**

The jurisdiction of Courts of Justice with respect to the trial of offenders is set forth in the laws relating to the constitution and jurisdiction of those Courts respectively.

**554 Preliminary Proceedings on Charges of Indictable Offences**

The practice and procedure relating to the examination and committal for trial of persons charged with indictable offences are set forth in the laws relating to Justices of the Peace, their Powers and Authorities.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**555 Bail**

The Supreme Court or a Judge thereof may admit to bail any person who has been committed for trial, or is in custody, upon a charge of an indictable offence, whether bail has been refused or not, or may reduce the bail of any such person to whom bail has been granted.

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**556 Summary Convictions: Time**

The procedure upon the prosecution of

offenders in order to their summary conviction, and for enforcing summary convictions and orders made by justices upon such prosecutions, is set forth in the laws relating to Justices of the Peace, their Powers and Authorities.

A prosecution for a simple offence, or for an indictable offence in order to the summary conviction of the offender must, unless otherwise expressly provided, be begun within six months after the offence is committed.

**557 Place of Trial**

- (1) A person charged with committing an offence may be tried in any jurisdiction within which any act or omission or event which is an element of the offence takes place.
- (2) A person charged with stealing any property may also be tried in any jurisdiction within which he has the stolen property in his possession.
- (3) A person charged with stealing anything while employed in the Public Service may also be tried in any jurisdiction within which he is arrested or is in custody.
- (4) A person charged with an offence which involves the receiving of any property by him may also be tried in any jurisdiction within which he has the property in his possession.
- (5) A person charged with forging anything, or with uttering any false document or writing or anything counterfeit, may also be tried in any jurisdiction within which he is arrested or is in custody.
- (6) A person who is charged with counselling or procuring the commission of an offence, or with becoming an accessory after the fact to an offence, may also be tried in any jurisdiction within which the principal offender might be tried.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

- (7) A person who is charged with an offence committed out of Queensland, and who may lawfully be tried in Queensland, may be tried in any jurisdiction within which he is arrested or is in custody.

**558 Persons brought before Wrong Court**

If on the trial of a person charged with any offence before any Court it appears that he is not properly triable before that Court under any of the provisions of the last preceding section, he is not by reason thereof entitled to be

acquitted, but the Court may, at the request of the accused person, discharge the jury from giving a verdict, and direct that he be tried before some proper Court, and may remand him for trial accordingly.

If he does not make such request, the trial is to proceed, and the verdict and judgment have the same effect in all respects as if the Court had originally had jurisdiction to try the accused person.

This section does not affect the right of an accused person to plead to the jurisdiction of a Court.

**559 Change of Place of Trial**

When a person has been committed for trial for an indictable offence at a Court held at any place, whether he has been admitted to bail or not, the Supreme Court or a Judge thereof may, on the application of the Crown or of the accused person, and upon good cause shown, order that the trial shall be held at some other place, either before the same Court or before some other Court of competent jurisdiction, at a time to be named in the order.

When an indictment has been presented against any person in the Supreme Court or a Circuit Court, the Court may, on the application of the Crown or the accused person, order that the trial shall be held at some place other than that named in the margin of the indictment and at a time to be named in the order.

When an order is made under the provisions of this section, the consequences are the same in all respects, and with regard to all persons, as if the accused person had been committed for trial at the place named in the order and at the Sittings named therein; and, if he has been admitted to bail, the recognizances of bail are to be deemed to be enlarged to that time and place accordingly.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

The recognizances of any persons who are bound to attend as witnesses are in like manner to be deemed to be enlarged to the same time and place.

Notice of such time and place must be given to the persons bound by the recognizances, otherwise their recognizances cannot be forfeited.

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When a person charged with an indictable offence has been committed for trial and it is intended to put him on his trial for the offence, the charge is to be reduced to writing in a document which is called an indictment.

The indictment is to be signed and presented to the Court by a Crown Law Officer or some other person appointed in that behalf by the Governor in Council.

**561 Ex Officio Informations**

A Crown Law Officer may present an indictment in any Court of criminal jurisdiction against any person for any indictable offence, whether the accused person has been committed for trial or not.

An officer appointed by the Governor in Council to present indictments in any Court of criminal jurisdiction may present an indictment in that Court against any person for any indictable offence within the jurisdiction of the Court, whether the accused person has been committed for trial or not.

**562 Arrest of Person Charged in Ex Officio Information**

When an indictment has been presented against a person who is not in custody, and has not been committed for trial or held to bail to attend to be tried upon the charge set forth in the indictment or who does not appear to be tried upon the charge set forth in the indictment a Judge of the Court in which the indictment is presented may issue a warrant under his hand to arrest the accused person and bring him before a justice of the peace; and the justice before whom he is brought may commit him to prison until he can be tried on the indictment, or may, in a proper case, admit him to bail with sufficient sureties to attend to be tried on the indictment.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**563 Nolle Prosequi**

A Crown Law Officer may inform any Court, by writing under his hand, that the Crown will not further proceed upon any indictment then pending in the Court.

An officer appointed by the Governor in Council to present indictments in any Court of criminal jurisdiction may inform that Court, by writing under his hand, that the Crown will not further proceed upon any indictment then pending in that Court.

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When such information is given to the Court the accused person is to be discharged from any further proceedings

upon that indictment.

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**564 Form of Indictment**

An indictment is to be intituled with the name of the Court in which it is presented, and must, subject to the provisions hereinafter contained, set forth the offence with which the accused person is charged in such a manner, and with such particulars as to the alleged time and place of committing the offence, and as to the person, if any, alleged to be aggrieved, and as to the property, if any, in question, as may be necessary to inform the accused person of the nature of the charge.

If any circumstance of aggravation is intended to be relied upon, it must be charged in the indictment.

It is sufficient to describe an offence in the words of this Code or of the Statute defining it.

The place of trial is to be named in the margin of the indictment.

**565 General Rules applicable to Indictments**

The following rules are applicable to all indictments:

- (1) Any document or other thing may be described by any name or designation by which it is usually known, and any document may be described by its purport without setting out a copy or facsimile of the whole or any part of it:
- (2) A trade-mark may be described by that name, and any other mark may be described in any way which will indicate its nature, without setting out a copy or facsimile of it:

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

- (3) It is not necessary to set forth the value of any thing mentioned in an indictment unless the value is an essential element of the offence:
  - (4) It is not necessary to set forth the means or instrument by which any act is done, unless the means or instrument are an essential element of the offence:
  - (5) It is not necessary to set forth any particulars as to any person or thing which need not be proved, nor any other matter which need not be proved.
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- (1) An indictment for treason must state overt acts of the treason alleged.
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- (2) In an indictment for an offence which relates to taking or administering an oath or engagement, or to giving false testimony, or to making a false statement on solemn declaration or otherwise, or to procuring the giving of false testimony or the making of a false statement, it is not necessary to set forth the words of the oath or engagement or testimony or statement, but it is sufficient to set forth the purport thereof, or so much of the purport as is material.
- (3) In an indictment for an offence which relates to giving false testimony, or procuring or attempting to procure the giving of false testimony, it is not necessary to allege the jurisdiction of the court or tribunal before which the false testimony was given, or intended or proposed to be given.
- (4) In an indictment for an offence committed with respect to the Post and Telegraph Department, or to the revenue of that department, or to anything sent by post or telegraph, or to anything under the control of the Postmaster-General, any property of which the ownership must be alleged may be alleged to be the property of the Postmaster-General:

And in any such case the Postmaster-General may be described by that term alone, without mentioning his name or using any other addition or description.

- (5) In an indictment in which it is necessary to mention money, such money may be described simply as money, without specifying any particular form of money.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

Such an averment, so far as regards the description of the property, will be sustained by proof that the offender obtained or dealt with any coin or anything which is included in the term 'money,' or any portion of the value of either, in such a manner as to constitute the offence, although such coin or thing was delivered to him in order that some part of the value thereof should be returned to the person who delivered the same or to some other person, and has been returned accordingly.

- (6) In an indictment in which it is necessary to mention any co-owners of property it is sufficient to name one of such persons, ~~adding the words 'and another' or 'and others,'~~ as the case may be, and to state that the property belonged to the person so named and another or others, as the case may be.

- (7) In an indictment against a man for an offence committed by him with respect to his wife's separate property, the property may be alleged to be the property of the wife.
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- (8) In an indictment for an offence relating to any property of a company which is authorised to sue and be sued in the name of a public officer, the property may be alleged to be the property of the public officer.
- (9) In an indictment for an offence relating to any property which by any Statute is to be deemed to be the property of any officer of any institution, the property in question may be alleged to be the property of the officer of the institution for the time being by his name of office.
- (10) In an indictment for an offence relating to a testamentary instrument, it is not necessary to allege that the instrument is the property of any person.
- (11) In an indictment for an offence relating to anything fixed in a square or street, or in a place dedicated to public use or ornament, or to anything in or taken from a public office, it is not necessary to allege that the thing in respect of which the offence is committed is the property of any person.
- (12) In an indictment for an offence relating to a document which is evidence of title to land or an estate in land, the document may be described as being evidence of the title of the person or some one of the persons having an estate in the land to which the document relates, the land or some part thereof being described in some manner sufficient to identify it.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

- (13) In an indictment for stealing a chattel or fixture let to the offender, the chattel or fixture may be described as the property of the person who actually let it to hire.
- (14) In an indictment against a person employed in the Public Service for an offence committed with respect to anything which came into his possession by virtue of his employment, the thing in question may be described as the property of Her Majesty.
- (15) In an indictment for an offence respecting any property, if it is uncertain to which of two or more persons the property belonged at the time when the offence was committed, the property may be described as being the property of one or other of such persons, naming each of them, but without specifying which of them; and the indictment will be
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sustained, so far as regards the allegation of ownership, upon proof that at the time when the offence was committed the property belonged to one or other of such persons without ascertaining which of them.

- (16) In an indictment for the offence of obtaining or procuring the delivery of anything capable of being stolen by a false pretence and with intent to defraud, or of obtaining any property by means of a fraudulent trick or device, or of inducing by means of any such trick or device the payment or delivery of any money or goods, or of attempting to commit, or to procure the commission of, any such offence, it is not necessary to mention the owner of the property in question.
- (17) In an indictment for an offence which involves any fraud or fraudulent pretence or trick or device, it is not necessary to set forth the details of the fraud or pretence or trick or device.
- (18) In an indictment for an offence relating to an insolvent it is not necessary to set forth any debt, act of insolvency, adjudication, or other proceeding in any Court, or any order, warrant, or document, made or issued by or out of, or by the authority of, any Court.

**567 Indictment to contain One Matter of Charge only**

Except as hereinafter stated, an indictment must charge one offence only, and not two or more offences:

Provided that when several distinct indictable offences are alleged to be constituted by the same acts or omissions, or by a series of acts done or omitted to be done in the prosecution of a single purpose, charges of such distinct offences may be joined in the same indictment against the same person.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

In any such case the several statements of the offences may be made in the same form as in other cases, without any allegation of connection between the offences.

But, if in any such case it appears to the Court that the accused person is likely to be prejudiced by such joinder, the Court may require the prosecutor to elect upon which of the several charges he will proceed, or may direct that the trial of the accused person upon each or any of the charges shall be had separately.

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This section does not authorise the joinder of a charge of wilful murder, murder, or manslaughter, with a charge of any other offence.

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- (1) In an indictment against a person for stealing money, the accused person may be charged and proceeded against for the amount of a general deficiency, notwithstanding that such general deficiency is made up of any number of specific sums of money the taking of which extended over any space of time.
  - (2) In an indictment against a person for stealing he may be charged with two or three distinct acts of stealing the property of the same person, committed by him within the space of six months from the first to the last of such acts.
  - (3) If, on the trial of a person charged with stealing, it appears that property alleged to have been stolen at one time was stolen at different times, the prosecutor is not by reason thereof required to elect upon which act of stealing he will proceed, unless it appears that there were more than three acts of stealing, or that more than six months elapsed between the first and the last of such acts:

In either of such last-mentioned cases the prosecutor is to be required to elect to proceed in respect of two or three acts of stealing which appear to have taken place within the period of six months from the first to the last of such acts.

- (4) Charges of stealing any property and of receiving the same property, or any part thereof, knowing it to have been stolen, may be joined in the same indictment, and the accused person may, according to the evidence, be convicted either of stealing the property or of receiving it, or any part of it, knowing it to have been stolen.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

When such an indictment is preferred against two or more persons, all or any of the accused persons may, according to the evidence, be convicted either of stealing the property or of receiving it, or any part of it, knowing it to have been stolen; or, according to the evidence, one or more of them may be convicted of stealing the property, and the other or others of them of receiving it, or any part of it, knowing it to have been stolen.

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- (5) Any number of persons charged with committing or with procuring the commission of the same offence, although at different times, or of being accessories after the fact to the ~~same offence, although at different times,~~ and any number of persons charged with receiving, although at different times, any property which has been obtained by means of a crime or misdemeanour, or by means of an act

which if it had been done in Queensland would be a crime or misdemeanour and which is an offence under the laws in force in the place where it was done, or any part of any property so obtained, may be charged with substantive offences in the same indictment, and may be tried together notwithstanding that the principal offender or the person who so obtained the property is not included in the same indictment, or is not amenable to justice.

**569 Accessories**

A person who counsels or procures another person to commit an offence, or who aids another person in committing an offence, or who becomes an accessory after the fact to an offence, may be charged in the same indictment with the principal offender, and may be tried with him or separately, or may be indicted and tried separately, whether the principal offender has or has not been convicted, or is or is not amenable to justice.

**570 Statement of Previous Conviction**

In an indictment for an offence charged to have been committed after a conviction for any offence, it is sufficient, after charging the subsequent offence, to state the substance and effect of the indictment or complaint, and the conviction, for the previous offence, and the time and place of such conviction.

**571 Formal Defects**

An indictment is not open to objection by reason of the designation of any person by a name of office or other

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

descriptive appellation instead of by his proper name, nor for omitting to state the time at which the offence was committed, unless the time is an essential element of the offence, nor for stating imperfectly the time at which the offence was committed, nor for stating the offence to have been committed on an impossible day, or on a day that never happened or has not yet happened.

An objection to an indictment for a formal defect apparent on its face must be taken by motion to quash the indictment before the jury is sworn, and not afterwards.

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**572 Amendment of Indictments**

If, on the trial of a person charged with an indictable offence, there appears to be a variance between the

indictment and the evidence, or it appears that any words that ought to have been inserted in the indictment have been omitted, or that any words that ought to have been omitted have been inserted, the Court may, if it considers that the variance, omission, or insertion, is not material to the merits of the case, and that the accused person will not be prejudiced thereby in his defence on the merits, order the indictment to be amended, so far as it is necessary, on such terms, if any, as to postponing the trial, and directing it to be had before the same jury or another jury, as the Court may think reasonable.

The indictment is thereupon to be amended in accordance with the order of the Court.

When an indictment has been amended, the trial is to proceed, at the appointed time, upon the amended indictment, and the same consequences ensue, in all respects and as to all persons, as if the indictment had been originally in its amended form.

