

## Chapter 97.

[Published May 2.]

An Act for the safe keeping of bills, memorials, or other legislative documents, and to punish offences for destroying or altering the same.

*The people of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows :*

SECTION 1. The chief clerk of the senate shall be personally responsible for the safe keeping of every bill, memorial, joint resolution or other documents or paper pertaining to legislation which shall come to his hands, or to the hands of his deputy or assistant, from any member, committee or officer of the legislature, or either branch thereof; and he shall keep a record of all such bills, memorials, joint resolutions, or other documents or paper pertaining to legislation, which shall come to his hands or possession as such clerk, or which shall come to the hands of his deputy or assistant clerk, and shall enter in such record, the disposition made of the same.

Chief clerk of senate responsible for the safe keeping of bills, &c.

To keep record of.

SEC. 2. The chief clerk of the assembly shall be personally responsible for the safe keeping of every bill, memorial, joint resolution or other document or paper pertaining to legislation, which shall come to his hands from any member, committee, or officer of the legislature, or either branch thereof; and he shall keep a record of all such bills, memorials, joint resolutions, or other document or paper pertaining to legislation which shall come to his hands or possession as such clerk, or which shall come to the hands of his deputy, assistant clerk, and shall enter in such record, the disposition made of the same.

Chief clerk of assembly responsible for the safe keeping of bills, &c.

To keep record of.

SEC. 3. If any clerk, deputy or assistant clerk, or any other person or persons, shall knowingly and wilfully take or abstract from the files or possession of the chief clerk of either branch of the legislature, or from the possession of any deputy or subordinate clerk of the legislature, or of either branch of the legislature, having the custody of the same, or any bill, memorial, joint resolution, report or other document or paper, pertaining to, or a part of the business of the legislature, or either branch thereof, or shall knowingly and wilfully take or abstract any act, bill, memorial, joint resolution or other document or paper pertaining to or a part of the business of legislation, from the possession of the governor or his pri-

Penalty for destroying any legislative document.

vate secretary, or from the office or possession of the secretary of state, with intent thereby to impede legislation or to defeat the passage of any such act, memorial or joint resolution, through the legislature or either branch thereof, or to prevent the same from taking effect or becoming a law, such clerk, deputy, assistant or officer of either branch of the legislature, or other person so offending, shall be deemed guilty of a crime, and shall be punished by imprisonment in the county jail not less than three months, nor more than one year, or shall pay a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars nor less than one hundred, in the discretion of the court.

Penalty for altering any document.

SEC. 4. If any clerk, officer, or other person, shall alter, mutilate or forge any such act, bill, memorial, joint resolution, or other document or paper, pertaining to or being a part of the business of legislation, with wilful or malicious intent to destroy the same, or so as to change the intent or meaning of the same when it passes the legislature, or either branch thereof, such clerk, officer, or other person, shall be deemed guilty of a crime, and shall be punished by imprisonment in the county jail not to exceed one year nor less than six months, or by fine not exceeding five hundred dollars nor less than two hundred dollars, at the discretion of the court.

SEC. 5. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved April 2, 1855.

## Chapter 98.

[Published April 6.]

An Act to pay the postage of the several State Offices.

*The People of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. The secretary of state is hereby authorized to audit the accounts of the postmaster at Madison, for the postage of the executive office, office of secretary of state, attorney general, state superintendent, bank comptroller,

Sec'y of state to audit acc't of postmaster.