

No. 11.—1884.

An Ordinance to authorize the Governor's signature to Crown Grants to be attached by a stamp.

ARTHUR GORDON.

WHEREAS it is expedient to authorize the Governor's signature to Crown Grants of land in this Colony to be attached by means of a stamp: Be it therefore enacted by the Governor of Ceylon, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:—

Preamble.

1. It shall be lawful for the Governor in all Crown grants of land hereafter to be made by him in the name and on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen, or Her successors, to cause his signature thereto to be attached by means of a stamp or fac-simile of his sign-manual, and grants so signed shall be of the same effect, force and validity to all intents and purposes as if the said grants bore the actual autograph or sign-manual of the Governor: Provided always that all such grants shall be countersigned by the Colonial Secretary or other person duly appointed by the Governor in that behalf.

Governor's signature may be attached by stamp or fac-simile.

Governor's Signature to Grants.

Penalties for
using, forging or
counterfeiting
stamp, &c.

2. Every person who shall commit any one of the following offences shall be punished with imprisonment with or without hard labour for a term which may extend to ten years and shall not be less than two years, and shall also be liable to a fine not exceeding one thousand rupees :

Every person

- (1) who shall without authority of the Governor obtain possession of, or who shall without the authority of the Governor affix the stamp or fac-simile of the sign-manual of the Governor to any document purporting to be a Crown grant of land ; or
- (2) who shall forge, counterfeit or cause or procure to be forged or counterfeited any die, plate or other instrument or any part of any die, plate or other instrument which has been or shall or may be provided, made or used by or under the direction of the Governor (or by or under the direction of any person or persons legally authorized in that behalf) for the purpose of attaching his signature to Crown grants in manner aforesaid ; or
- (3) who shall forge, counterfeit or imitate or cause or procure to be forged, counterfeited or imitated the stamp, mark or impression of any such die, plate or other instrument which has been or shall or may be provided, made or used as aforesaid upon any parchment, paper or other substance or material whatever ; or
- (4) who shall knowingly and without lawful excuse (the proof whereof shall be on the person accused) have in his possession any false, forged or counterfeit die, plate or other instrument or part of any such die, plate or other instrument resembling or intended to resemble either wholly or in part any die, plate or other instrument which has been or shall or may be provided, made or used as aforesaid ; or
- (5) who shall stamp or mark or cause or procure to be stamped or marked any parchment, paper or other substance or material whatsoever with any such false, forged or counterfeit die, plate or other instrument or part of any such die, plate or other instrument ; or
- (6) who shall knowingly utter, offer, dispose of or put off or shall knowingly and without lawful excuse (the proof whereof shall be on the person accused) have in his possession any parchment, paper or other substance or material having thereon the impression or any part of the impression of any such false, forged or counterfeit die, plate or other instrument or part of any such die, plate or other instrument as aforesaid, or having thereon any false, forged or counterfeit stamp or impression resembling or representing either wholly or in part or intended or liable to pass or be mistaken for any stamp, mark or impression of any such die,

plate or other instrument which has been or shall or may be so provided, made or used as aforesaid.

Passed in Council the Thirteenth day of February, One thousand Eight hundred and Eighty-four.

R. H. SINCLAIR,
Acting Clerk to the Council.

Assented to by His Excellency the Governor, the Fourteenth day of February, One thousand Eight hundred and Eighty-four.

J. DOUGLAS,
Colonial Secretary.