If it becomes necessary to draw up a formal record in any case in which an amendment has been made, the record is to be drawn up setting out the indictment as amended, and without taking any notice of the fact of the amendment having been made.

**573 Particulars**

The Court may, in any case, if it thinks fit, direct particulars to be delivered to the accused person of any matter alleged in the indictment, and may adjourn the trial for the purpose of such delivery.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**574 Summary Convictions**

The provisions of this Chapter relating to indictments apply to complaints preferred against offenders upon their trial before justices in order to their summary conviction of an indictable offence.

***Chapter LXI – Effect of Indictment***

**575 Offences involving Circumstances of Aggravation**

Except as hereinafter stated, upon an indictment charging a person with an offence committed with circumstances of aggravation, he may be convicted of any offence which is established by the evidence, and which is constituted by any act or omission which is an element of the

offence charged, with or without any of the circumstances of aggravation charged in the indictment.

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**576 Charge of Murder or Manslaughter**

Upon an indictment charging a person with the crime of wilful murder, he may be convicted of the crime of murder or of the crime of manslaughter, if either of those crimes is established by the evidence, but not, except as herein expressly provided, of any other offence than that with which he is charged.

Upon an indictment charging a person with the crime of murder, he may be convicted of the crime of manslaughter, if that crime is established by the evidence, but not, except as herein expressly provided, of any other offence than that with which he is charged.

Upon an indictment charging a person with the crime of manslaughter he cannot, except as herein expressly provided, be convicted of any other offence.

**577 Charge of Homicide of Child**

Provided that upon an indictment charging a person with the wilful murder or murder of any person, or with unlawfully killing any person, if upon the evidence it appears that the person alleged to have been killed was a child of which a woman had recently been delivered, the accused person may be convicted of the offence of preventing the child from being born alive by an act or omission of such a nature that, if the child had been born alive and had then died, he would be deemed to have unlawfully

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

killed the child, or of the offence of endeavouring by a secret disposition of the dead body of the child to conceal the birth, if either of these offences is established by the evidence.

**578 Charge of Rape and like Offences**

Upon an indictment charging a person with the crime of rape or with the crime of having unlawful carnal knowledge of a girl under the age of twelve years, he may be convicted of any offence which is established by the evidence, and of which the unlawful carnal knowledge of a woman or girl, whether of a particular age or description or not, is an element, and blood relationship is not an element, or of which procuring the woman ~~or girl to have unlawful carnal connection~~ with any man is an element:

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Or he may be convicted of any of the offences following, that is to say:

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- (a) Administering to the woman or girl, or causing her to take, any drug or other thing, with intent to stupefy or overpower her in order to enable any man to have unlawful carnal knowledge of her; or
  - (b) Unlawfully and indecently assaulting the woman or girl; or
  - (c) Unlawfully and indecently dealing with a girl under the age of twelve years or a girl under the age of seventeen years;

if any such offence is established by the evidence.

**579 Charge of Specific Injury: Charge of Injury with Specific Intent**

Upon an indictment charging a person with an offence of which the causing of some specific result is an element, he may be convicted of any offence which is established by the evidence, and of which an intent to cause that result, or a result of a similar but less injurious nature, is an element.

Upon an indictment charging a person with an offence of which an intent to cause some specific result is an element, he may be convicted of any offence which is established by the evidence and of which the unlawful causing of that result is an element.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**580 Charge of Injury to Property**

Upon an indictment charging a person with an offence of which destruction of property, or wilfully and unlawfully doing any specific damage to property, is an element, he may be convicted of wilfully and unlawfully damaging the property, or of wilfully and unlawfully damaging the property in any lesser degree, if either of such offences is established by the evidence.

**581 Stealing, False Pretences, and Cheating**

Upon an indictment charging a person with any of the offences following, that is to say:

- (a) Stealing any property;
- (b) Obtaining or inducing the delivery of any property by a false pretence and with intent to defraud;



(c) Procuring any other person to commit any such offence;

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(d) Obtaining or inducing the delivery or payment of any property or money by means of a fraudulent trick or device;

he may be convicted of any other of such offences committed with respect to the same property, if such other offence is established by the evidence.

**582 Charge of Procuring Commission of Offence or Wrongful Act**

Upon an indictment charging a person with procuring the commission of any offence, he may be convicted of procuring the commission of any other offence of such a nature that a person may be convicted of it upon an indictment charging him with committing the offence of which the accused person is alleged to have procured the commission.

Upon an indictment charging a person with procuring another to do an act or make an omission of such a nature that if the accused person had himself done the act or made the omission, he would have been guilty of an offence, he may be convicted of procuring that other person to do any other act or make any other omission which is established by the evidence, and which is of such a nature that if the accused person had himself done that act or made that omission he would have been guilty of an offence, such last-named offence being itself of such a nature

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

that a person may be convicted of it upon an indictment charging him with committing the offence of which the accused person would have been guilty if he had himself done the act or made the omission which he is alleged to have procured to be done or made.

**583 Conviction for Attempt to Commit Offence**

Upon an indictment charging a person with committing any offence, he may be convicted of attempting to commit that offence, or of attempting to commit any other offence of which he might be convicted upon the indictment.

Upon an indictment charging a person with procuring the commission of any offence, he may be convicted of attempting to procure the commission of that offence, or of attempting to procure the commission of any other offence of such a nature that a person may be convicted of it upon an indictment

charging him with committing the offence of which the accused person is alleged to have procured the commission.

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Upon an indictment charging a person with attempting to commit any offence, he may be convicted of attempting to commit any other offence of such a nature that a person may be convicted of it upon an indictment charging him with committing the offence which the accused person is alleged to have attempted to commit.

Upon an indictment charging a person with attempting to procure the commission of any offence, he may be convicted of attempting to procure the commission of any other offence of such a nature that a person may be convicted of it upon an indictment charging him with committing the offence of which the accused person is alleged to have attempted to procure the commission.

Upon an indictment charging a person with attempting to procure another to do an act or make an omission of such a nature that if the act had been done or the omission had been made, an offence would thereby have been committed he may be convicted of attempting to procure that other person to do any other act or make any other omission of such a nature that if the act had been done or the omission had been made an offence would thereby have been committed, such last-mentioned offence being itself of such a nature that a person may be convicted of it upon an indictment charging him with doing the act or making the omission which the accused person

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

is alleged in the indictment to have attempted to procure that other person to do or make.

**584 When Evidence shows Offence of Similar Nature**

If, on the trial of a person charged with any indictable offence, the evidence establishes that he is guilty of another indictable offence of such a nature that upon an indictment charging him with it he might have been convicted of the offence with which he is actually charged, he may be convicted of the offence with which he is so charged.

A person so tried is not liable to be afterwards prosecuted for the offence so established by the evidence, unless the Court before which the trial is had thinks fit to discharge the jury from giving any verdict, and to direct the accused person to be indicted for that offence; in which case he may be dealt with in all respects as if he had not been

put upon his trial for the offence with which he is actually charged.

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**585 Effect of Conviction**

A person convicted under any of the foregoing provisions of this Chapter is liable to the same punishment as if he had been convicted on an indictment charging him with the offence of which he is actually convicted.

**586 Corrupt Practices**

If, on the trial of a person charged with an indictable offence relating to elections the evidence establishes that he is not guilty of the offence charged, but is guilty of an offence relating to elections and punishable on summary conviction, he may be convicted of such last-mentioned offence, and is liable to the same punishment as if he had been summarily convicted of that offence.

**587 Illegal Practices**

If, on the trial of a person charged with an offence relating to elections and punishable on summary conviction, the evidence establishes that he is guilty of an indictable offence relating to elections, he is not entitled to have the charge dismissed if the evidence also establishes that he did any act or acts such as to constitute the offence with which he is actually charged.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**588 Charge of Stealing Cattle**

If, on the trial of a person charged with stealing a horse, mare, gelding, ass, mule, camel, bull, cow, ox, ram, ewe, wether, goat, or pig, or the young of any such animal, the evidence establishes that he is not guilty of the offence charged, but is guilty of any of the offences following, that is to say:

- (a) Unlawfully using the animal without the consent of the owner, or of the person in lawful possession thereof;
- (b) Branding or marking the animal, or knowingly permitting it to be branded or marked, with his registered brand or registered mark, knowing that he is not the owner of the animal;
- (c) Altering or defacing, or otherwise rendering undistinguishable, any registered brand or registered mark upon the animal;

(d) Knowingly permitting any such act as last aforesaid to be done by any person over whom he has control;

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he may be convicted of the offence so established by the evidence, and is liable to the same punishment as if he had been summarily convicted of that offence.

**589 Indictment for Joint Receiving**

Upon an indictment charging two or more persons jointly with an offence of which the receiving of any property is an element, if the evidence establishes that one or more of them separately received any part or parts of the property under such circumstances as to constitute an offence, such one or more of the accused persons may be convicted of the offence or offences so established by the evidence.

***Chapter LXII – Trial: Adjournment: Pleas: Practice***

**590 Right to be Tried**

A person committed for trial before any Court for any indictable offence may make application in open Court at any time during the first Sittings of the Court held after his committal to be brought to his trial.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

If an indictment is not presented against him at some time during those Sittings, the Court may, upon motion made on his behalf on the last day of such Sittings, admit him to bail, and is required so to do, unless it appears upon oath that some material evidence for the Crown could not be produced at those Sittings.

Any person committed as aforesaid, who has made such an application to be brought to his trial, and who is not brought to trial at the second Sittings after his committal for trial, is entitled to be discharged.

**591 Accelerating Trial of Persons not under Committal**

When an indictment is presented in any Court against any person who has not been committed for trial or held to bail upon ~~the charge set forth in the indictment, and~~  
the accused person is not brought to trial within a year after the indictment is presented, the Court may, upon the application of the accused person or any of the accused

persons, if more than one, authorise him to bring on the trial, and he may bring on the trial accordingly, unless in the meantime the Court is informed that the Crown will not further proceed upon the indictment.

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**592 Adjourment of Trial**

The Court before which an indictment is presented may, in any case, if it thinks fit, adjourn the trial of the accused person.

A trial may be adjourned at any period of the trial, whether a jury has or has not been sworn, and whether evidence has or has not been given.

**593 On Adjourment of Trial Accused may be Remanded to another Court having Jurisdiction**

When the trial of a person charged with an offence on indictment is adjourned, the Court may direct the trial to be held either at a later Sitting of the same Court or before some other Court of competent jurisdiction, and may remand the accused person accordingly, and may, in a proper case, admit him to bail, or enlarge his bail if he has already been admitted to bail, and may enlarge the recognizances of the witnesses.

In any such case, the indictment and other proceedings are to be transmitted to the proper officer of the Court to which the accused person is so remanded, and that Court has the same

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

jurisdiction to try him as if he had been originally committed to be tried before it; and the accused person is bound to attend to be tried, and the witnesses are bound to attend to give evidence, at the time and place to which the trial is adjourned, without entering into any fresh recognizances for that purpose, in the same manner as if they had respectively been originally bound by their recognizances to appear and to attend and give evidence at the time and place to which the trial is adjourned.

**594 Accused Person to be called upon to Plead to Indictment**

At the time appointed for the trial of an accused person, he is to be informed in open Court of the offence with which he is charged, as set forth in the indictment, and is to be called upon to plead to the indictment, and to say whether he is guilty or not guilty of the charge.

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The trial is deemed to begin when he is so called upon.

**595 Delivery of Copy of Indictment**

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When an indictment is presented against any person, the Court is required, upon his application, to order a copy of the indictment to be delivered to him without fee.

**596 Motion to Quash Indictment**

The accused person may before pleading apply to the Court to quash the indictment on the ground that it is calculated to prejudice or embarrass him in his defence to the charge, or that it is formally defective.

Upon such motion the Court may quash the indictment, or may order it to be amended in such manner as the Court thinks just, or may refuse the motion.

**597 Misnomer**

If the accused person says that he is wrongly named in the indictment, the Court may, on being satisfied by affidavit or otherwise of the error, order the indictment to be amended.

**598 Pleas**

If the accused person does not apply to quash the indictment, he must either plead to it, or demur to it on the ground that it

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

does not disclose any offence cognizable by the Court. If he pleads, he may plead either:

- (1) That he is guilty of the offence charged in the indictment, or, with the consent of the Crown, of any other offence of which he might be convicted upon the indictment;
- (2) That he is not guilty;
- (3) That he has already been convicted upon an indictment on which he might have been convicted of the offence with which he is charged, or has already been convicted of an offence of which he might be convicted upon the indictment;
- (4) That he has already been acquitted upon an indictment on which he might have been convicted of the offence with which he is charged, or has already been acquitted upon indictment of an offence of which he might be convicted upon the

indictment;

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- (5) That he has already been tried and convicted or acquitted of an offence committed or alleged to be committed under such circumstances that he cannot under the provisions of this Code be tried for the offence charged in the indictment;
- (6) That he has received the Royal pardon for the offence charged in the indictment; or
- (7) That the Court has no jurisdiction to try him for the offence.

Two or more pleas may be pleaded together, except that the plea of guilty cannot be pleaded with any other plea to the same charge.

An accused person may plead and demur together.

**599                    Defence of Truth of Defamatory Matter to be Specially Pleaded**

A person charged with the unlawful publication of defamatory matter, who sets up as a defence that the defamatory matter is true and that it was for the public benefit that the publication should be made, must plead that matter specially, and may plead it with any other plea, except the plea of guilty.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**600                    Persons Committed for Sentence**

When a person has been committed by a justice for sentence for an offence, he is to be called upon to plead to the indictment in the same manner as other persons, and may plead either that he is guilty of the offence charged in the indictment or, with the consent of the Crown, of any other offence of which he might be convicted upon the indictment.

If he pleads that he is not guilty, the Court, upon being satisfied that he duly admitted before the justice that he was guilty of the offence charged in the indictment, is to direct a plea of guilty to be entered, notwithstanding his plea of not guilty. A plea so entered has the same effect as if it had been actually pleaded.

If the Court is not so satisfied, or if, notwithstanding that the accused person pleads that he is guilty, it appears to the Court upon examination of the depositions of the witnesses that he has not in fact committed the offence

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charged in the indictment or any other offence of which he might be convicted upon the indictment, the plea of not guilty is to be entered, and the trial is to proceed as in other cases when that plea is pleaded.

A person who has been committed for sentence may plead any of the other pleas mentioned in the last preceding section but one.

**601 Standing Mute**

If an accused person, on being called upon to plead to an indictment, will not plead or answer directly to the indictment, the Court may, if it thinks fit, order a plea of not guilty to be entered on behalf of the accused person. A plea so entered has the same effect as if it had been actually pleaded.

**602 Plea of Autrefois Convict or Autrefois Acquit**

In a plea that the accused person has already been convicted or acquitted, it is sufficient to state that he has been lawfully convicted or acquitted, as the case may be, of the offence charged in the indictment, or of the other offence of which he alleges that he has been convicted or acquitted, and, in the latter case, to describe the offence by any term by which it is commonly known.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**603 Trial on Plea to the Jurisdiction**

Upon a plea to the jurisdiction of the Court, the Court is to proceed to satisfy itself in such manner and upon such evidence as it thinks fit, whether it has jurisdiction or not, and may ascertain the fact by the verdict of a jury or otherwise.

