

FORESTS.

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22 OF 1879.⁽¹⁾FOR AMENDING THE LAWS RELATING TO THE PROTECTION, CONTROL
AND MANAGEMENT OF FORESTS.

G. J. WOLSELEY.]

[April 21, 1879.]

PART 1.

Preliminary.

1. This Law may be cited as the Forest Law, 1879. Short title.
2. The Regulations and Instructions mentioned in Schedule A Repeal.
are hereby repealed.
3. In this Law unless there is something repugnant in the subject Interpreta-
or context:— tion.

“Forest Officer” means any person whom the High Commissioner may from time to time appoint by name or as holding an office, to carry out any of the purposes of this Law, or to do anything required by this Law;

“Principal Forest Officer” means any person whom the High Commissioner may appoint to the chief superintendence of the forests of the island;

“Tree” includes shrubs and brushwood;

“Timber” includes trees, fallen or felled, and all wood whether cut up or fashioned for any purpose or not;

“Forest Produce” includes the following when found in or brought from a forest, viz.:—minerals, stones, surface soil, trees, timber, grass, creepers, leaves, flowers, fruits, seeds, roots, bark, honey, gum, and resin;

“Cattle” includes bull, ox, cow, steer, heifer, horse, pony, 26. 1921; 2.
mule, ass, camel, sheep, goat, pig, and the young of the same;

“Offence” means an offence punishable under this Law or under any rule made under this Law.

PART 2.

Of Forests under the management of Government.

4. The High Commissioner in Council may by notification in the *Cyprus Gazette* declare the whole of any part of the forest land in Cyprus, exclusive of such as belongs to private individuals, to be under the protection, control and management of the Government. Power to
declare
forests
under control
of Govern-

(1) Ss. 18-38 were formerly ss. 20-40.

Bar to
accrual of
rights.

5. After the publication of such notification no right shall be acquired in or over any such land, except under a grant or contract made or entered into by or on behalf of the Government.

Acts pro-
hibited in
forests under
control of
Government.

6. Whoever on such lands declared to be under the protection, control and management of the Government by notification issued under section 4, except with the authority in writing of the Commissioner of the District or of the Principal Forest Officer;

- (a.) Removes sound timber lying in such forests, felled either before the issue of the notification or at any time by or on account of Government;
- (b.) Fells, cuts, lops, taps or burns any tree, strips off the bark or leaves from or otherwise damages any tree;
- (c.) Extracts or collects resin, gum, or other substance;
- (d.) Extracts or removes stones, minerals, leaves, cones or other products of the forest;
- (e.) Burns lime or manufactures charcoal, tar, or pitch;
- (f.) Sets fire to the forest or kindles a fire without taking due precautions to prevent its spreading;
- (g.) Leaves burning any fire kindled within or in the vicinity of the forest;
- (h.) Pastures cattle or permits cattle to trespass;
- (i.) Clears or breaks up land for cultivation or any other purpose;

shall be liable to a fine not exceeding fifty pounds or to be imprisoned for a term not exceeding six months, or to both; and may be charged in addition such compensation for damages done to the forest as the convicting court may direct to be paid.

Section 6 not
to prohibit
collection of
firewood.

7. Nothing in section 6 shall prohibit the collection and removal of dead and dry wood, stools, roots and trunks of dead trees or brushwood to be used solely for firewood, for use of the inhabitants of villages who have been accustomed to supply their wants in this respect from the forests in the vicinity of their village, or shall prohibit the gathering of shinia for personal use or the cutting of myrtle for the purpose of constructing well ropes.

Persons
bound to
assist in ex-
tinction of
fires.

8. All persons having any right or privilege in a forest in which fire may have broken out, and the inhabitants of neighbouring villages, shall be bound to assist in its extinction; and any person refusing so to assist may be deprived of his right or privilege for a space of from one to five years.

9. Inhabitants of villages in the vicinity of forests who have been in the habit of supplying their wants from the neighbouring forests, and of obtaining timber for house building, domestic and agricultural purposes, shall apply for permission to fell and remove such timber in the manner hereinafter provided.

Villagers requiring timber to apply as provided.

10. Persons eligible for grants under section 9 and desirous of felling trees for their own use, for purposes specified in that section, shall submit in writing to the Commissioner of the District, either direct or through the Mukhtar of the village, an application supported by a declaration of the Mukhtar that such grant is necessary, stating:—

Manner of application for grants of timber.

- (a.) The use for which the timber is required;
- (b.) The girth, height, number and kind of trees required;
- (c.) The place where it is desired to fell the trees;
- (d.) And the period requisite to remove the trees.

11. After due enquiry and having regard to the maintenance of the forest, the Commissioner of the District, under the advice of the Principal Forest Officer, shall issue an order sanctioning or refusing the application in whole or in part.

Order on application.

12. In the case of sanction, the Commissioner of the District shall issue the permit contained in Schedule B. in a printed form in triplicate, two copies of which permit shall be forwarded to the Forest Officer in charge of the forest in which the felling is to take place, who shall, with as little delay as possible, proceed to the forest with the grantee and mark the trees specified in the permit, and shall deliver one copy of the permit to the grantee, retaining another for his own guidance and check, and the third copy shall remain with the issuing officer.

Permit in case of sanction.

13. It shall be the duty of the grantee to keep the permit constantly with him when working in the Forests and to produce it when required to do so. The non-production of the permit shall make the felling an infringement of section 6 (b).

Production of permit when required.

14. The use of the timber so granted for any other purpose than that specified in the permit shall entail its forfeiture.

Timber forfeited when used for other than specified purpose.

15. All trees felled and not removed within the period specified in the permit shall be forfeited, and any further action on the part of the grantee or any one in his employ in removing or felling the timber shall be deemed to be an infringement of section 6 (a) or (b) as the case may be. The issuing officer may at his discretion, on sufficient cause for delay being shown, extend the permit for such further time as he may deem proper.

Trees not removed before expiry of permit.