

## CHAPTER XIV.

### OF CASES TRIABLE BY THE MAGISTRATE IN WHICH A WARRANT ON COMPLAINT MAY ISSUE.

248. When a complaint is made before a Magistrate having jurisdiction in the case, that any person has committed, or is suspected to have committed, any offence triable by such Magistrate, and punishable under the Indian Penal Code with imprisonment for a period exceeding six months, it shall be lawful for such Magistrate to issue his warrant to apprehend such person. Provided that in any such case the Magistrate, to whom such complaint shall be made, may, for any sufficient reason, instead of issuing his warrant in the first instance, issue his summons, requiring the person complained against to appear to answer to such complaint.

Cases in which  
Magistrate may  
issue a warrant.

Summons in  
lieu of warrant.

249. The provisions of Chapter XII relating to the issuing of process for causing the attendance of the accused person, the taking of bail, the summoning and enforcing the attendance of witnesses, the examination of parties and witnesses, the mode of recording evidence, correction, attestation, and interpretation thereof, and the adjournment of a case,

Issue of process  
&c.

shall be applicable to cases tried under this Chapter. On completing the examination of a witness under this Section, the Magistrate, in addition to the memorandum required by Chapter XII, shall record such remarks as he may think material respecting the demeanor of any witness while under examination.

**Charge.**

250. When the evidence of the complainant and of the witnesses for the prosecution, and such examination of the accused person as the Magistrate shall consider necessary, have been taken, the Magistrate, if he find that no offence has been proved against the accused person, shall discharge him. If the Magistrate find that an offence is apparently proved against the accused person which falls within the definition in a certain Section of the Indian Penal Code, or within one or other of the definitions in several Sections of the said Code, he shall prepare in writing a charge against the accused person in the manner prescribed in Chapter XIII of this Act, all the provisions of which shall be applicable to charges prepared under this Section. In charges prepared under this Section the words "within my cognizance" shall be substituted for the words "within the cognizance of the Court of Session" at the end of the charge, and the words "by the said Court" omitted in the order.

**Plea.**

251. The charge shall then be read to the accused person, and he shall be asked whether he is guilty or has any defence to make.

**Plea of claim to be tried.**

252. If the accused person have any defence to make to the charge, he shall be called upon to enter upon the same, and to produce his witnesses if in attendance, and shall be allowed to recall and cross-examine the witnesses for the prosecution.

**Evidence for the defence.**

253. The Magistrate shall summon any witness and examine any evidence that may be offered in behalf of the accused person, to answer or disprove the evidence against him, and may, for this purpose, at his discretion, adjourn the trial from time to time, as may be necessary.

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254. The provisions of Sections 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, and 192 of this Act shall be applicable to witnesses named in support of the defence.

Witnesses for the defence.

255. If the Magistrate shall find the accused person not guilty, he shall record judgment of acquittal. If the accused person is convicted, the Magistrate shall pass sentence upon him according to law.

Acquittal or conviction.

256. In any trial before a Magistrate, in which it may appear at any stage of the proceedings that from any cause the case is one which the Magistrate is not competent to try, or which, in the opinion of such Magistrate, ought to be tried by the Court of Session, the Magistrate shall stop further proceedings under this Chapter, and shall proceed in accordance with Chapter XII of this Act for conducting the preliminary enquiry in cases triable by the Court of Session.

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Magistrate how to proceed if, after trial commenced, he finds the case beyond his jurisdiction.