**604 Trial by Jury**

If the accused person pleads any plea or pleas other than the plea of guilty or a plea to the jurisdiction of the Court, he is by such plea, without any further form, deemed to have demanded that the issues raised by such plea or pleas shall be tried by a jury, and is entitled to have them tried accordingly.

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**605 Demurrer**

When an accused person demurs only



and does not plead any plea, the Court is to proceed to hear and determine the matter forthwith. If the demurrer is overruled, he is to be called upon to plead to the indictment.

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When an accused person pleads and demurs together, it is in the discretion of the Court whether the plea or demurrer shall be first disposed of.

No joinder in demurrer is necessary.

**606 Separate Trials**

When two or more persons are charged in the same indictment, whether with the same offence or with different offences, the Court may, at any time during the trial, on the application of any of the accused persons, direct that the trial of the accused persons or any of them shall be had separately from the trial of the other or others of them, and for that purpose may, if a jury has been sworn, discharge the jury from giving a verdict as to any of the accused persons.

**607 Juries**

The law respecting the qualifications of jurors and the summoning of jurors to attend for the trial of persons charged with indictable offences, and the challenges allowed to such persons, is set forth in the laws relating to Juries and Jurors.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**608 Accused Person to be informed of his Right of Challenge**

When an accused person has demanded to be tried by a jury, the proper officer of the Court is to inform him in open Court that the persons whose names are to be called are the jurors to be sworn for his trial, and is further to inform him that if he desires to challenge any of them he must do so before they are sworn.

**609 Challenge to Array**

If the accused person desires to object to the whole panel of jurors, he must do so before any juror is sworn for his trial.

**610 Challenges to Individual Jurors for Cause**

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The Crown or the accused person may object to a particular juror on either of the following grounds, that is to say:

(1) That the juror is not qualified by law to act as a juror;

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(2) That the juror is not indifferent as between the Crown and the accused person.

Such objections are in addition to any peremptory challenges to which an accused person is by law entitled.

**611 Time for Challenging**

An objection to a juror, either by way of peremptory challenge or by way of challenge for cause, may be made at any time before the officer has begun to recite the words of the oath to the juror, but not afterwards.

**612 Ascertainment of Facts as to Challenge**

If at any time it becomes necessary to ascertain the truth of any matter alleged as cause for challenge, the fact shall be tried by the jurors already sworn, if more than one, or, if one juror only has been sworn, by such juror together with some indifferent person chosen by the Court from the panel of jurors, or, if no juror has been sworn, by two indifferent persons chosen by the Court from such panel. The persons so appointed are to be sworn to try the cause for challenge, and their decision on the fact is final and conclusive.

If the persons so appointed cannot agree, the Court may discharge them from giving a decision, and may appoint two

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

other persons to try the fact, to be chosen as in the case when no juror has been sworn.

**613 Want of Understanding of Accused Person**

If, when the accused person is called upon to plead to the indictment, it appears to be uncertain, for any reason, whether he is capable of understanding the proceedings at the trial, so as to be able to make a proper defence, a jury of twelve men, to be chosen from the panel of jurors, are to be impanelled forthwith, who are to be sworn to find whether he is so capable or no.

If the jury find that he is capable of undertaking the proceedings, the trial is to proceed as in other cases.

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If the jury find that he is not so capable, the finding is to be recorded, and the Court may order the accused person to be discharged, or may order him to be kept in custody in such

place and in such manner as the Court thinks fit, until he can be dealt with according to law.

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A person so found to be incapable of understanding the proceedings at the trial may be again indicted and tried for the offence.

**614 Jury to be Sworn and Informed of Charge**

The jury are to be sworn to give a true verdict according to the evidence upon the issues to be tried by them.

When the jury have been sworn, the proper officer of the Court is to inform them of the charge set forth in the indictment, and of their duty as jurors upon the trial.

**615 Discharge of Juror by Court**

If, after a juror has been sworn, it appears to the Court from his own statement that he is not indifferent as between the Crown and the accused person, or that for any other reason he ought not to be allowed or required to act as a juror on the trial, the Court may, without discharging the whole of the jury, discharge that particular juror, and direct another juror to be sworn in his place.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**616 Defence by Counsel**

Every person charged with an offence is entitled to make his defence at his trial and to have the witnesses examined and cross-examined by his counsel.

The term '**counsel**' includes any person entitled to audience as an advocate.

**617 Presence of Accused**

The trial must take place in the presence of the accused person, unless he so conducts himself as to render the continuance of the proceedings in his presence impracticable, in which case the Court may order him to be removed, and may direct the trial to proceed in his absence.

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Provided that the Court may, in any case, if it thinks fit, permit a person charged with a misdemeanour to be absent during the

whole or any part of the trial on such conditions as it thinks fit.

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If the accused person absents himself during the trial without leave, the Court may direct a warrant to be issued to arrest him and bring him before the Court forthwith.

**618 Evidence in Defence**

At the close of the evidence for the prosecution the proper officer of the Court is required to ask the accused person whether he intends to adduce evidence in his defence.

**619 Speeches by Counsel**

Before any evidence is given at the trial of an accused person the counsel for the Crown is entitled to address the jury for the purpose of opening the evidence intended to be adduced for the prosecution.

If the accused person or any of the accused persons, if more than one, is defended by counsel, and if such counsel or any of such counsel says that he does not intend to adduce evidence, the counsel for the Crown is entitled to address the jury a second time for the purpose of summing up the evidence already given against such accused person or persons for whom evidence is not intended to be adduced.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

At the close of the evidence for the prosecution the accused person, and each of the accused persons, if more than one, may by himself or his counsel address the jury for the purpose of opening the evidence, if any, intended to be adduced for the defence, and after the whole of the evidence is given may again address the jury upon the whole case.

If evidence is adduced for an accused person, the counsel for the Crown is entitled to reply.

If evidence is adduced for one or more of several accused persons, but not for all of them, the counsel for the Crown is entitled to reply with respect to the person or persons by whom evidence is so adduced, but not with respect to the other or others of them.

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~~When an accused person, being~~  
defended by counsel, is allowed by the  
Court to make a statement to the jury, the  
counsel for the Crown is entitled to the

same right of reply as if evidence had been adduced for that accused person.

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Provided that a Crown Law Officer is entitled to reply in all cases, whether evidence is adduced by any accused person or not.

**620 Summing up**

After the evidence is concluded and the counsel or the accused person or persons, as the case may be, have addressed the jury, it is the duty of the Court to instruct the jury as to the law applicable to the case, with such observations upon the evidence as the Court thinks fit to make.

After the Court has instructed the jury they are to consider their verdict.

**621 Jury not to Separate**

Except as hereinafter stated, after the jury have been sworn and the charge has been stated to them by the proper officer, they must not separate until they have given their verdict or are discharged by the Court.

And no person except the officer of the Court who has charge of them is to be allowed to speak to or communicate, with any of them without the leave of the Court until they are discharged.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

Provided that on the trial of a person charged with any indictable offence other than a crime punishable with death,<sup>13</sup> the Court may, in its discretion, permit the jury to separate before considering their verdict for such period during any adjournment of the trial as the Court may think fit.

If any person disobeys the directions of this section he may be punished summarily as for contempt of court.

The validity of the proceedings is not affected by any such disobedience, but, if the fact is discovered before the verdict is given, the Court, if it is of opinion that such disobedience is likely to prejudice the fair trial of the charge, may discharge the jury, and may direct that a fresh jury be sworn during the same Sittings of the Court, or may adjourn the trial.

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**622 Confinement of Jury**

241

While the jury are kept together, and until

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they have given their verdict, they are to be kept during any adjournment of the Court, and while they are considering their verdict, in some private place under the charge of an officer of the Court, and are to be provided with necessary fire and lights and with such reasonable refreshment, if any, as the Court may allow.

**623 View**

The Court may in any case, if it thinks fit, direct that the jury shall view any place or thing which the Court thinks it desirable that they should see, and may give any necessary directions for that purpose.

The validity of the proceedings is not affected by disobedience to any such directions, but, if the fact is discovered before the verdict is given, the Court, if it is of opinion that such disobedience is likely to prejudice the fair trial of the charge, may discharge the jury, and may direct that a fresh jury be sworn during the same Sittings of the Court, or may adjourn the trial.

**624 Special Verdict**

In any case in which it appears to the Court that the question whether an accused person ought or ought not to be convicted

<sup>13</sup> See Note 4 at the end of this compilation.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

of an offence may depend upon some specific fact, or that the proper punishment to be awarded upon conviction may depend upon some specific fact, the Court may require the jury to find that fact specially.

**625 General Verdict on Charge of Defamation**

Notwithstanding the provisions of the last preceding section, the jury, on the trial of a person charged with the unlawful publication of defamatory matter, may give a general verdict of ~~guilty or not guilty~~ upon the whole matter in issue, in like manner as in other cases.

**626 Discharge of Jury**

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When the trial of an accused person is adjourned after the jury have been sworn, the Court may discharge the jury.

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If the jury cannot agree as to the verdict to be given, or if any emergency arises of such a nature as to render it in the opinion of the Court necessary or highly expedient for the ends of justice to do so, the Court may, in its discretion, discharge the jury without giving a verdict, and may direct that a fresh jury be sworn during the same sittings of the Court, or may adjourn the trial.

Such an exercise of discretion is not subject to review by any Court.

**627 Incapacity of Judge**

If the presiding Judge becomes incapable of proceeding with the trial or directing the discharge of the jury, it is the duty of some officer of the Court to discharge the jury.

In any such case the accused person must remain in custody, and may be again put on his trial. But he has the same rights with respect to admission to bail as upon an original committal for trial for the offence with which he is charged, and any justice may, in a proper case, admit him to bail accordingly.

**628 Incapacity of Juror**

If at any time during the trial a juror dies, or becomes in the opinion of the Court incapable of continuing to act as a juror, the Court may, in its discretion, discharge the jury under the provisions hereinbefore contained, or may, if it thinks fit, at the

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

request of the accused person, and with the consent of the Crown, discharge the juror, if any, so becoming incapable, and direct that the trial shall proceed with the remaining jurors. In any such case the verdict of the remaining jurors, not being less than ten, shall have the same effect as if all the jurors had continued present.

**629 Verdict on Sunday**

The taking of a verdict or any other proceeding of the Court is not invalid by reason of its happening on a Sunday.

**630 Procedure on Charge of an Offence Committed after Previous Conviction**

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The proceedings upon an indictment for committing an offence after a previous conviction or convictions are required to be as follows, that is to say:

- (1) The accused person is in the first instance to be called upon to plead to so much only of the indictment as charges the subsequent offence:
- (2) If he pleads any plea which raises an issue to be tried by a jury, the jury are to be charged in the first instance to inquire concerning the subsequent offence only:
- (3) If he pleads guilty, or if upon trial he is convicted of the subsequent offence, he is then, and not before, to be asked whether he had been previously convicted as alleged in the indictment:
- (4) If he answers that he had been so previously convicted, the Court may proceed to pass sentence upon him accordingly:
- (5) If he denies that he had been so previously convicted, or will not answer directly to the question, the jury are then to be charged to inquire concerning the previous conviction or convictions; and in that case it is not necessary that the jury should be sworn afresh, but the oath already taken by them is deemed to extend to such last-mentioned inquiry.

Provided that, if on the trial of a person charged with a subsequent offence, he offers evidence of his good character, the Crown may, in answer thereto, and before any verdict is given, offer evidence of his conviction of the previous offence or offences, and in that case the jury are required to inquire

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

concerning the previous conviction or convictions at the same time that they inquire concerning the subsequent offence.

**631 Further Pleas**

When the issues raised by any plea or pleas, except the plea of not guilty, have been found against an accused person who has not pleaded the plea of not guilty, he is to be called upon to plead afresh, and, if those issues have been tried by a jury, the Court may direct the issues raised by any fresh plea to be tried by the same jury or by another jury. If the Court directs them to be tried by the same jury, it is not necessary that the jury should be sworn afresh, but the oath already taken by them is to be deemed to extend to the trial of such fresh issues.

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***Chapter LXIII – Evidence: Presumptions of Fact***

**632 Accomplices**

244

A person cannot be convicted of an



offence on the uncorroborated testimony of an accomplice or accomplices.

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**633 Evidence on Charge of Treason**

On the trial of a person charged with treason evidence cannot be admitted of any overt act not alleged in the indictment.

**634 Evidence on Trials for Perjury and Subornation**

On the trial of a person charged with an offence of which the giving of false testimony by any person at the trial of a person charged with an offence is an element, a certificate setting out the substance and effect only, without the formal parts, of the indictment or complaint, and the proceedings at the trial, and purporting to be signed by the officer having the custody of the records of the Court where the indictment or complaint was tried, or by his deputy, is sufficient evidence of the trial, without proof of the signature or official character of the person who appears to have signed the certificate.

**635 Evidence of Previous Conviction**

On the trial of a person charged with an offence alleged to have been committed after a previous conviction, a certificate setting out the substance and effect only, without the formal parts, of the indictment, verdict, and judgment, or of the complaint and

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

conviction, purporting to be signed by the officer having the custody of the records of the Court where the accused person was first convicted, or by his deputy is, upon proof of the identity of the person of the offender, sufficient evidence of the conviction, without proof of the signature or official character of the person who appears to have signed the certificate:

If the previous conviction was a summary conviction, the conviction is presumed not to have been appealed against until the contrary is shown.

**636 Evidence of Relationship on Charge of Incest**

On the trial of a person charged with an offence of which carnal knowledge, or an attempt to have carnal knowledge, of a woman or girl, is an element, and of which blood relationship is also an element:

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(1) It is sufficient to prove that the woman or girl on whose person or by whom the offence is alleged to

have been committed is reputed to be the daughter or other lineal descendant, or sister, of the person charged, or of the person with whom the offence is alleged to have been committed, as the case may be, and it is not necessary to prove that such woman or girl, or any person being her parent or ancestor and being a descendant of the person charged, or of the person with whom the offence is alleged to have been committed, as the case may be, was born in lawful wedlock:

- (2) The accused person is, until the contrary is proved, presumed to have had knowledge at the time of the alleged offence of the relationship existing between the woman or girl on whose person or by whom the offence is alleged to have been committed and the person charged, or the person with whom the offence is alleged to have been committed, as the case may be.

637 *[repealed]*

**638 Evidence of Authority**

The averment in an indictment that the prosecution is instituted by the direction of a Crown Law Officer, or at the request of the Government of any State, is sufficient evidence of the fact, until the contrary is shown.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**639 Evidence on Charges of Offences against Customs Laws**

On the trial of a person charged with any offence of which the fact that some person was at some particular time an officer of Customs, or was at some particular time employed for the prevention of smuggling, is an element, the averment in the indictment or complaint that any person therein mentioned was an officer of Customs, or was employed for the prevention of smuggling, at any time therein stated is sufficient evidence of the fact, until the contrary is shown.

