

(No. 12.)

PROVINCIAL LAWS RELATING TO COAST AND DEEP SEA FISHERIES.

Sect. 1. Officers of the colonial revenue, sheriffs, magistrates and any other person duly commissioned for that purpose, may go on board any vessel or boat within any harbor in the province, or hovering within three marine miles of any of the coasts or harbors thereof, and stay on board so long as she may remain within such place or distance.

2. If such vessel or boat be bound elsewhere and shall continue within such harbor or so hovering for twenty-four hours after the master shall have been required to depart, any one of the officers above mentioned may bring such vessel or boat into port and search her cargo, and also examine the master upon oath touching the cargo and voyage; and if the master or person in command shall not truly answer the questions demanded of him in such examination he shall forfeit four hundred dollars; and if there be any prohibited goods on board, then such vessel or boat, and the cargo thereof, shall be forfeited.

3. If the vessel or boat shall be foreign and not navigated according to the laws of Great Britain and Ireland, and shall have been found fishing or preparing to fish, or to have been fishing within three marine miles of such coasts or harbors, such vessel or boat and the cargo shall be forfeited.

4. All goods, vessels and boats liable to forfeiture may be seized and secured by any of such officers or persons so commissioned; and every person opposing them or any one aiding such opposition shall forfeit eight hundred dollars.

5. Goods, vessels and boats, seized as liable to forfeiture under this chapter shall be forthwith delivered into the custody of the officers of the colonial revenue next to the place where seized, to be secured and kept as other vessels, boats and goods seized are directed to be secured and kept by law.

6. All goods, vessels and boats condemned as forfeited under this chapter shall, by direction of the principal officer of the colonial revenue where the seizure shall have been secured, be sold at public auction, and the proceeds of such sale shall be applied as follows: the amount chargeable for the custody of the property seized shall first be deducted and paid over for that service, one-half of the remainder shall be paid to the officer or person seizing the same without deduction, and the other half, after first deducting therefrom all costs incurred, shall be paid into the treasury of the province; but the board of revenue may nevertheless direct that any vessel, boat or goods, seized or forfeited, shall be destroyed or reserved for the public service.

7. All penalties or forfeitures hereunder shall be prosecuted and recovered in the court of vice admiralty.

8. If any goods, vessel or boat shall be seized as forfeited under this chapter, the judge of the vice admiralty with the consent of the persons seizing the same may order re-delivery thereof, on security by bond to be made by the party with two sureties to the use of her majesty. In case the