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REVENUE SURVEY

CHAPTER 327 OF THE LAWS

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1959

CHAPTER 327.

REVENUE SURVEY.

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FOR PROVIDING A REVENUE SURVEY.

1949 Cap. 301.

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[5th July, 1880.]

Short title.

1. This Law may be cited as the Revenue Survey Law.

Governor may direct a survey.

2. The Governor may, whenever such a measure may appear to him expedient, direct a survey of any portion of the Colony with a view to the settlement of land revenue or for such other purposes as he may think fit, and such survey shall be called a revenue survey.

Establishment.

3. The control of a revenue survey shall rest in the Governor who may from time to time appoint for the purpose of carrying it out a principal Survey Officer, hereinafter styled the "Director of Survey," and such other officers or servants, and under such designations as he may from time to time consider requisite. The Governor may from time to time, subject to such restrictions and provisions as he may think fit to impose, delegate to the Director of Survey the appointment of all or any subordinates.

Owners and others to

4. The Director of Survey may, by general notice or by summons, request the attendance of owners or occupants of land in person or by agent duly instructed and able to give inforanswer all material questions, and may also summons any required. person whose presence or evidence he may think necessary for the investigation or settlement of any boundary; and any person refusing to attend on such summons or to answer any questions material for the purposes of the survey, or to produce any document he may be required to produce, may by the Director of Survey be fined in any sum not exceeding five pounds.

5. In any district in which a revenue survey has been Power to ordered, the Director of Survey or other person duly for purposes authorized by him may enter for the purposes of measure- of survey. ment, fixing boundaries, classing lands, or for any other purposes connected with the survey, any lands, whether belonging to Government, corporations, or to private individuals, and whether assessed or assessable to public revenue or otherwise.

6. (1) The Director of Survey or other person duly Boundary authorized by him may cause to be erected or repaired marks to be boundary marks of villages, fields, pasture, common or kept in waste lands.

- (2) Every owner or occupant of land, and for all the purposes of this section the mukhtar or mukhtars of every village shall be deemed to be the owner or occupant of the village lands, shall be bound to keep in repair his beacons or boundary marks; and if he omits to do so the Director of Survey may cause it to be done, and recover the expenses incident thereto, including all costs of recovery, from the defaulting owner or occupant by civil action.
- 7. Any person damaging, throwing down, or removing any Penalties for beacon or boundary mark, or allowing it to be damaged, removing or damaging thrown down, or removed by any cattle belonging to him beacons. or by any other means shall, in addition to the cost of replacing or repairing, be liable to a fine not exceeding five pounds, or to imprisonment not exceeding three months.

8. It shall be the duty of every owner or occupant of land Occupants to as and when required to point out to the Director of Survey boundaries. or other person authorized by him at the time of measurement the boundaries of his holding; and if the owner or occupant or his duly constituted agent fail to do so it shall be competent to the Director of Survey or other person authorized by him in the absence of the owner, occupant,

or agent to fix the boundary on such other evidence as may be available.

Director of Survey may deeds, etc.

9. In conducting any inquiries respecting boundaries the call for title- Director of Survey or other person authorized by him may call on any owner, occupant, or agent of the owner or occupant to produce for inspection all seneds, gochans, ilams, and all other title-deeds and documents whatever relating to his land; and if within a time to be fixed by the Director of Survey or other person authorized, the owner, occupant, or agent fail to produce such documents, the boundaries of the land may forthwith be determined on such evidence as may be available.

Director of Survey to fix boundaries.

10. If the boundary of a field or holding is undisputed and its correctness is affirmed by the village officers then present, it may be laid down as pointed out; and if disputed it shall be fixed by the Director of Survey according to occupation as ascertained from such evidence as he may obtain. But the determination of any such boundary by the Director of Survey shall not debar any one claiming any right to the land from any legal remedy he would otherwise have for establishing it.

Village boundaries may be fixed

11. When the mukhtars and elders of any two or more adjoining villages voluntarily agree to any given line of as agreed on. boundary common to their respective villages, the Director of Survey shall then mark off the boundary in the manner agreed upon.

If disputed, to be fixed according to evidence.

12. If the mukhtars and elders do not agree, the boundary shall be fixed by the Director of Survey according to occupation as ascertained from such evidence as he may obtain. But the determination of any such boundary by the Director of Survey shall not debar any person interested in the lands affected thereby from any legal remedy he would otherwise have for establishing his interest.

Arbitration by the Director of Survey.

13. If the several parties concerned in any boundary dispute agree to submit the settlement thereof to the Director of Survey and make application to that effect in writing, he may inquire into the claims of the parties and thereafter make an award in the case, and his award shall be final and binding on the parties thereto.

14. The Director of Survey for the purpose of inquiring Power to take into any boundary question may take evidence on oath or evidence on affirmation.

15. The written report of the Director of Survey shall be Written taken as evidence against any person charged by the report of Director to with any act by this Law constituted an offence; and the be received presence of the Director at the hearing of the charge shall not be necessary; but if the Director shall wilfully make any false accusation in any such report he shall be liable to the same penalties as though he had given false evidence on