**640 Evidence on Trial for Defamation**

On the trial of a person charged with the unlawful publication of defamatory matter which is contained in a periodical, after evidence sufficient in the opinion of the Court has been given of the publication by the accused person of the number or part of the periodical containing the matter complained of, other writings or prints purporting to be other numbers or parts of the same periodical previously or

subsequently published, and containing a printed statement that they were published by or for the accused person, are admissible in evidence on either side, without further proof of publication of them.

**641 Evidence on certain Charges of Stealing Money**

On the trial of a person charged with stealing, while employed in the Public Service, money which was the property of Her Majesty, or which came into his possession by virtue of his employment, or charged with stealing, while a clerk or servant, money which was the property of his employer, or which came into his possession on account of his employer, an entry in any book of account kept by the accused person, or kept in, under, or subject to, his charge or supervision, purporting to be an entry of the receipt of any money, is evidence that the money so purporting to have been received was so received by him.

On the trial of a person charged with any such offence, it is not necessary to prove the stealing by the accused person of any specific sum of money, if, on examination of the books of account or entries kept or made by him, or kept or made in, under, or subject to, his charge or supervision, or by any other evidence, there is proof of a general deficiency, and if the jury are satisfied that the accused person stole the deficient money or any part of it.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**642 Evidence on Charges relating to Seals and Stamps**

On the trial of a person charged with any offence relating to any seal or stamp used for the purposes of the public revenue, or of the Post Office, in any part of Her Majesty's dominions or in any foreign State, a despatch from one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, transmitting to the Governor any stamp, mark, or impression, and stating it to be a genuine stamp, mark, or impression, of a die, plate, or other instrument, provided, made, or used, by or under the direction of the proper authority of the country in question for the purpose of expressing or denoting any stamp duty or postal charge, is admissible as evidence of the facts stated in the despatch; and the stamp, mark, or impression, so transmitted may be used by the Court and jury and by witnesses for the purposes of comparison.

**643 Intention to Defraud**

On the trial of a person charged with any offence of which an intent to injure or

deceive or defraud, or an intent to enable another person to deceive or defraud, is an element, it is not necessary to prove an intent to injure or deceive or defraud any particular person, or an intent to enable any particular person to deceive or defraud any particular person.

**644 Admissions**

An accused person may admit on the trial any fact alleged against him, and such admission is sufficient proof of the fact without other evidence.

***Chapter LXIV – Verdict Judgment***

**645 Accused Person Insane during Trial**

If on the trial of any person charged with an indictable offence it is alleged or appears that he is not of sound mind, the jury are to be required to consider the matter, and if the jury find that he is not of sound mind, the finding is to be recorded, and thereupon the Court is required to order him to be kept in strict custody, in such place and in such manner as the Court thinks fit, until he is dealt with under the laws relating to insane persons.

A person so found to be not of sound mind may be again indicted and tried for the offence.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**646 Discharge of Persons Acquitted**

If the jury find that the accused person is not guilty, or give any other verdict which shows that he is not liable to punishment, he is entitled to be discharged from the charge of which he is so acquitted.

**647 Acquittal on ground of Insanity**

Provided that if, on the trial of a person charged with any indictable offence, it is alleged or appears that he was not of sound mind at the time when the act or omission alleged to constitute the offence occurred, the jury are to be required to find specially, if they find that he is not guilty, whether he was of unsound mind at the time when such act or omission took place, and to say whether he is acquitted by them on account of such unsoundness of mind; and if they find that he was of unsound mind at the time when such act or omission took place, and say that he is acquitted by them on account of

such unsoundness of mind, the Court is required to order him to be kept in strict custody, in such place and in such manner as the Court thinks fit, until Her Majesty's pleasure is known.

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In any such case the Governor, in the name of Her Majesty, may give such order for the safe custody of such person during his pleasure, in such place of confinement, and in such manner, as the Governor in Council may think fit.

**648 Convicted Person to be called on to Show Cause**

When an accused person pleads that he is guilty of any offence, and when, upon trial, an accused person is convicted of any offence, the proper officer is required to ask him whether he has anything to say why sentence should not be passed upon him: But an omission to do so does not invalidate the judgment.

**649 Arrest of Judgment**

A person convicted of an indictable offence, whether on his plea of guilty or otherwise, may at any time before sentence move that judgment be arrested on the ground that the indictment does not disclose any offence.

Upon the hearing of the motion the Court may allow any such amendments of the indictment as it might have allowed before verdict.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

The Court may either hear and determine the motion forthwith or may reserve the question of law for the consideration of the Court of Criminal Appeal as hereinafter provided.

**650 Sentence**

If a motion to arrest the judgment is not made or is dismissed, the Court may either pass sentence upon the offender forthwith or may discharge him on his recognizance, as hereinbefore provided, conditioned that he shall appear and receive judgment at some future Sittings of the Court, or when called upon.

If the trial was had in a Circuit Court, the recognizance may, in the discretion of the Court, be conditioned to appear and receive judgment before the Supreme Court at some fixed future time, or when called upon.

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If sentence is not passed forthwith, any Judge of the Court may at any subsequent sitting of the Court at which

the offender is present pass sentence upon him.

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The Court may, before passing sentence, receive such evidence as it thinks fit in order to inform itself as to the sentence proper to be passed.

**651 Sentence of Death**

The sentence to be pronounced upon a person who is convicted of a crime punishable with death<sup>14</sup> is that he be returned to his former custody, and that at a time and place to be appointed by the Governor in Council he be hanged by the neck until he is dead.

**652 Recording Sentence of Death<sup>15</sup>**

Provided that when a person is convicted of any crime punishable with death, except treason and wilful murder, if the Court is of opinion that, under the circumstances of the case, it is proper that the offender should be recommended for the Royal mercy, the Court may, if it thinks fit, direct the proper officer, instead of asking the offender whether he has anything to say why sentence of death should not be passed upon him, to ask the offender, and thereupon such officer is to ask the

<sup>14</sup> See Note 4 at the end of this compilation.

<sup>15</sup> See Notes 4, 7 and 8 at the end of this compilation.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

offender, whether he has anything to say why judgment of death should not be recorded against him.

In any such case the Court may abstain from pronouncing sentence of death, and may, instead thereof, order judgment of death to be entered of record.

And thereupon the proper officer is to enter judgment of death on record against the offender in the usual form, as if sentence of death had actually been pronounced by the Court against the offender in open court.

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A record of a judgment of death so entered has the same effect in all respects as if sentence of death had been pronounced in open court.

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**653 Pregnant Women**

When sentence of death is passed upon a woman, she may apply for an order to

stay execution on the ground that she is with child of a quick child.

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If such an application is made, the Court is required to direct one or more legally qualified medical practitioners to be sworn to examine the woman in some private place either together or successively, and to ascertain whether she is with child of a quick child or not.

If upon his or their report, verified on oath, it appears that she is with child of a quick child, the Court is required to order that execution of the sentence be respited until she is delivered of a child or until it is no longer possible in the course of nature that she should be delivered.

**654 Solitary Confinement**

When an offender is sentenced to solitary confinement, the Court is required to give directions in the sentence as to the confinement, and may direct that the offender be kept in solitary confinement, but not in darkness, for any portion or portions of the term of his imprisonment, whether it is with or without hard labour, not exceeding one month at any one time, and not exceeding three months in any one year.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**655** *[Repealed]*

**656 Conditional Suspension of Punishment on First Conviction**

When a person who has not been previously convicted in Queensland or elsewhere of an offence of such a nature that, upon conviction, a sentence may be imposed restricting the liberty of the offender for a period of six months or upwards, is convicted of any offence of such a nature that he may be sentenced, upon the conviction, to imprisonment for a period not exceeding three years, then, if in the opinion of the Court or justices, a sentence of imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for a period not exceeding three years is an adequate punishment, the following provisions have effect, that is to say:

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(1) The Court is to proceed to pass sentence upon the offender in the usual form:

(2) The Court may, if it thinks fit, suspend the execution of the

sentence, upon the offender entering into a recognizance in such amount as the Court directs, such recognizance being conditioned that the offender shall be of good behaviour for a period from the date of the sentence equal to the term of the sentence, or if the term of the sentence is less than twelve months, then for the period of twelve months, and shall not during the like period do or omit to do any act whereby the recognizance would become liable to be forfeited under the provisions hereinafter contained:

- (3) When such recognizance is entered into the offender is to be discharged from custody, but is liable to be committed to prison to undergo his sentence, if, during the period specified in the recognizance, any of the conditions hereinafter specified happens with respect to him:

A written notice must be given to the offender upon his discharge specifying the conditions under which he will become liable to be so committed to prison:

- (4) When an offender is so committed to prison, the term of the sentence begins to run from the commencement of his custody upon the commitment, but the term of the imprisonment does not extend beyond the period specified in the recognizance, and at the expiration of that period the offender is entitled to be discharged:
- (5) If the offence has relation to property, or is an offence against the person, the Court or justices may, upon

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

suspending the execution of the sentence as hereinbefore provided, order the offender to make restitution of the property in respect of which the offence was committed, or to pay compensation for the injury done to such property, or compensation for the injury done to the person injured, as the case may be, and may assess the amount to be paid by the offender in any such case, and may direct when and to whom and in what instalments the amount ordered to be paid is to be paid:

Any such order may be enforced by any justice in the same manner as orders made by justices upon summary convictions:

The Court or justices may require the offender to give security for the performance of any such order, and may ~~make the discharge of the~~ offender from custody conditional upon such security being given:

252

- (6) An offender discharged under the



provisions of this section must, once at least in every three months during the period specified in the recognizance, report his address and occupation to the principal officer of police at the place in which he was convicted, or at such other place as the Commissioner of Police may appoint:

Such report may be made either by the offender personally attending at the place aforesaid, or by post-letter signed by him and addressed to the principal officer of police at that place, unless in any case the Home Secretary directs that the report shall be made by the offender personally, in which case it must be made in that manner only:

- (7) If, during the period specified in the recognizance, any of the events following happens, that is to say:
- (a) If it is proved to two justices in petty sessions that an offender so discharged has failed to report his address and occupation to the person, at the times, and in the manner lastly prescribed; or
  - (b) If an offender so discharged is charged by a police officer with getting his livelihood by dishonest means, and, on his being brought before two justices in petty sessions, it appears to the justices that there are reasonable grounds for believing that he is getting his livelihood by dishonest means; or

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

- (c) If an offender so discharged is charged with an offence punishable on indictment or summary conviction, and, on his being required by the justices before whom he is charged to give his name and address, he refuses to do so, or gives a false name or a false address; or
- (d) If an offender so discharged is convicted of any indictable offence, whether on indictment or summarily, or of any offence punishable on summary conviction and for which imprisonment for a period exceeding one month may be imposed;

the Court or justices before whom the offender is charged or convicted may forfeit the recognizance and commit him to prison to undergo his original sentence, or so much thereof, if any, as remains to be undergone under the provisions hereinbefore contained; and the Court or justices may grant any necessary warrant for his committal:

But if during the period aforesaid none of the aforesaid events happens, he is discharged from the original sentence; and the conviction on which that sentence was imposed is not on any subsequent conviction against him to be deemed to be of previous conviction for the purposes of any law under which a greater punishment may be inflicted upon a person who has been previously convicted.

**657 Discharge of Offender in certain Cases**

When a person is summarily convicted of any offence relating to property, the justices may discharge the offender without inflicting any punishment upon his making such satisfaction to the person aggrieved for damages, with or without costs, as may be approved by the justices.

When such satisfaction has been made, the offender is not liable to any civil proceedings for the same cause at the suit of the person aggrieved.

**658 Assessment of Value of Property: Appropriation of Fines dependent on Value**

On a summary conviction by which any penalty is imposed upon the basis of the value of any property taken, killed, or destroyed, or of the amount of any injury done to any property, such value

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

or amount is to be assessed by the convicting justices, and the amount, when recovered, is to be paid to the person aggrieved, unless he is unknown, or unless the property taken or injured is of a public nature; in either of which cases it is to be applied in the same manner as other fines imposed by justices.

Provided that when several persons join in the commission of the same offence, and on conviction a penalty is imposed upon each of them upon the basis of the value of the property or of the amount of the injury, no further sum than such value or amount is to be paid to the person aggrieved, and the remainder is to be applied in the same manner as other fines imposed by justices.

**659 Effect of Summary Conviction for Indictable Offences**

When a person has been summarily convicted of an indictable offence, the conviction is to be deemed a conviction of a simple offence only, and not of an indictable offence.

## **Chapter LXIVA – Habitual Criminals**

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### **659A Judge may Declare Convicted Person an Habitual Criminal.**

(1) Where any person:

- (a) Is convicted on indictment of an offence included in the offences mentioned in Chapter XXII; and
- (b) Has been previously so convicted on indictment on at least two occasions of any of the said offences (whether of the same description of offence or not);

the judge may in his discretion declare as part of the sentence of such person that he is an habitual criminal.

(2) Where any person:

- (a) Is convicted on indictment of an offence included in the offences mentioned in Chapters XVIII, XXIX, XXXVI to XLI inclusive, XLVI, XLIX, and LI ; and
- (b) Has been previously convicted on indictment on at least three occasions of an offence included in the offences mentioned in Chapters XVIII, XXII, XXIX, XXXVI to XLI inclusive, XLVI, XLIX, and LI (whether of the same description of offence or not);

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

the judge may in his discretion declare as part of the sentence of such person that he is an habitual criminal.

(3) Where any person:

- (a) Has been previously convicted on indictment on at least two occasions of an offence included in the offences mentioned in Chapters XVIII, XXII, XXIX, XXXVI to XLI inclusive, XLVI, XLIX, and LI (whether of the same description of offence or not); and
- (b) Is convicted summarily of any offence punishable by imprisonment for not less than three months; and also
- (c) Has been previously convicted summarily on at least two occasions of any offence punishable by imprisonment for not less than three months;

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the court of petty sessions before which the charge is heard, in addition to sentencing such person to any lawful term of imprisonment, may order that

such person be brought before the Supreme Court or a judge thereof to be dealt with as an habitual criminal.

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(4) Where any person:

- (a) Is convicted of any offence under the *Vagrant Acts 1851 to 1863* or any Act amending or in substitution therefor; and
- (b) Has been previously convicted on at least four occasions of any offence mentioned in such Acts (whether of the same description of offence or not);

the court of petty sessions before which the charge is heard, in addition to sentencing such person to any lawful term of imprisonment, may order that such person be brought before the Supreme Court or a judge thereof to be dealt with as an habitual criminal.

- (5) In any of the cases mentioned in the last two preceding subsections, the Supreme Court or a judge thereof may declare any such person to be an habitual criminal, and may direct that on the expiration of his sentence he shall be detained in a reformatory prison under this Code.
- (6) This section applies whether such previous convictions took place within Queensland or for similar offences under similar

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

laws out of Queensland, and either before or after the first day of January, one thousand nine hundred and fifteen.

- (7) For the purposes of this section a committal for sentence under the *Justices Acts 1886 to 1909*, or any Act amending or in substitution for those Acts, shall be deemed to be a previous conviction on indictment.

