

CHAPTER 319.

AN ACT concerning the Punishment of Frauds.

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That if any person shall by any false pretence obtain from any other person, any chattel, money or valuable security, with intent to defraud or cheat any person of the same, every such offender shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and being convicted thereof, before any of the county courts of this state, or Baltimore city court, as the crime may arise within one jurisdiction or the other, shall be liable at the discretion of the court to be punished by fine and imprisonment, or by confinement in the penitentiary for a term not less than two years, nor more than ten years, as the court shall award; *Provided always,* that if upon the trial of any person indicted for such misdemeanor, it shall be proved that he obtained the property in question in any such manner as to amount in law to larceny or robbery, he shall not by reason thereof be entitled to be acquitted of such misdemeanor, and no person tried upon such misdemeanor shall be afterwards liable to be prosecuted for larceny or robbery upon the same facts.

Persons obtaining money, &c. under false pretence, guilty. Punishment

From 2 to 10 years.

Proviso.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted,* That it shall not be necessary to set forth in any indictment under this act, the particular false pretences intended to be relied on in proof of the same, but that the defendant upon application to the attorney-general or his deputy, before the trial of any such indictment, shall be entitled to the names of the witnesses, and a statement of the false pretences as collected from such witnesses, intended to be given in evidence upon such trial, and that a mere promise for future payment, though not intended to be performed, shall not be sufficient to authorize a conviction under the statute.

As to indictment.

Defendant entitled to a statement of false pretences.

Promise to pay not false pretence.

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted,* When any person shall hereafter be convicted of any statutable felony or misdemeanor for the false or fraudulent obtention, or embezzlement, secreting or making way with goods, chattels, valuable effects, money or securities, the court before whom any such conviction shall be had, may and shall have power to award restitution to the real owner thereof; *Provided however,* that no bona fide holder thereof shall be obliged under this act to surrender up the same.

Court may award restitution.

CHAPTER 325.

A further SUPPLEMENT to the ACT, entitled, an Act relating to Free Negroes and Slaves, passed at December session, eighteen hundred and thirty-one, chapter three hundred and twenty-three.

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That after the passage of this act, it shall be deemed a high offence against the supremacy of this state, for any person know-

Circulating inflammatory papers,