ACT No. XXX. OF 1841.

Passed by the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India in Council, on the 20th of December, 1841.

An Act for repressing obstructions to Justice in certain Courts of the East India Company.

- I. Whereas sufficient provision is not made for repressing obstructions to Justice committed in the Courts of the East India Company ;-It is hereby enacted that all persons whatsoever, whether, generally amenable to the Courts of the East India Company or otherwise, using menacing gestures or expressions, or otherwise obstructing Justice in the presence of any Zillah or City Magistrate, Joint Magistrate, or other Officer under a Magistrate empowered to try Criminal cases, or any superior or inferior Court, Civil or Criminal, of the East India Company, shall be liable to be fined by the Authority whose proceedings are obstructed to any amount not exceeding 200 Rupees, or in case such fine be not paid to be imprisoned for any period not exceeding one month. Provided that from the award of punishment in such cases an appeal shall lie, if preferred within one month, to the Authority, Civil or Criminal, appointed by Law to hear appeals in all other cases from the decisions of the Officer by whom the fine was imposed; and provided also that notwithstanding any thing in this Act it shall be lawful to indict any person amenable to Her Majesty's Supreme Courts as for a misdemeanor in any of the cases aforesaid sustainable before this Act, if no proceeding shall have been had against the offender in the Court where the offence was committed, but not otherwise.
- II. And it is hereby further enacted, that the Sudder Board of Revenue, the local Commissioners, or other Officers exercising the powers of either of those authorities, the Collectors, or other Officers exercising the powers of Collector, shall be competent to punish any obstruction of the nature aforesaid, by fine to an extent not exceeding 200 Rupees, and in case such fine be not paid by imprisonment in the Civil Jail for a period not exceeding one month. Provided that the orders passed in such cases shall be subject on appeal to the revision and controul of the superior Revenue Authorities, as in all others, and shall, as well as the sentences passed under Section I. of this Act, be carried into effect by the Magistrate, on application being made to that Officer, in the usual mode.
- III. And it is hereby enacted, that Section XLII., the further proviso contained in Section LXXIV., Regulation XXIII. 1814; Clauses second and third, Section V., and Section VI., Regulation XII. of 1825 of the Bengal Code, are repealed.