

AN ACT RELATING TO THE ILLEGAL TAKING AND USING OF HORSES  
AND CARRIAGES.

Chap. 236

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

Whoever at any time hires a horse or carriage, and, with intent to cheat and defraud the owner thereof, makes to the owner or his agent at the time of such hiring a false statement of the distance which he proposes to travel with such horse or carriage; or with such intent to cheat or defraud makes to the owner or his agent, after the use of a horse or carriage, a false statement of the distance which he has actually travelled with such horse or carriage; and whoever, with intent to cheat and defraud the owner thereof, refuses to pay for the use of any horse or carriage the lawful hack or carriage fare established therefor by any city or town, shall be punished for each offence by a fine not exceeding twenty dollars, or by imprisonment in the jail not exceeding two months, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

*Approved May 18, 1882.*Penalty for  
illegal use of  
horses and  
carriages.

## AN ACT RELATING TO THE SETTLEMENT OF TITLES TO REAL ESTATE.

Chap. 237

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

When the record title of real estate is encumbered by an undischarged mortgage, and the mortgagor and those having his estate in the premises have been in uninterrupted possession of such real estate for twenty years after the expiration of the time limited in the mortgage for the full performance of the conditions thereof, he or they may apply to the supreme judicial court by petition, setting forth the facts, and asking for a decree as hereinafter provided; and if after notice to all persons interested, by publication or otherwise as the court may order, no evidence is offered of any payment on account of the debt secured by said mortgage within said twenty years, or of any other act within said time in recognition of its existence as a valid mortgage, the court may enter a decree setting forth such facts and its findings in relation thereto, which decree shall, within thirty days, be recorded in the proper registry of deeds, and thereafter no action shall be brought by any person to enforce a title under said mortgage.

*Approved May 18, 1882.*

After possession of estate for twenty years by mortgagor, action to enforce title barred, upon entry of a decree by the court.