

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

No. 9.—1920.

I ASSENT,

[L.S.]

J. R. CHANCELLOR,

Governor.

9th April, 1920.

AN ORDINANCE relating to Wardens.

[9th April, 1920.]

BE it enacted by the Governor of Trinidad and Tobago with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof as follows :—

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Wardens Ordinance, 1920. Short title.

2.—(1.) It shall be lawful for the Governor from time to time to appoint a Warden for each County in Trinidad and for the Ward of Tobago. Appointment of Wardens.

(2.) Notwithstanding the provisions of section two of the Wardens Ordinance, No. 165, every appointment heretofore made by virtue whereof any person is acting or has acted as a Warden, whether permanently or temporarily, since the first day of January, 1919, shall be deemed to

have been legally made, and all acts of all such persons heretofore done by them in the discharge of their duties as Wardens during such period are hereby declared to have been good, valid and effectual.

Clearing of
watercourses.

3. It shall be lawful for the Warden with all proper servants from time to time to enter into and upon any land within his County or Ward and if he shall see fit, to cut or break up any felled or fallen tree, bamboo, wood or underwood found and being in the bed of any river or watercourse on such land, and such tree, bamboo, wood or underwood so cut or broken up to place on any convenient part of the bank of such river or watercourse, in all cases doing thereby as little damage as may be to such land.

Provided that if the Warden is satisfied that any such felled or fallen tree, bamboo, wood or underwood has been cut down or felled by the owner or occupier or servant of any such owner or occupier of land adjoining such river or watercourse, the Warden may call upon such owner or occupier to remove the same from such river or watercourse forthwith at the expense of such owner or occupier, and if not so removed within a reasonable time the Warden may cause the same to be removed at the expense of such owner or occupier; and all the expenses of such removal may be recovered by the Warden from such owner or occupier in the Petty Civil Court of the district, without limit of amount.

Trees, etc. on
river banks.

4. Every person who shall cut down any tree, bamboo, wood or underwood growing or being on any land within thirty feet of either bank of any river or watercourse without the licence of the Warden of the County or Ward within which the same may be situated, first obtained in writing, whether such person shall be the owner of such land or not, shall on conviction thereof before a magistrate forfeit and pay such sum not exceeding ten pounds for every such offence as to the convicting magistrate shall seem fit. And it shall be lawful for the Warden at all reasonable times with all proper assistants and servants to enter upon any land situate within his County or Ward and view and inspect the state of any river or watercourse and the banks thereof within such County or Ward.

5. In sections 3 and 4 hereof the term "Warden" shall be deemed to include Assistant Warden and Ward Officer. "Warden"

6. It shall be lawful for a Warden by writing under his hand to appoint a deputy, being a Ward Officer, for the collection and receipt of taxes payable to such Warden; and such deputy when so appointed is hereby enabled to give valid and effectual discharges and receipts for all such taxes. Warden may appoint deputy to collect taxes.

Provided that nothing herein contained shall be construed to relieve a Warden from the responsibility attaching to him in his office of accounting for all moneys payable to or received by him as Warden, and every Warden shall be liable for the acts and defaults of any deputy appointed by him under this Ordinance in such collection or receipt as aforesaid, as if the acts and defaults of such deputy were the acts and defaults of the Warden by whom such deputy was appointed.

7. Every person having the possession of any land within any Ward shall once in any year, commencing on the first day of January, if so required in writing by the Warden, make to such Warden within one month after being so required, a return according to such form as may from time to time be prescribed by the Governor, specifying the number of cattle, sheep, horses, mules and asses on such land at the date of such return, and the nature and quantity of the produce grown or produced from or manufactured upon such land, during the twelve months ending on the thirty-first day of December then next preceding. Return of stock and produce.

8. It shall be lawful for any Magistrate to hear and determine any case wherein any person may be charged with an offence under this Ordinance, notwithstanding that any question shall or may arise or be set up in any such case as to the title to any land alleged to be Crown land or any interest therein or accruing therefrom. Jurisdiction of Magistrate.

9. The Wardens Ordinance (No. 165), the Magistrates Repeal. (Crown Lands) Ordinance (No. 169), the Wardens Ordinance, 1907, and the Wardens Ordinance, 1910 are hereby repealed. Ord. 24—1907.
" 25—1910.

Passed in Council this Nineteenth day of March, in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twenty.

G. L. GUPPY,
Acting Clerk of the Council.