**659B Reformatory Prisons**

- (1) The Governor in Council may from time to time, by Order in Council, set apart any prison or other suitable place to be a reformatory prison for the detention of habitual criminals.
- (2) The Governor in Council may from time to time appoint for each reformatory prison a manager, a matron, and such other officers and attendants as he deems necessary.

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**659C Prisons Act and Code to apply**

Every reformatory prison shall be deemed

to be a prison, and every person detained therein shall be deemed to be a prisoner, within the meaning of the *Prisons Act 1890* and this Code.

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**659D Detention of Habitual Criminals**

- (1) Every habitual criminal shall at the expiration of his sentence be detained during His Majesty's pleasure.
- (2) In every reformatory prison, female prisoners shall be detained in separate buildings or separate parts of the same buildings in such manner as to prevent their seeing, conversing, or holding any intercourse with male prisoners.

**659E Alcoholic Liquor Prohibited**

No person shall bring into a reformatory prison for the use of the prisoners any alcoholic liquor, nor shall any prisoner be allowed any alcoholic liquor.

Any person who contravenes this section shall be liable to a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds:

Provided that such liquor may be given to and used by the prisoners, when so ordered for medicinal purposes in cases of illness.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**659F Prisoners to be Employed**

- (1) Prisoners in a reformatory prison shall be employed in such labour as is prescribed by regulations or directed by the Home Secretary.
- (2) Wages, according to the scale prescribed by regulations for the class of labour in which any such prisoner is employed, shall (subject to such regulations) from time to time be credited to such prisoner in an account to be kept in each reformatory prison, and the amount from time to time standing to his credit shall be applied wholly or in part, as directed by the Home Secretary, towards maintaining his wife and children (if any) during the period of his detention, and the balance (if any) standing to his credit on his discharge shall be paid over to him.

**659G Discharge**

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- (1) Any person detained under this Act may apply to the Supreme Court or a judge thereof for a recommendation that such

person, having sufficiently reformed, or for other sufficient reason, may be discharged.

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Such Court or judge may thereupon make inquiry in such manner as is deemed fitting, and on being satisfied that such person has sufficiently reformed, or that there is some other sufficient reason to warrant his discharge, may recommend the Governor to discharge him accordingly.

- (2) The Governor may thereupon direct the discharge of such person; and may order that so long as such person remains in Queensland he shall report his address and occupation to the principal officer of police at the place in which he was convicted, or at such other place as the Commissioner of Police may appoint, for such period, not exceeding two years, and at such intervals as are named in the order.
- (3) Such report may be made either personally or by post letter addressed to the principal officer of police at that place.

**659H Conditions under which Offender may be Arrested**

- (1) If during the period specified in such order the person so discharged:
  - (a) Is proved to any court of petty sessions to have failed without reasonable excuse (the proof whereof shall be upon him) to report his address and occupation to the

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

proper person at the times and in the manner prescribed by the said order; or

- (b) Is charged by an officer of police with getting his livelihood by dishonest means, and, being brought before any court of petty sessions, it appears to such court that there are reasonable grounds for believing he is getting his livelihood by dishonest means; or
- (c) On being charged with an offence punishable on indictment or summary conviction, and on being required by the court before which he is charged to give his name and address, refuses to do so, or gives a false name or a false address; or
- (d) Is convicted of any offence against the *Vagrant Acts 1851 to 1863* or any Act amending or in substitution therefor, or ~~of any indictable offence, or of any~~ offence punishable on summary conviction by imprisonment for not less than three months,

then and in any such case the court before which such proof is given, or before which the offender is so charged or convicted, may direct him, in addition to any penalty or on the completion of any term of imprisonment then imposed upon him, to be recommitted to a reformatory prison, and he shall be so recommitted accordingly, and the court may grant any necessary warrant for his recommitment.

- (2) If during the period so specified none of the events aforesaid happens, the person so discharged shall cease to be an habitual criminal.

## **659I Regulations**

The Governor in Council may from time to time make all such regulations as appear necessary for giving effect to this chapter and particularly for:

- (a) The means of proof of previous conviction;
- (b) The control and management of any reformatory prison;
- (c) The good order, discipline, diet, and health of the prisoners therein; and
- (d) The classes of labour, hours of employment, wages, and deductions from wages of such prisoner.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

All such regulations shall, upon publication in the *Gazette*, be read as one with this Code and be of equal validity

All such regulations shall be laid before both Houses of Parliament within forty days after the making thereof if Parliament is then sitting, or, if not, then within forty days after the commencement of the next session of Parliament.

If either House of Parliament, within the next forty days after any regulations have been so laid before such House, resolves that such regulations or any of them ought to be annulled, the same shall, after the date of such resolution, be of no effect without prejudice to the validity of anything done in the meantime under such regulations or to the making of any new regulations.

## **Chapter LXV – Costs**

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### **660 Costs of Prosecution in Certain Cases**

When a person is convicted on indictment of any indictable offence

259

relating to the person of any person, the Court, on the application of the person aggrieved by the offence, may, in addition to any sentence which is passed upon the offender, adjudge him to pay to the person aggrieved his costs of prosecution, together with a sum by way of compensation for any loss of time suffered by him by reason of the offence of which the offender is convicted.

An order for the payment of such costs, or of any sum so awarded by way of compensation, may be enforced in the same manner as a judgment of the Court given in an action.

If any money was found on the person of the offender on his arrest, the Court may order it to be applied towards the payment of any money so ordered to be paid by him.

When an order is made under the provisions of this section for the payment of money by way of compensation to an aggrieved person, the offender is not liable to any civil proceedings for the same cause at the suit of that person.

**661 Costs in Cases of Defamation**

- (1) In the case of a prosecution of any person on the complaint of a private prosecutor on a charge of the unlawful publication of defamatory matter, if the accused person is indicted and

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

acquitted he is entitled to recover from the prosecutor his costs of defence, unless the Court otherwise orders.

- (2) In the case of a prosecution of any person on the complaint of a private prosecutor on a charge of the unlawful publication of defamatory matter, if the accused person pleads that the defamatory matter was true and that it was for the public benefit that the publication should be made, then, if that issue is found for the Crown, the prosecutor is entitled to recover from the accused person the costs sustained by him by reason of such plea, unless the Court otherwise orders.

**662 Taxation**

Costs of a prosecution or defence must be taxed by the proper officer of the Court in which the indictment is presented.

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If the indictment is presented in a Circuit Court, the costs must be taxed by the proper officer of the Supreme Court.



The term '**costs of prosecution**' includes costs incurred by the person aggrieved in order to the committal of the offender, and costs incurred by him with the consent of the Crown for the purposes of the trial.

The term '**costs of defence**' includes costs incurred by the accused person both before and after his committal.

**663 Enforcement of Judgment of Circuit Court**

When an order is made by a Circuit Court under the provisions of this Chapter, it may be recorded in the Supreme Court, and may then be enforced in the same manner as a judgment of that Court given in an action.

**Chapter LXVI – Execution of Sentence**

**664 Execution of Sentence of Death**

The punishment of death is executed by hanging the offender by his neck until he is dead. The execution is required to take place within the walls or enclosed yard of a prison. The time and place of execution are to be appointed by the Governor in Council.

The sheriff, or under sheriff, or a deputy appointed by the sheriff, is required to be present at the execution, together with

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

the superintendent and proper officers of the prison, including the medical officer. All justices who may think fit, and such police officers, military troops, and adult spectators as the sheriff, under sheriff, or such deputy, may think fit may also be present.

All the persons attending the execution are required to remain in the enclosure until execution has been done according to law, and until the medical officer has signed a certificate in the form following, that is to say:

I (A.B.), being the medical officer of the prison at , do hereby certify that I have this day witnessed the execution of C.D., lately, as I am informed, convicted and duly sentenced to death at the court; and I further certify that the said C.D. was, in pursuance of such sentence, hanged by the neck  
until he was dead.

Given under my hand this

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year .

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The sheriff, or under sheriff, or such deputy, and the superintendent and officers of the prison, and the police officers who are present, are required to subscribe, and such other persons as aforesaid who are present may subscribe, before their departure from the prison, a declaration in the form following, adding their description, that is to say:

We, the undersigned, do hereby declare and testify that we were this day present when the extreme penalty of the law was executed on C.D., lately, as we are informed, convicted at the \_\_\_\_\_ court, and duly sentenced to death on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_; and that the said C.D. was, in pursuance of such sentence, hanged by the neck until he was dead.

Every such certificate and declaration is to be transmitted by the sheriff, or under sheriff, or such deputy, whichever is present at the execution, to the Registrar of the Supreme Court at Brisbane, and is to be entered and kept in his office as a record of the Court, and a copy of it is to be twice published in the Gazette.

The body of the offender is to be buried at such place as the Home Secretary may direct.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**665      Commutation of Capital Sentence**

In any case in which the Governor is authorised to extend the Royal mercy conditionally to an offender under sentence of death, he may extend mercy on condition of the offender being imprisoned, with or without hard labour, for such term as the Governor may think fit.

Any such extension of mercy is to be signified in writing to the Home Secretary, and the Home Secretary is required thereupon to allow the offender the benefit of a conditional pardon, and to make an order that he be imprisoned with or without hard labour, according to the direction of the Governor. Such allowance or order has the effect of a valid sentence passed by the Court before which the offender was convicted.

~~666      [Repealed]~~

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**667      Levy of Fine and Costs on Conviction  
for Defamation**

262

When any person is convicted of the unlawful publication of any defamatory matter which was published by means of printing, the prosecutor may levy the fine, if any, and costs out of any property of the offender in like manner as in civil actions, and also out of the whole of the types, presses, or printing materials, which, at the time when the offence was committed, belonged to any person to whom any types, presses, or printing materials, used in printing such defamatory matter, belonged at the time when the offence was committed, to whomsoever the same may belong at the time of the levy.

### **Chapter LXVII – Appeal: Pardon**

#### **668 Definitions**

In this Chapter:

The term **‘appellant’** includes a person who has been convicted and desires to appeal under this Chapter.

The term **‘Court’** means the Court of Criminal Appeal.

The term **‘court of trial’** means any court from whose finding, sentence, or other determination a person is by this Act entitled to appeal or to apply for leave to appeal.

The term **‘Registrar’** means the registrar of the Court.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

The term **‘sentence’** includes any order made by the court of trial on conviction with reference to the person convicted or his property.

The power of the Court to pass any sentence includes a power to make any such order.

For the purposes of this Chapter a person acquitted on the ground of insanity, where such insanity was not set up as a defence by him, shall be deemed to be a person convicted, and any order to keep him in custody shall be deemed to be a sentence.

#### **668A Court of Criminal Appeal**

- (1) The Supreme Court shall be the Court of Criminal Appeal, and the Court shall be duly constituted if it consists of not less than ~~three judges and of an uneven number of~~ judges.

The determination of any question before

the Court shall be according to the opinion of the majority of the members of the Court hearing the case:

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Provided that the judge of the court of trial shall not be one of such judges.

- (2) The Registrar of the Supreme Court shall be the registrar of the Court.

**668B Reservations of Points of Law**

When any person is indicted for any indictable offence, the court of trial must, on the application of counsel for the accused person made before verdict, and may in its discretion, either before or after judgment, without such application, reserve any question of law which arises on the trial for the consideration of the Court.

If the accused person is convicted, and a question of law has been so reserved before judgment, the court of trial may either pronounce judgment on the conviction and respite execution of the judgment, or postpone the judgment until the question has been considered and decided, and may either commit the person convicted to prison or admit him to bail on recognizance, with or without sureties, and in such sum as the court of trial thinks fit, condition to appear at such time and place as the court of trial may direct, and to render himself in execution, or to receive judgment, as the case may be.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

The judge of the court of trial is thereupon required to state, in a case signed by him, the question of law so reserved, with the special circumstances upon which it arose; and the case is to be transmitted to the Court.

Any question so reserved is to be heard and determined as an appeal by the Court. The Court may send the case back to be amended or restated if it thinks it necessary so to do.

**668C Appeal from Arrest of Judgment**

When the court of trial before which a person is convicted on indictment arrests judgment, the court is required, on the application of counsel for the prosecution, to reserve a case for the consideration of the Court as hereinbefore provided.

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On the hearing of the case the Court may affirm or reverse the order arresting judgment. If the order is reversed, the Court is to direct that judgment be pronounced upon the offender, and he is to be ordered to

appear at such time and place as the Court may direct to receive judgment, and any justice may issue his warrant for arrest of the offender.

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An offender so arrested may be admitted to bail by order of the Court or a judge thereof, which may be made at the time when the order directing judgment to be pronounced is made, or afterwards.

**668D Right of Appeal**

A person convicted on indictment may appeal to the Court:

- (a) Against his conviction on any ground which involves a question of law alone; and
- (b) With the leave of the Court, or upon the certificate of the judge of the court of trial that it is a fit case for appeal, against his conviction on any ground of appeal which involves a question of fact alone, or question of mixed law and fact, or any other ground which appears to the Court to be a sufficient ground of appeal; and
- (c) With the leave of the Court, against the sentence passed on his conviction.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**668E Determination of Appeal in Ordinary Cases**

- (1) The Court on any such appeal against conviction shall allow the appeal if it is of opinion that the verdict of the jury should be set aside on the ground that it is unreasonable, or cannot be supported having regard to the evidence, or that the judgment of the court of trial should be set aside on the ground of the wrong decision of any question of law, or that on any ground whatsoever there was a miscarriage of justice, and in any other case shall dismiss the appeal:

Provided that the Court may, notwithstanding that it is of the opinion that the point or points raised by the appeal might be decided in favour of the appellant, dismiss the appeal if it considers that no substantial miscarriage of justice has actually occurred.

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- (2) Subject to the special provisions of this Chapter, the Court shall, if it allows an appeal against conviction, quash the

conviction and direct a judgment and verdict of acquittal to be entered.

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- (3) On an appeal against a sentence, the Court, if it is of opinion that some other sentence, whether more or less severe, is warranted in law and should have been passed, shall quash the sentence and pass such other sentence in substitution therefor, and in any other case shall dismiss the appeal.

**668F Powers of Court in Special Cases**

- (1) If it appears to the Court that an appellant, though not properly convicted on some count or part of the indictment, has been properly convicted on some other count or part of the indictment, the Court may either affirm the sentence passed at the trial or pass such sentence, whether more or less severe, in substitution therefor, as it thinks proper, and as may be warranted in law by the conviction on the count or part of the indictment on which it considers the appellant has been properly convicted.
- (2) Where an appellant has been convicted of an offence, and the jury could on the indictment have found him guilty of some other offence, and on the finding of the jury it appears to the Court that the jury must have been satisfied of facts which proved him guilty of that other offence, the Court may, instead of allowing or dismissing the appeal, substitute for the verdict found by the jury a verdict of guilty of that other offence, and pass such sentence in substitution for the sentence passed at the trial as may be

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

warranted in law for that other offence, not being a sentence of greater severity.

