



Offences against the Person Act 1861

1861 CHAPTER 100 24 and 25 Vict

Assaults

36 Obstructing or assaulting a clergyman or other minister in the discharge of his duties.

Whosoever shall, by threats or force, obstruct or prevent or endeavour to obstruct or prevent, any clergyman or other minister in or from celebrating divine service or otherwise officiating in any church, chapel, meeting house, or other place of divine worship, or in or from the performance of his duty in the lawful burial of the dead in any churchyard or other burial place, or shall strike or offer any violence to, or shall, upon any civil process, or under the pretence of executing any civil process, arrest any clergyman or other minister who is engaged in, or to the knowledge of the offender is about to engage in, any of the rites or duties in this section aforesaid, or who to the knowledge of the offender shall be going to perform the same or returning from the performance thereof, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and being convicted thereof shall be liable, at the discretion of the court, to be imprisoned for any term not exceeding two years, . . . ^{F1}

Textual Amendments

F1 Words omitted by virtue of [Criminal Justice Act 1948 \(c. 58\), s. 1\(2\)](#)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C1 Ss. 16, 20, 26, 27, 34, 36, 38, 47, 57, 60 amended as to mode of trial by [Magistrates' Courts Act 1980 \(c. 43, SIF 82\)](#), [Sch. 1 para. 5](#)

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Offences against the Person Act 1861, Section 36.