

that the land on which the offence is alleged to have been committed does not form any part of the state forests or shall claim that the act, deed, or default alleged to be an offence was done, omitted, or suffered by any right or custom lawfully enjoyed or exercised by him prior to the passing of the Forest Law, 1879, the Court shall, in the event of the person charged with the offence establishing to the satisfaction of the Court that he has reasonable ground for alleging that the land on which the offence has been committed does not form any part of the state forests, report the case to the Commissioner of the District in order that it may be ascertained under the provisions of this Law whether the land on which the offence is alleged to have been committed forms part of a state forest or not, and pending the settlement of the question shall adjourn the further hearing of the charge; and shall in the event of his claiming that the act, deed, or default alleged to be an offence was done, omitted, or suffered by virtue of a right or custom lawfully enjoyed or exercised by him, proceed to decide upon the validity of the claim, unless there shall be any law in force providing for the settlement of rights in and over state forests, in which case the Court shall adjourn the further hearing of the charge to enable the validity of the claim to be decided upon in accordance with the provisions of the Law.

Permits for cutting timber.

Formerly s. 13.

12. The Principal Forest Officer if he shall so think fit, and on the recommendation of the Commissioner, may authorize the cutting of such timber in state forests as may be required by the inhabitants of the Island for their personal use on payment of such dues as may be fixed by the High Commissioner in Council.

Short title.

Formerly s. 14.

13. This Law may be cited as the Forest Delimitation Law, 1881.

12 OF 1889.

FOR THE BETTER PRESERVATION OF FORESTS, TREES AND PLANTATIONS.

HENRY BULWER.]

[April 27, 1889.

Definitions.

1. In this Law:—

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

“ Owner ” means and includes the proprietor of any forest, trees, or plantations, and the manager or managing body of any community, body corporate, or institution to which any forest, trees, or plantations belong;

“ Forest Produce ” means and includes charcoal, bark, roots, resin and leaves.