- (3) Where, on the conviction of the appellant, the jury have found a special verdict, and the Court considers that a wrong conclusion has been arrived at by the court of trial on the effect of that verdict, the Court may, instead of allowing the appeal, order such conclusion to be recorded as appears to the Court to be in law required by the verdict, and pass such sentence, whether more or less severe, in substitution for the sentence passed at the trial, as may be warranted in law.
  - (4) If on any appeal it appears to the Court that, although the appellant committed the act or made the omission charged against him, he was not of sound mind at the time when the act
- 
- or omission alleged to constitute the offence occurred, so as not to be responsible therefor according to law, the Court may quash the sentence passed at

the trial, and order the appellant to be kept in strict custody in the same manner as if a jury had found that fact specially under section six hundred and forty-seven of this Code.

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**669 Power to Grant New Trial**

On an appeal against a conviction on indictment, the Court may, either of its own motion or on the application of the appellant, order a new trial in such manner as it thinks fit, if the Court considers that a miscarriage of justice has occurred, and that, having regard to all the circumstances, such miscarriage of justice can be more adequately remedied by an order for a new trial than by any other order which the Court is empowered to make.

**670 Revesting and Restitution of Property on Conviction**

The operation of any order for the restitution of any property, or for the payment of compensation to an aggrieved person, made by the court of trial, and the operation of the provisions of subsection one of section twenty-six of '*The Sale of Goods Act of 1896*' as to the revesting of the property in stolen goods on conviction, shall (unless such court directs to the contrary in any case in which in its opinion the title to the property is not in dispute) be suspended:

- (a) Until the expiration of the time provided for appealing to the Court; and

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

- (b) Where notice of appeal or of application for leave to appeal is given within the time provided, until the determination of the appeal or refusal of the application;

and in cases where the operation of any such order or the operation of the said provisions is suspended until the determination of the appeal, the order or provisions, as the case may be, shall not take effect as to the property in question if the conviction is quashed on appeal, except by the special order of the Court.

The Court may annul or vary any such order, although the conviction is not quashed.

**671 Time for Appealing**

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- (1) Any person convicted desiring to appeal to the Court, or to obtain the leave of the Court to appeal from any conviction or sentence, shall give

notice of appeal or notice of application for leave to appeal, in the prescribed manner, within fourteen days of the date of such conviction or sentence.

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- (3) Except in the case of conviction involving sentence of death, the time within which notice of appeal, or notice of an application for leave to appeal, may be given may be extended at any time by the Court.

**671A Judge's Notes and Report to be Furnished on Appeal**

The judge of the court of trial shall, in case of any appeal or application for leave to appeal, furnish to the registrar his notes of the trial, and also a report giving his opinion upon the case or upon any point arising in the case:

Provided that, where shorthand notes have been taken in accordance with this Chapter, a transcript of such notes may be furnished in lieu of such judge's notes.

**671B Supplemental Powers**

The Court may, if it thinks it necessary or expedient in the interests of justice:

- (a) Order the production of any document, exhibit, or other thing connected with the proceedings; and

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

- (b) Order any persons who would have been compellable witnesses at the trial to attend and be examined before the Court, whether they were or were not called at the trial, or order any such persons to be examined before any judge of the Court, or before any officer of the Court, or justice, or other person appointed by the Court for the purpose, and admit any dispositions so taken as evidence; and

- (c) Receive the evidence, if tendered, of any witness (including the appellant) who is a competent, but not a compellable, witness; and

- (d) Where any question arising on the appeal involves prolonged examination of documents or accounts, or any ~~scientific or local investigation,~~ which cannot, in the opinion of the Court, be conveniently conducted before the Court, refer the question for inquiry and report to a commissioner appointed by the



Court, and act upon the report of such commissioner so far as the Court thinks fit; and

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- (e) Appoint any person with special expert knowledge to act as assessor to the Court in any case in which it appears to the Court that such special knowledge is required for the determination of the case;

and exercise in relation to the proceedings of the Court any other powers which may for the time being be exercised by the Supreme Court on appeals or applications in civil matters, and issue any warrant or other process necessary for enforcing the orders or sentences of the Court:

Provided that in no case shall any sentence be increased by reason of or in consideration of any evidence that was not given at the trial.

Subject to this Chapter, the General Rules may provide that any application under paragraphs (a), (b), (d), or (e) of this section may be heard and determined by a judge of the Court.

**671C Legal Assistance to Appellant**

The judge of the court of trial, or the Court, or the Crown Law Officer may at any time assign to an appellant a solicitor and counsel, or counsel only, in any appeal or proceedings preliminary or incidental to an appeal, whether to the Court or on appeal therefrom to the High Court of Australia, in which, in

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

his opinion, it appears desirable in the interests of justice that the appellant should have legal aid, and that he has not sufficient means to enable him to obtain that aid.

**671D Right of Appellant to be Present**

- (1) An appellant, notwithstanding that he is in custody, shall be entitled to be present if he desires it, on the hearing of his appeal, except where the appeal is on some ground involving a question of law alone. On an appeal on such ground, and on an application for leave to appeal, and on any proceedings preliminary or incidental to an appeal, the appellant shall not be entitled to be present, except by leave of the Court.
- (2) The Power of the Court to pass any sentence may be exercised ~~notwithstanding that the appellant is not~~  

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present.

**671E Appeals Permitted in Writing**

An appellant shall be entitled to present his case and his argument to the Court in writing if he so desires.

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**671F Costs of Appeal**

- (1) On the hearing or determination of an appeal, or any proceedings preliminary or incidental thereto, no costs shall be allowed on either side.
- (2) The expenses of any solicitor or counsel assigned, and of any assessor appointed, and of any witnesses attending on the order of the Court or examined, and of and incidental to any examination or reference, and of the appearance of an appellant on the hearing of his appeal or on any proceedings preliminary or incidental to his appeal, shall be defrayed out of the Consolidated Revenue up to an amount allowed by the registrar; but, subject to any regulations as to rates of payment made by the Crown Law Officer, the decision of the registrar may be reviewed by the Court or a judge thereof.

**671G Admission of Appellant to Bail and Custody when Attending Court**

- (1) An appellant who is not admitted to bail shall, pending the determination of his appeal, be treated in such manner as may be directed by regulations made under the laws relating to prisons.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

- (2) The Court may, if it thinks fit, on the application of the appellant, admit the appellant to bail, with or without sureties, pending the determination of the appeal.
- (3) The time during which an appellant, pending the determination of his appeal, is liberated on bail or recognizances, and (subject to any directions which the Court may give to the contrary on any appeal) the time during which an appellant, if in custody, is specially treated as an appellant under this section, shall not count as part of any term of imprisonment under his sentence.

Any imprisonment under such sentence, whether it is the sentence passed by the court of trial or the sentence passed by the Court, shall, subject to any directions which the Court may give as aforesaid, be deemed to be resumed or to begin to run, as the case requires, if the appellant is in custody, as from the day on which the appeal is determined, and if he is not in custody as from the day on which he is received into prison under the sentence.

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- (4) Provision shall be made by regulations

under the laws relating to prisons for the manner in which an appellant, when in custody, is to be brought to any place where he is entitled to be present, or ordered to be taken, for the purposes of this Chapter, and for the manner in which he is to be kept in custody whilst absent from prison for the purpose; and an appellant whilst in custody in accordance with those regulations shall be deemed to be in legal custody.

**671H Duties of Registrar**

- (1) The registrar shall take all necessary steps for obtaining a hearing of any appeals or applications, notice of which is given to him, and shall obtain and lay before the Court in proper form all documents, exhibits, and other things relating to the proceedings in the court of trial which appear necessary for the proper determination of the appeal or application.
- (2) If it appears to the registrar that any notice of appeal against a conviction does not show any substantial ground of appeal, he may refer the appeal to the Court for summary determination; and the Court may thereupon, if it considers that the appeal is frivolous or vexatious, dismiss the appeal summarily without calling upon any person to attend the hearing.
- (3) The registrar shall furnish the necessary forms and instructions in relation to notices of appeal or notices of application to any person who demands the same, and to officers of courts,

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

superintendents of prisons, and to such other officers or persons as he thinks fit, and the superintendent of every prison shall cause such forms and instructions to be placed at the disposal of prisoners desiring to appeal or to make any application, and shall cause any such notice given by a prisoner in his custody to be forwarded on behalf of the prisoner to the registrar.

- (4) The registrar shall report to the Crown Law Officer any case in which it appears to him that, although no application has been made for the purpose, legal assistance ought to be provided to an appellant under the powers given to the Crown Law Officer.

**671J Documents, Exhibits, &c.**

Any documents, exhibits, or other things connected with any proceedings before a court of trial, in respect of which any person is entitled or may be authorised to appeal, shall be kept in the custody of the court of trial for such time as may be prescribed, subject to such power as may

be prescribed for the conditional release of any such documents, exhibits, or other things from that custody.

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**671K Shorthand Notes of Trial**

Shorthand notes shall, if practicable, be taken of the proceedings at every trial of any person on indictment; and on any notice of appeal or application for leave to appeal a transcript of the notes, or any part thereof, shall be made if the registrar so directs, and furnished to the registrar for the use of the Court or any judge thereof; and a transcript shall be furnished to any party interested upon the payment of such charges as may be prescribed by the Governor in Council.

**671L Powers Exercisable by a Judge**

The powers of the Court to give leave to appeal, to extend the time in which notice of appeal or of an application for leave to appeal may be given, to allow the appellant to be present at any proceedings in cases where he is not entitled to be present without leave, and to admit an appellant to bail, may be exercised by any judge of the Court in the same manner as they may be exercised by the Court, and subject to the same provisions; but if the judge refuses an application on the part of the appellant to exercise any such power in his favour, the appellant shall be entitled to have the application determined by the Court.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**672 Appeals from the Decisions of the Court**

- (1) Where an appeal to the Court is upheld, and the appellant is entitled to have the conviction against him quashed by order of the Court, the Court may, upon application on behalf of the Crown, at any time before the release of such appellant, either by the same or by a separate order, direct that execution of the order quashing the appellant's conviction be stayed for such time (not exceeding seven days) as the Court thinks fit; and the Court or a judge thereof shall thereupon make such order for the detention of the appellant or his return to any former custody, or for liberating him on bail or recognizance, as the Court or judge thinks fit, for the time during which such stay has been directed.
- (2) The Court or a judge thereof may, upon application by or on behalf of the Crown Law Officer, make such order for the ~~detention of the appellant or for liberating~~ him on bail or recognizance pending the hearing of an appeal to the High Court of Australia as the Court or a judge may think fit, and may at any time vary or rescind such order.

- (3) On the application of any appellant deeming himself wronged by any failure to diligently prosecute such appeal, the Court or a judge thereof may order the immediate execution of the original order of the Court quashing the conviction, and may order the appellant's immediate release, and the Court may further, if it thinks fit, award him such compensation as appears just.

**672A Pardoning Power Preserved**

Nothing in the foregoing provisions of this Chapter shall affect the pardoning power of the Governor on behalf of His Majesty, but the Crown Law Officer, on the consideration of any petition for the exercise of the pardoning power having reference to the conviction of any person or to any sentence other than the sentence of death passed on a convicted person, may:

- (a) Refer the whole case to the Court, and the case shall be heard and determined by the Court as in the case of an appeal by a person convicted;
- (b) If he desires the assistance of the Court on any point arising in the case with a view to the determination of the petition, refer that point to the Court for its opinion thereon, and the Court shall consider the point so referred and furnish the Crown Law Officer with its opinion thereon accordingly.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**673 Appeals from Summary Conviction to Supreme Court**

The law respecting appeals to the Supreme Court by persons aggrieved by summary convictions is set forth in the Statutes relating to Justices of the Peace, their Powers and Authorities.

**674 Appeal from Summary Convictions to District Court**

Any person aggrieved by a summary conviction of any of the offences defined in this Code may, if the fine adjudged to be paid on the conviction exceeds five pounds, or the imprisonment adjudged exceeds one month, appeal to a District Court.

The procedure and practice respecting such appeals are set forth in the last-mentioned Statutes.

**675** *[Repealed]*

**676** *[Repealed]*

**677** *[Repealed]*

**678 Summary Jurisdiction of Justices in case of Indictable Offences committed by Children not more than Twelve Years of Age**

- (1) A child who is charged with committing or attempting to commit any indictable offence other than treason, wilful murder, murder, or manslaughter, and whose age at the time of the commission or attempted commission of the offence did not in the opinion of the justices before whom he is brought exceed the age of twelve years, may be tried in a summary manner before two justices, if they think it expedient so to do, and if the parent or guardian of the child so charged, when informed of his right to have the child tried by a jury, consents to the case being dealt with summarily.

In any such case the justices may, except as hereinafter provided, award the same kind of punishment as might have been awarded if the offender had been convicted on indictment.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

Provided that:

- (a) When imprisonment is awarded, the term of imprisonment cannot exceed one month; and
- (b) When a fine is imposed, the amount cannot exceed forty shillings.
- (2) If, when a child is charged before justices with committing or attempting to commit an indictable offence, the parent or guardian of the child is not present, the justices may remand the child for the purpose of causing notice to be served on such parent or guardian in order, if practicable, to secure his attendance at the hearing of the charge; or they may proceed to deal with the case summarily under the provisions of this section.
- (3) If the parent or guardian of the child is present, then, whenever during the hearing of the charge the justices become satisfied by the evidence that it is expedient to deal with the case summarily under the provisions of this section, they are required to cause the charge to be reduced into writing and read to the parent or guardian of the child, and then to address a question to such parent or

guardian to the following effect:

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Do you desire the child to be tried by a jury, or do you consent to the case being dealt with summarily?

adding a statement, if they think such statement desirable for the information of the parent or guardian, of the meaning of the case being dealt with summarily, and also a statement of the Sittings of the Court at which the child will be tried if he is committed for trial by a jury.

- (4) The provisions of this section do not render punishable for an offence any child who is not, in the opinion of the justices before whom he is charged, above the age of seven years and of sufficient capacity to commit the offence in question.
- (5) The provisions of this section do not affect any power of justices under any Statute to send a child to an industrial or reformatory school, and they may exercise such power instead of dealing with him summarily under this section.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

***Chapter LXIX – Seizure and Detention of Property connected with Offences: Custody of Women Unlawfully Detained for Immoral Purposes: Restitution of Property Unlawfully Acquired***

**679 Search Warrant**

If it appears to a justice, on complaint made on oath, that there are reasonable grounds for suspecting that there is in any house, vessel, or place:

- (a) Anything with respect to which any offence which is such that the offender may be arrested without warrant has been, or is suspected, on reasonable grounds, to have been, committed; or
- (b) Anything as to which there are reasonable grounds for believing that it will afford evidence as to the commission of any such offence; or
- (c) ~~Anything as to which there are~~ reasonable grounds for believing that it is intended to be used for the purpose of committing any such offence;

he may issue his warrant directing a police officer or police officers named therein or all police officers to search such house, vessel, or place, and to seize any such thing if found, and to take it before a justice to be dealt with according to law.

Any such warrant is to be executed by day unless the justice, by the warrant, specially authorises it to be executed by night, in which case it may be so executed.

**680 Property found on Offenders on Arrest**

When, on the arrest of any person on a charge of an offence relating to property, the property in respect of which the offence is alleged to be committed is found in his possession, the person arresting him may take such property before a justice to be dealt with according to law.

