

CAP. 282.

CYPRUS

CONVICTS' PROPERTY

CHAPTER 282 OF THE LAWS

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1959

CHAPTER 282.

CONVICTS' PROPERTY.

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS.

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TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF CONVICTS'
ESTATES DURING THE PERIOD OF SENTENCE.

1949
Cap. 263.

[12th May, 1890.]

Short title.

1. This Law may be cited as the Convicts' Property Law.

Interpre-
tation.

2. In this Law—

“convict” means any person against whom a sentence of death or imprisonment shall have been recorded by any Court of competent jurisdiction in Cyprus.

In the construction of this Law a convict shall be deemed to be undergoing sentence until he shall completely have undergone any punishment awarded to him by the Court before which he was convicted, or any punishment substituted therefor by lawful authority, or until he shall have received Her Majesty's unconditional pardon.

3. The District Court having jurisdiction in the place where a convict before his conviction usually resided, or any Judge thereof, may appoint by writing under his hand an administrator of the property of the convict, to administer it during the continuance of the sentence of the convict or until he shall die or be made bankrupt.

Judge of District Court may appoint administrator.

4. Such appointment may be made on the application—
- (a) of any person on behalf of the Government of Cyprus, or
 - (b) of any person who shall satisfy the Court or Judge that the application is made *bonâ fide* with a view to the benefit of the convict or of his family, or to the due and proper administration and management of his property and affairs, and who shall give such security for the due and proper administration of the convict's property and affairs as to the Court or Judge shall seem fit, subject to any Rule of Court, made under this Law, regulating the nature and amount of the security.

Who may apply for appointment.

The administrator to be appointed may be either the person making the application or any other person willing to accept the office and competent to discharge its duties, as to the Judge may seem fit.

5. Every such administrator may receive and retain for his own benefit out of the property of the convict such remuneration as the Court or Judge shall by the order appointing him direct:

Remuneration of administrators.

Provided that the Court or a Judge may, upon the application of the administrator or of any relative of the convict or of any person interested in the due and proper administration of his property and affairs, from time to time vary any such order.

6. Any administrator so appointed may be removed for cause shown to the satisfaction of the Court or a Judge, upon the application of any relative of the convict or of any person interested in the due and proper administration of his property and affairs, or upon the Court's own motion; and upon the death or removal of any administrator, a new administrator may be appointed; and every such new administrator shall upon his appointment be the successor-in-law of the former administrator; and all property vested in and all powers given to the former administrator

Removal of administrator. Appointment of new administrator.

Adminis-
trator's
discretion.

16. The powers hereinbefore given to the administrator, or any of them, may be exercised by him in such order and course as to priority of payment or otherwise as he shall think fit; and all contracts *bonâ fide* made by the administrator under the powers of this Law shall be valid and effectual, and the sufficiency of the grounds on which the administrator may have exercised his judgment or discretion in respect thereof shall not be in any manner called in question by the convict or by any person claiming through him or through the administrator on his behalf.

Property to
be preserved
and held in
trust for
convict.

17. Subject to the powers and provisions hereinbefore contained, the property of the convict and the income thereof shall be preserved and held in trust by the administrator, and the income thereof may, if and when the administrator shall think proper, be investigated and accumulated in such securities as he shall from time to time think fit for the use and benefit of the convict and his heirs, or of such other persons as may be lawfully entitled thereto, according to the nature thereof. And the administrator may at any time apply to the Court or a Judge for directions as to the disposal of any money in his hands as such administrator.

Property of
convict
becoming
bankrupt.
Devolution
and re-
vesting of
property.

18. When any convict is made bankrupt during the continuance of his sentence, his property and, subject to the proviso next hereafter contained, the right to the possession, administration, and management thereof shall devolve upon and become vested in the persons who shall be lawfully entitled thereto by reason of his bankruptcy.

When any convict shall die during the continuance of his sentence, and shall not have been made a bankrupt, his property and, subject as last aforesaid, the right to the possession, administration, and management thereof, shall devolve upon and become vested in his heirs or such other persons as may be lawfully entitled thereto by reason of his death.

When any convict has not been made a bankrupt or died during the continuance of his sentence, then upon the expiration of his sentence his property and, subject as last aforesaid, the right to the possession, administration, and management thereof shall be re-invested in and restored to the convict:

Provided that upon any such devolution or re-vesting of the property of the convict, all the powers and authorities by this Law given to the administrator shall cease and

determine, except so far as the continuance thereof may be necessary for the care and preservation of the property or any part thereof until it is claimed by the persons lawfully entitled thereto or any of them, or except so far as the continuance thereof may be necessary for enabling the administrator to obtain payment of any costs, charges or expenses which he may have incurred or rendered himself liable to the payment of in the exercise of his office of administrator.

19. The administrator shall not be answerable to any person for any property of the convict which shall not actually have come into his hands, nor for any loss or damage which may happen, through any mere omission or non-feasance on his part, to any property vested in him as administrator.

Adminis-
trator not
liable
except for
what
received.

20. All costs actually and reasonably incurred by an administrator in any action which may be brought against him as administrator with reference to any part of the property of the convict, whether during the time while it is vested in him under this Law or after it shall cease to be so vested, and all charges and expenses properly incurred by him with reference to such action, shall be a first charge upon and shall be paid out of the property, unless the Court before which the action is tried shall otherwise order.

Costs to be
received by
adminis-
trator.

21. The Attorney-General or any person who, if the convict were dead, would be entitled by inheritance or succession to any share in the convict's movable or immovable property may by leave of any Court of competent jurisdiction bring an action calling upon any administrator of the property of the convict appointed under this Law to account for his receipts and payments in respect of the property. And the Court shall have full power in the action to take all such accounts and to make and give all such orders and directions as to it shall seem proper or necessary for the proper care, administration and management of the property of the convict, and for the due and proper application of it and of the income thereof, and for the accumulation and investment of such balances, if any, as may from time to time remain in the hands of any such administrator in respect of the property; and so long as any such proceedings are pending every such administrator shall act in exercise of all powers vested in him under this Law or otherwise in all respects as the Court shall direct.

Proceedings
to make ad-
ministrator
accountable.

Adminis-
trator to be
accountable
when
property
reverts.

22. Subject to the provisions of this Law, every administrator appointed under this Law shall, from and after the time when the property of the convict shall have reverted to the convict or devolved upon his heirs or successors under the provisions of this Law, be accountable to the convict, his heirs and successors, for all property of the convict which shall have been by him possessed or received and not duly administered.

Adminis-
trator to
file an
account.

23. Every administrator under this Law shall, within one month of the time when the property of the convict shall have reverted to the convict or devolved upon his heirs or successors under this Law, furnish a true and just account of his receipts and expenditure with regard to the property during the time of his administration. Such account shall be verified by affidavit, and filed in the Court by which, or by a Judge whereof, the administrator was appointed.