

be fined not exceeding ten thousand pounds current money, or imprisoned without bail not exceeding three years, or whipped not exceeding thirty-nine lashes, in the discretion of the court.

CHAP.
XXVIII.

XIV. **Provided**, That any thing above shall not extend to any subjects of this state prisoners in the possession of the enemy, who may remove from one place to another, in their possession, for the purpose or convenience of returning to the United States; and **provided** also, if any such person shall commit any act declared treason by the law of this state, or if any such person shall do any act, the commission whereof would make him liable to be considered as a spy by the law of nations, that the above provision and punishment shall not exempt such person from being tried and punished agreeable to the law of the land, or the law of nations, as the case may require.

Proviso

XV. **And be it enacted**, That if any citizen or subject of this state shall write or convey any letter, or send or carry any message, to any person within the enemy's lines, or at their camp, or in any city, town, or place, within the United States, in their possession, or on board of any of their vessels within the United States, or on the coast thereof, without the leave of the governor and council, some one of the general officers of the army of the United States, or some officer commanding a body of regulars or militia in actual service; and if any person shall bring any letter or message from any such person, and shall not immediately on his arrival within this state, or within ten days thereafter at farthest, deliver such letter, or communicate such message, to the governor, or some one of the council, or to one of the judges of the general court, or the lieutenant of a county; and if any person within this state shall receive any letter or message from any such person, and shall not deliver such letter, or communicate such message, as aforesaid, and shall be thereof convicted in the general or any county court, such person shall be fined not exceeding one thousand pounds current money, or be punished by whipping, not exceeding thirty-nine lashes, or both, in the discretion of the court.

Persons sending letters, &c. without leave to be fined, &c.

XVI. **And be it enacted**, That if any citizen or subject of this state shall advisedly and directly acknowledge himself to be a subject of the king of Great-Britain, or advisedly and directly attribute to the king or parliament of Great-Britain any jurisdiction or power within this state, or practise, by any ways or means, to withdraw any person from his allegiance to this state, or any of the United States, or to move any person to promise any allegiance or obedience to the king or parliament of Great-Britain, or shall by any means be willingly withdrawn from his allegiance as aforesaid, or shall promise any obedience or allegiance to the king or parliament of Great-Britain, or willingly receive any protection from any general, or other military or civil officer, or other person in the service of the king of Great-Britain, or shall entertain, or directly advise any person to entertain, any one of the British enemy, unless in captivity, or shall maliciously, advisedly, and directly, by writing or open speaking, wish health, prosperity, or success, to the king of Great-Britain, or his army or navy, and shall be thereof convicted in the general or any county court, shall be adjudged guilty of a misdemeanor, and fined not exceeding two thousand pounds current money, or be punished by whipping not exceeding thirty-nine lashes,

Fine on persons acknowledging themselves subjects of Great-Britain, &c.