**681 Seizure of Counterfeit Coin, Tools for Coining, &c**

If any person finds in any place whatever, or in the possession of any person who has the same without lawful authority or excuse:

(a) Any counterfeit gold, silver, or copper, coin; or

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

(b) Any tool, instrument, or machine, adapted and intended for making any such counterfeit coin; or

(c) Any filings or clippings of gold or silver, or any gold or silver in bullion, dust, solution, or any other state, which are or is suspected, on reasonable grounds, to have been obtained by dealing with any current gold or silver coin in such a manner as to diminish its weight;

the person who so finds the same may seize the thing or things found, and to take the same forthwith before a justice to be dealt with according to law.

**682 Disposal of Property Seized**

When anything is seized or taken under the provisions of this Code, the person seizing or taking it is required forthwith to carry it before a justice.

The justice may cause the thing so seized or taken to be detained in such custody as he may direct, taking reasonable care for its preservation, until the conclusion of any investigation that may be held with



respect to it; and, if any person is committed for trial for any offence committed with respect to the thing so seized or taken, or committed under such circumstances that the thing so seized or taken is likely to afford evidence at the trial, he may cause it to be further detained in like manner for the purpose of being produced in evidence at such trial.

If no person is so committed, the justice is required to direct that the thing be returned to the person from whom it was taken, unless he is authorised or required by law to dispose of it otherwise.

If the thing so seized or taken is anything forged or counterfeit, or is of such a nature that a person who has it in his possession without lawful authority or excuse is guilty of an offence, then, if any person is committed for trial for any offence committed with respect to it or committed under such circumstances as aforesaid and is convicted, the Court before which he is convicted, or, in any other case, any justice, may cause it to be defaced or destroyed.

If the thing so seized or taken is of such a nature that a person who has it in his possession, knowing its nature and without lawful authority or excuse, is guilty of an offence, then, as soon as it appears that it will not be required, or further required, in

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

evidence against the person who had it in his possession, it is to be delivered to the Treasurer, or some person authorised by him to receive it.

**683 Explosives**

If the thing seized or taken is an explosive substance found in a vessel or vehicle, the person acting in the execution of the warrant may for twenty-four hours after seizure, and for such longer time as is necessary for the purpose of removal to a safe place of deposit, use the vessel or the vehicle, with the tackle and furniture thereof, or the beasts, and accoutrements belonging thereto, as the case may be, paying afterwards to the owner of the vessel or vehicle a sufficient recompense for its use, which is to be assessed by the justice or justices before whom the suspected offender is brought, and, in case of non-payment immediately after such assessment, may be recovered before two justices in a summary way.

~~684~~ **Women Detained for Immoral Purposes**

If it appears to a justice, on complaint made on oath by a parent, relative, or guardian of a woman or girl, or any other person who, in the

opinion of the justice, is acting in good faith in the interest of a woman or girl, that there is reasonable cause to suspect that such woman or girl is unlawfully detained for immoral purposes by any person in any place within his jurisdiction, he may issue a warrant, directed to a police officer, and authorising him to search for such woman or girl, and, when found, to take her to and detain her in a place of safety until she can be brought before a justice; and the justice before whom she is brought may cause her to be delivered up to her parents or guardians, or otherwise dealt with as the circumstances may permit and require.

The justice issuing the warrant may, by the same or any other warrant, direct any person accused of so unlawfully detaining the woman or girl to be arrested and brought before a justice, and may direct proceedings to be taken for punishing him according to law.

A woman or girl is deemed to be unlawfully detained for immoral purposes if she:

- (a) Is under the age of sixteen years; or
- (b) Being of or over the age of sixteen years, and under the age of eighteen years, is so detained against her will, or

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

against the will of her father or mother or of any other person who has the lawful care or charge of her; or

- (c) Being of or above the age of eighteen years, is so detained against her will;

and, in either case, is detained by any person in order to her being unlawfully carnally known by any man, whether a particular man or not.

A person authorised by warrant under this section to search for a woman or girl may enter, and if need be by force, any house or other place, specified in the warrant, and may remove the woman or girl therefrom.

The warrant must be executed by the police officer mentioned in it, who must, unless the justice otherwise directs, be accompanied by the parent, relative, guardian, or other person, by whom the complaint is made, if such person so desires.

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**685 Restitution of Property**

When a person is prosecuted, on the complaint of the owner of property or any person on whom the right to property has devolved by

operation of law, on a charge of an indictable offence of which the unlawful acquisition of the property by him is an element, and is convicted of the offence on indictment, the Court may order the property to be restored to the owner.

Such an order has the effect of a judgment, and is binding on the offender and any person claiming through him as determining the ownership of the property, but as regards any other person has the effect only of changing the possession of the property, and does not affect any right of property or right of action.

In any such case the Court before which the offender is convicted may order that any personal property which is found in his possession, and which appears to the Court to have been derived, directly or indirectly, from such unlawful acquisition of property, shall be delivered to any person who appears to the Court to be entitled to the property so unlawfully acquired.

This section does not apply to a valuable security, if it appears that the security has been paid or discharged in good faith by some person liable to the payment thereof, or, being a negotiable instrument, has been taken or received by transfer or delivery in good faith by some person for a valuable

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

consideration without any notice and without any reasonable cause to suspect that the same had been so unlawfully acquired.

### **Chapter LXX – Informations by Private Persons for Indictable Offences: Ex Officio Indictments**

#### **686 Information by leave of the Court by Private Prosecutors**

Any person may by leave of the Supreme Court present an information against any other person for any indictable offence not punishable with death,<sup>16</sup> alleged to have been committed by such other person.

An information presented by leave of the Court is to be signed by the person on whose application the leave is granted, or some other person appointed by the Court in that behalf, and filed in the Supreme Court.

The person who signs the information is called the prosecutor.

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The information is to be intituled 'The Queen on the prosecution of the prosecutor (naming him) against the

accused person' (naming him), and must state that the prosecutor informs the Court by leave of the Court.

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Except as otherwise expressly provided, the information and the proceedings upon it are subject to the same rules and incidents in all respects as an indictment presented by a Crown Law Officer and the proceedings upon such an indictment, as hereinbefore set forth.

**687 Security to be given by Prosecutor for Costs of Defence**

Before the information is presented the prosecutor is to be required to give security, in such amount and in such manner as the Court on giving leave to present the information may direct, that he will prosecute the information without delay, and will pay to the accused person such costs incurred by him in respect of his defence to the charge as the Court may order him to pay.

<sup>16</sup> See Note 4 at the end of this compilation.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**688 Service of Information**

An office copy of the information is to be served upon the accused person, upon which copy there must be indorsed a summons, under the hand of the Registrar and seal of the Court, requiring him to appear and plead to the information within the same time after service within which he would be required to enter an appearance after service of a writ in a civil action.

**689 Plea**

The accused person is required within the time so limited to enter an appearance and file his plea in writing in the Supreme Court, and to deliver a copy thereof forthwith to the prosecutor.

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**690 Default of Plea**

If the accused person does not plead to the information according to the exigency of the summons indorsed on the copy served on him, the prosecutor may serve him with a notice to the effect that unless he pleads or demurs within eight days a plea of not guilty will be filed in his

name. Upon filing an affidavit setting forth the service of the information and of such notice, and of default of pleading in accordance with the exigency of the notice, the prosecutor may cause a plea of not guilty to be filed for the accused person, and thereupon the same proceedings may be had as if the accused person had filed a plea of not guilty.

Or, in the case of a misdemeanour, judgment of conviction may, by leave of the Court or a Judge, be entered against him for want of a plea.

But the Court or a Judge may, either before or after the time so prescribed, allow further time for the accused person to plead or demur to the information.

**691 Time and Place of Trial**

When the accused person pleads any plea, or when a plea of not guilty is filed for him by the prosecutor, either party may apply to a Judge to appoint the time and place of trial, of which notice is to be given to the accused person.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**692 Effect of Judgment for Prosecutor on Demurrer**

If the accused person demurs only, and does not plead any plea, and judgment is given against him on demurrer, he is required to plead to the information within such time as the Court or a Judge may allow. If he makes default in doing so, the same proceedings may be taken as if he had made default in pleading in the first instance.

**693 Effect of Judgment by Default**

If judgment of conviction is entered against the accused person for want of a plea, he is required to attend to receive the judgment of the Court at a time and place to be appointed by a Judge. If he does not so attend, any justice may issue his warrant to arrest him and bring him before the Court to receive judgment.

**694 Costs of Defence**

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In either of the following cases, that is to say:

(1) If the accused person pleads to

the information, and is not brought to trial within a year after filing his plea; or

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(2) If a Crown Law Officer informs the Court that he will not further proceed on the information; or

(3) If the accused person is acquitted upon trial;

the Court, or the Judge before whom the trial, if any, is had, may award costs to the accused person.

**695 Practice to be applied on ex officio Information**

When an indictment is presented in the Supreme Court by a Crown Law Officer against any person who has not been committed for trial for the offence charged in the indictment, the Crown may proceed thereon in the manner prescribed in this Chapter with respect to informations filed by private prosecutors, except that no security shall be required.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**Chapter LXXI – Miscellaneous Provisions**

**696 Names of Jury to be given to Person charged with Treason or Concealment of Treason**

When a person is to be tried for the crime of treason, or of becoming an accessory after the fact to treason, or of failing, when he knows that any person intends to commit treason, to give information thereof with all reasonable despatch to a justice or use other reasonable endeavours to prevent the commission of the crime, a list of the jurors, with their christian names and surnames written at full length, and with the true place of abode and description of every juror, is required to be given to him, in the presence of two credible witnesses, ten days before he is called upon to plead to the indictment.

**697 Court may Direct certain Persons to be Prosecuted for Perjury**

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If it appears to any Court that any person has been guilty of perjury in any testimony given before it, the Court may commit him to take his trial for such

perjury before any Court of competent jurisdiction in the same manner as if he had been charged before a justice with the same perjury, and sufficient evidence had been given against him.

A person so committed may be admitted to bail in the same manner as if he had been committed for trial by a justice.

The Court may require any person to enter into a recognizance conditioned to appear and give evidence at the trial of a person so directed to be prosecuted.

In this section the term '**Court**' includes any person before whom a writ of inquiry is executed, but does not include justices in petty sessions.

**698 Committal of Fraudulent Debtors**

If, on the examination of any person whose affairs are in course of administration under the provisions of the laws relating to insolvent debtors before a Court which has jurisdiction to examine him in the course of such administration, it appears to the Court that he has been guilty of any of the offences defined in Chapter LIII, the Court may commit him to take his trial for such offence before some Court of competent jurisdiction, or

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

may hold him to bail to appear before a justice to answer any charge that may be brought against him for any such offence.

A person so committed may be admitted to bail in the same manner as if he had been committed for trial by a justice.

**699 Staying Prosecution for Publication of Parliamentary Paper**

A person prosecuted on a charge of the unlawful publication of defamatory matter which is contained in any paper published by him, or by his servant, by order or under the authority of either House of Parliament, may, at any stage of the proceedings, apply to the Supreme Court or a Judge thereof or to the Court in which the proceedings are pending, for an order staying the prosecution, first giving twenty-four hours' notice of his intention so to do to the prosecutor; and upon production to the Court or Judge of a certificate under the hand of the President or Clerk of the Legislative Council, or Speaker or Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, as the case may be, stating that the paper in respect of which the prosecution is instituted was published by the defendant, or by his servant, by order or under the authority of the Council or Assembly, together with

an affidavit verifying such certificate, the Court or Judge is required immediately to stay the prosecution, and may order the prosecutor to pay to the defendant his costs of defence.

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A person prosecuted on a charge of the unlawful publication of defamatory matter which is contained in a copy of, or an extract from or abstract of, any such paper, may, at any stage of the proceedings, apply to the Supreme Court or a Judge thereof, or to the Court in which the proceedings are pending, for an order staying the prosecution; and upon production to the Court or Judge of an original of such paper, together with such a certificate as aforesaid, and an affidavit verifying the same, the Court or Judge may stay the prosecution, and may order the prosecutor to pay to the defendant his costs of defence.

**700 Certificate of Dismissal by Justices**

When justices dismiss a complaint of an offence punishable on summary conviction, whether an indictable offence or not, they may, if required and if they think fit, give the accused person a certificate of dismissal. Such a certificate is a bar to any further prosecution of the accused person for the same cause.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**701 Custody of Girls under Twenty-one**

When on the trial of a person charged with any of the offences defined in Chapter XXII, relating to women or girls, it is proved to the satisfaction of the Court that the seduction or prostitution of a girl under the age of twenty-one has been caused, encouraged, or favoured, by her father, mother, guardian, master, or mistress, the Court may make an order divesting such father, mother, guardian, master, or mistress, of all authority over her, and may appoint any person or persons who is or are willing to take charge of the girl to be her guardian or guardians until she has attained the age of twenty-one years, or any such age under twenty-one years as the Court may direct.

The Supreme Court, or a Judge thereof, may from time to time rescind or vary any such order by the appointment of any other person or persons as such guardian or guardians, or in any other respect.

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**702 Saving of Civil Remedies**

Except when expressly so provided, the prosecution or conviction of a person for



an offence does not affect any civil remedy which any person aggrieved by the offence may have against the offender.

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**703      Limitation of Proceedings**

An action or prosecution against any person for anything done in pursuance of any of the provisions of this Code with respect to the arrest of offenders or the seizure of goods must be commenced within six months after the fact committed, and not otherwise.

Notice in writing of the action, and of the cause of action, must be given to the defendant one month at least before the commencement of the action.

The plaintiff is not entitled to recover in any such action, if tender of sufficient amends is made before action brought, or if a sufficient sum of money is paid into Court by the defendant after action.

If a verdict is given for the defendant, or the plaintiff is nonsuited, or discontinues the action, or if, on demurrer or otherwise, judgment is given against the plaintiff, the defendant is entitled to full costs of action as between solicitor and client.

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

**704      No Court Fees in Criminal Cases**

No fees can be taken in any Court of criminal jurisdiction or before any justice from any person who is charged with an indictable offence for any proceeding had or taken in the Court or before the justice with respect to the charge.

**705      Copies of Depositions to be Allowed to Persons Committed for Trial**

Any person who is committed for trial or held to bail for any indictable offence is entitled to have on demand from the person who has the lawful custody thereof copies of the depositions of the witnesses on whose depositions he has been so committed or held to bail.

Provided that, if the demand is not made before the day appointed for the commencement of the Sittings of the Court at which the trial of the person on whose behalf the demand is made is to take place, he is not entitled to have any such copy unless the Judge is of opinion that the copy may be made and delivered without delay or inconvenience to the trial.

The Court may postpone a trial on account of the accused person not having previously had a copy of the depositions.

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**706      Inspection of Depositions at Trial**

Any person who is tried for any offence is entitled at the time of his trial to inspect without fee all depositions, or copies of depositions, which have been taken against him and returned into the Court before which the trial is had.

