

Local Laws of Maryland as enacted by Chapter 123 of the Acts of the General Assembly of Maryland of 1898, title "City of Baltimore," sub-title "Thieves and Pick-pockets" be and the same is hereby repealed and re-enacted with amendments so as to read as follows:

It shall be the duty of all police officers and detectives in Baltimore City to arrest and take before some one of the station house justices in Baltimore City all persons whom they shall find in Baltimore City or upon any train, boat, car or other vehicle commonly used for the transportation of passengers which may be bound to or from Baltimore City whom they shall know or have good reason to believe are common thieves or pickpockets, and said police justices shall commit or bail such persons for trial before the Criminal Court of Baltimore; and if any person in Baltimore City shall be charged on oath before any station house justice in Baltimore City or before the judge of the Criminal Court of Baltimore with being a common thief or pick-pocket, such justice or judge shall issue a warrant for the arrest of such person and commit or bail him for trial; and any person convicted in the Criminal Court of Baltimore of being a common thief or common pick-pocket shall be fined not exceeding one thousand dollars or be imprisoned in jail or in the House of Correction or in the penitentiary for a period not exceeding five years, or be both fined and imprisoned within the limits above prescribed in the discretion of the court; but if any person is arrested or indicted a second time or more for such offense, he shall be convicted only on proof that he has continued to be a common thief or pick-pocket since his last conviction or acquittal, and it shall be necessary to charge in the indictment only that the person is a common thief or common pick-pocket, and any evidence, either of facts or reputation, proving that such person is habitually and by practice a thief or pick-pocket, shall be sufficient for his conviction if satisfactorily establishing the fact to the court or jury by whom he is tried, and there shall be no discretion in any police officer or police justice to discharge or release any person who is by such proof before them or knowledge on their part shown to be a thief or pick-pocket as aforesaid, but such person shall be bailed or committed for trial; and no conviction or charge of or for being a common thief or pick-pocket shall prevent any such person from being tried and convicted for any particular act of larceny he may have committed.