**707      Forms of Criminal Proceedings**

- (1) The Judges of the Supreme Court may make General Rules prescribing forms of complaints, summonses, depositions, indictments, judgments, records, convictions, warrants, recognizances, and other proceedings, to be used in any Court or before justices in respect of any offences; and every form so prescribed is to be deemed sufficient for the purpose, and sufficiently to state the offence or matter for or in respect of which it is prescribed to be used.

The Judges may also make General Rules, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Code, regulating the proceedings upon the

As in force from 3 December 2011

*Criminal Code 1899*

trial of persons charged with indictable offences, and the proceedings upon informations presented by leave of the Court.

*General Rules as to Criminal Appeals*

- (2) The judges may also make General Rules for the purposes of Chapter LXVII, but such rules shall be subject to the approval of the Crown Law Officer, so far as they affect the superintendent or any other officer of a prison or any officer having the custody of an appellant.

Such rules may be made with respect to all or any of the following matters:

- (a) The regulation of the practice and procedure under Chapter LXVII;
  - (b) The sitting of the Court of Criminal Appeal, if necessary, during any vacation;
  - ~~(c) The powers and duties of the registrar and other officers of such Court;~~
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- (d) The admission to bail or detention of an appellant and the safe custody of any property pending any appeal, or application for leave to appeal, or new trial;
- (e) The taking of shorthand notes and the making transcripts thereof;
- (f) Applications for and furnishing of notes of trial and reports by judges of courts of trial;
- (g) Any matters which, in the opinion of the judges, are necessary or expedient for giving effect to the purposes of Chapter LXVII.

As in force from 3 December 2011

## Notes for the Criminal Code 1899

### Tables of Constituent Legislation

#### Queensland Acts

Citation	Number	Assent	Commencement
<i>Criminal Code Act 1899 – The First Schedule</i>	63 Vic. No. 9	28.11.1899	01.01.1901*
<i>Criminal Code Correction of Errors Act 1900</i>	64 Vic. No. 7	20.11.1900	20.11.1900
<i>Statute Law Revision Act 1908</i>	8 Edw. VII No. 18	23.12.1908	23.12.1908
<i>Criminal Code Amendment Act 1913</i>	4 Geo. V No. 23	26.11.1913	26.11.1913
<i>Criminal Code Amendment Act 1913 (No. 2)</i>	4 Geo. V No. 25	26.11.1913	26.11.1913
<i>Criminal Code Amendment Act 1914</i>	5 Geo. V No. 22	03.12.1914	03.12.1914
<i>Trade Union Act 1915</i>	6 Geo. V No. 31	29.12.1915	29.12.1915

\* Commencement date of the Criminal Code; the other provisions of the Act commenced on Assent.

#### Papua Ordinance

Citation	Number	Made	Commencement
<i>Criminal Code Amendment Ordinance 1907</i>	1907/04	07.05.1907	07.05.1907

#### Nauru Ordinances

Citation	Number	Made	Gazettal*	Commencement
<i>Criminal Code Amendment Ordinance 1935</i>	1935/04	16.11.1935	—	16.11.1935
<i>Criminal Code Amendment Ordinance 1952</i>	1952/05	20.09.1952	—	20.09.1952
<i>Criminal Code Amendment Ordinance 1955</i>	1955/01	04.04.1955	—	04.04.1955
<i>Criminal Code Amendment Ordinance 1957</i>	1957/04	29.11.1957	02.12.1957	02.12.1957
<i>Criminal Code Amendment Ordinance 1960</i>	1960/01	02.04.1960	02.04.1960	02.04.1960

## Criminal Code 1899

Citation	Number	Made	Gazettal*	Commencement
<i>Ordinances Revision Ordinance 1966</i>	1966/01	25.01.1966	25.01.1966	30.01.1966†

\* Gazettal date is of no legal significance for Ordinances made before 30.08.1956 (commencement of the *Interpretation Ordinance 1956*).

† Subsection 2(2) of the *Ordinances Revision Ordinance 1966* provides for the commencement of the relevant amendments to be on the date fixed by Proclamation under subsection 2(2) of the *Nauru Act 1965* of the Commonwealth of Australia. The date so fixed was 30.01.1966 (*Commonwealth of Australia Gazette* 1966, p. 359).

### Nauru Acts

Short title	Number	Certification	Commencement
<i>Criminal Code Amendment Act 1971</i>	1971/08	20.12.1971	20.12.1971
<i>Criminal Code (Amendment) Act 1972</i>	1972/22	14.12.1972	14.12.1972
<i>Criminal Code (Amendment) Act 2006</i>	2006/07	11.08.2006	11.08.2006
<i>Gaming Act 2011</i>	2011/17	03.11.2011	03.12.2011

### Tables of Amendments

ad. = added or inserted am. = amended rep. = repealed rs. = repealed and substituted **Code as adopted, as in force in Queensland on 01.07.1921**

Provision affected	How affected
Section 9	Rep. by 8 Edw. VII No. 18.
Section 18	Am. by 5 Geo. V No. 22.*
Section 51	Subst. by 64 Vic. No. 7.
Section 58	Am. by 64 Vic. No. 7.
Section 157	Am. by 64 Vic. No. 7.
Section 213	Am. by 4 Geo. V No. 25.
Section 215	Am. by 4 Geo. V No. 25.
Section 216	Am. by 4 Geo. V No. 25.
Section 305	Am. by 1907/04 (Papua).*
Section 317	Am. by 64 Vic. No. 7.
Section 347	Am. by 64 Vic. No. 7.
Section 352	Am. by 4 Geo. V No. 25.
Chapter XL heading	Am. by 64 Vic. No. 7.
Section 434	Am. by 64 Vic. No. 7.
Section 467	Am. by 64 Vic. No. 7.

*Criminal Code 1899*

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Provision affected	How affected
Section 495	Am. by 64 Vic. No. 7.
Section 534	Am. by 6 Geo. V No. 31
Section 539	Am. by 64 Vic. No. 7.
Section 540	Am. by 64 Vic. No. 7.
Section 543A	Ad. by 6 Geo. V No. 31
Section 562	Am. by 64 Vic. No. 7.
Section 578	Am. by 4 Geo. V No. 25.
Section 649	Am. by 4 Geo. V No. 23.
Chapter LXIVA	Ad. by 5 Geo. V No. 22.
Section 659A	Ad. by 5 Geo. V No. 22.
Section 659B	Ad. by 5 Geo. V No. 22.
Section 659C	Ad. by 5 Geo. V No. 22.
Section 659D	Ad. by 5 Geo. V No. 22.
Section 659E	Ad. by 5 Geo. V No. 22.
Section 659F	Ad. by 5 Geo. V No. 22.
Section 659G	Ad. by 5 Geo. V No. 22.
Section 659H	Ad. by 5 Geo. V No. 22.
Section 659I	Ad. by 5 Geo. V No. 22.
Section 692	Am. by 8 Edw. VII No. 18.
Section 668	Subst. by 4 Geo. V No. 23.
Section 668A	Ad. by 4 Geo. V No. 23.
Section 668B	Ad. by 4 Geo. V No. 23.
Section 668C	Ad. by 4 Geo. V No. 23.
Section 668D	Ad. by 4 Geo. V No. 23.
Section 668E	Ad. by 4 Geo. V No. 23.
Section 668F	Ad. by 4 Geo. V No. 23.
Section 669	Subst. by 4 Geo. V No. 23.
Section 670	Subst. by 4 Geo. V No. 23.
Section 671	Subst. by 4 Geo. V No. 23.
Section 671A	Ad. by 4 Geo. V No. 23.
Section 671B	Ad. by 4 Geo. V No. 23.
Section 671C	Ad. by 4 Geo. V No. 23.

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*Criminal Code 1899*

Provision affected	How affected
Section 671D	Ad. by 4 Geo. V No. 23.
Section 671E	Ad. by 4 Geo. V No. 23.
Section 671F	Ad. by 4 Geo. V No. 23.
Section 671G	Ad. by 4 Geo. V No. 23.
Section 671H	Ad. by 4 Geo. V No. 23.
Section 671J	Ad. by 4 Geo. V No. 23.
Section 671K	Ad. by 4 Geo. V No. 23.
Section 671L	Ad. by 4 Geo. V No. 23.
Section 672	Subst. by 4 Geo. V No. 23.
Section 672A	Ad. by 4 Geo. V No. 23.
Section 698	Am. by 64 Vic. No. 7.
Section 701	Am. by 4 Geo. V No. 25.
Section 707	Subs. (2) ad. by 4 Geo. V No. 23.

\* also affected by 1907/04 (Papua); See also Notes on application of the Criminal Code, and Notes on application of the death penalty, below.

***Amendments since adoption***

Provision affected	How affected
Section 18	Am. by Ord. 1955/01.
Section 19	Am. by Ord. 1955/01; am by Act 1971/08.
Section 19A	Ad. by Act 1971/08.
Section 19B	Ad. by Act 1971/08.
Section 19C	Ad. by Act 1971/08.
Section 19D	Ad. by Act 1971/08.
Section 19E	Ad. by Act 1971/08.
Section 21	Rep. by Ord. 1966/01.
Section 53A	Ad. by Act 2006/07.
Section 53B	Ad. by Act 2006/07.
Section 53C	Ad. by Act 2006/07.
Section 212	Am. by Ord. 1955/01.
Section 213	Am. by Ord. 1955/01.
Section 214	Am. by Ord. 1955/01.
Section 216	Am. by Ord. 1955/01.
Section 217	Am. by Ord. 1935/04.

*Criminal Code 1899*

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Provision affected	How affected
Section 218	Am. by Ord. 1935/04.
Section 219	Rep. by Ord. 1935/04.
Section 232	Rep. by Act 2011/17.
Section 233	Rep. by Act 2011/17.
Section 234	Rep. by Act 2011/17.
Section 235	Heading am. by Act 2011/17.
Section 304A	Ad. by Act 1972/22.
Section 315	Am. by Ord. 1955/01.
Section 319	Am. by Ord. 1952/05.
Section 359	Subst. by Act 2006/07.
Section 424A	Ad. by Ord. 1960/01.
Section 465	Am. by Ord. 1952/05.
Section 466	Am. by Ord. 1952/05.
Section 467	Am. by Ord. 1952/05.
Section 469	Clause I am. by Ord. 1952/05.
Section 637	Rep. by Act 2011/17.
Section 655	Rep. by Ord. 1955/01.
Section 666	Rep. by Ord. 1955/01.
Section 671	Am. by Ord. 1955/01.
Section 675	Rep. by Ord. 1957/04.
Section 676	Rep. by Ord. 1957/04.
Section 677	Rep. by Ord. 1957/04.
Section 678	Subs. (1) (proviso) am. by Ord. 1955/01.

**Notes on application of the Criminal Code**

Note 1: The *Laws Repeal and Adopting Ordinance 1922* (No. 8 of 1922) (the 'principal Ordinance') adopted as a law of Nauru the First Schedule of the *Criminal Code Act 1899* (Queensland) as in force in Queensland at the commencement of the principal Ordinance (23.09.1922). The *Laws Repeal and Adopting Amendment Ordinance 1927* (No. 2 of 1927) amended the relevant adopting provision of the principal Ordinance (1922/08), with effect from 19.03.27, to provide that the Code was adopted as in force in Queensland on 1 July 1921. In relation to the amendment effected by 1927/02, *Republic v Amoe* [1991] LRC (Const.) 21, may also be relevant.



Note 2: Section 6 of the *Criminal Code Amendment Act 1971* provides as follows:

**6 Parts I and VIII of the Criminal Code to apply to all offences**

The provisions of Part I and Part VIII of the Criminal Code shall, so far as they are applicable to the circumstances of Nauru and are not repugnant to, or inconsistent with, the provisions of any Act, Ordinance, Law, regulation, rule, order or proclamation having the force of law that has been, or may hereafter be, expressed to extend to, or applied to, or enacted, made or promulgated in, Nauru, apply and have force and effect in relation to all offences, whether against the provisions of this Code or against any other law for the time being in force in Nauru and whether tried under the provisions of this Code or otherwise.

Note 3: Section 220 of the *Criminal Procedure Act 1972* (Act No. 21 of 1972; commenced 27.11.72) provides in part: 'those provisions of the *Criminal Code* which relate to the jurisdiction, practice or procedure of the Courts shall, from the commencement of this Act, cease to apply to or have effect in Nauru.' Cf Note 2 (Part VIII of the Code relates to procedure). The sections of the Criminal Code that are likely affected by section 220 of the *Criminal Procedure Act 1972* include: sections 353, 388-389, 443-444, 450, 456-457, 480-483, 553-568, 571-631, 645-654, 656-659, 660-663, 668-672A, 673-674, 678, 686-695, and 696-707.

**Notes on application of the death penalty**

Note 4: Section 1 of the *Criminal Code Amendment Ordinance 1907* (Papua), adopted as a law of Nauru with effect from 23.09.1922 (see *Laws Repeal and Adopting Act 1922*), provides as follows:

**1 Murder in term of Section 302 of the Code to be punished with imprisonment**

Any person who commits the crime of murder as defined by Section 302 of "The Criminal Code" is liable to imprisonment, with hard labour, for life, with or without solitary confinement; and Section 305 of the said Code, so far as it relates to murder, is repealed.

Note 5: Section 1 of the *Criminal Code Amendment Ordinance 1907* (Papua) (see Note 4) is reflected in the compilation by omitting the words 'or murder' from section 305, so that the section now relates only to wilful murder.

Note 6: The question of the application of the death penalty in Nauru was considered by the Supreme Court of Nauru in *Republic v Amoe* [1991] LRC (Const.) 21. The Court did not make reference to the *Criminal Code Amendment Ordinance 1907* (Papua).

Note 7: Section 2 of the *Criminal Code Amendment Ordinance 1907* (Papua), adopted as a law of Nauru with effect from 23.09.1922 (see *Laws Repeal and Adopting Act 1922*), provides as follows:

**2 Recording sentence of death**

When a person is convicted of any crime punishable with death, if the Court is of opinion that, under the circumstances of the case, it is proper that the offender should be recommended for the Royal mercy, the Court may, if it thinks fit, direct the proper Officer, instead of asking the offender whether he has anything to say why sentence of death should not be passed upon him, to ask the offender, and thereupon such Officer is to ask the offender, whether he has anything to say why judgment of death should not be recorded against him. In any such case the Court may abstain from pronouncing sentence of death, and may, instead thereof, order judgment of death to be entered of record.

And thereupon the proper Officer is to enter judgment of death on record against the offender in the usual form as if sentence of death had actually been pronounced by the Court against the offender in open Court.

A record of a judgment of death so entered has the same effect in all respects as if sentence of death had been pronounced in open Court.

*Criminal Code 1899*

Note 8: Section 2 of the *Criminal Code Amendment Ordinance 1907* (Papua) (see Note 7) is taken to have had the effect of superseding section 652 of the *Criminal Code 1899*, but it did not formally effect a repeal and substitution of that provision. This compilation therefore includes section 652 as originally enacted. The only differences between section 652 of the Code and section 2 of the 1907 Ordinance are that the former begins with the words 'Provided that' and that the former also includes the words 'except treason and wilful murder' immediately after the words 'any crime punishable with death,'.