



ANNO QUADRAGESIMO TERTIO ET QUADRAGESIMO
QUARTO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

A.D. 1880.

No. 179.

An Act to reduce the Rental of Lands leased for pastoral purposes in the Northern Territory.

[*Assented to, October 25th, 1880.*]

WHEREAS by "The Northern Territory Land Act, 1872," it is provided that the Governor may demise for any period not exceeding twenty-five years, for grazing or other pastoral purposes, any waste lands in the Northern Territory of the Province of South Australia to the first applicant therefor, without previously offering the same for sale by public auction, and may reserve in such demise such rent payable in advance, and may insert therein such conditions and clauses of forfeiture and of resumption as shall be prescribed by regulations by the said Act authorised to be made: And whereas by regulations duly made by the Governor in Council, and duly published pursuant to the said Act, it is provided that the person who shall apply for and describe to the Commissioner any country not previously applied for within the said territory, and without the settled districts, for pastoral purposes, shall be entitled, subject to the approval of the Commissioner, to a preferable right to a lease for any period not exceeding twenty-five years of any portion thereof in one block., to consist of not less than twenty-five nor more than four hundred square miles in area, at a rental payable annually in advance of Sixpence per square mile for the first seven years, and Ten Shillings per square mile for the remainder of the term: And whereas, by reason of the difficulties of settlement in and transit to certain lands leased under the powers in the said Act and regulations contained, the said rents chargeable after the expiration of the said first seven years have been found to work hardship on the lessees

Northern Territory Reduction of Rental Act.—1880.

lessees of the said land, and otherwise to operate prejudicially to the proper settlement of the said lands—Be it therefore Enacted by the Governor of the Province of South Australia, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and House of Assembly, in this present Parliament assembled, as follows :

Rents after first seven years to be two shillings and sixpence per square mile.

1. Notwithstanding anything that the said hereinbefore-recited regulations, or in any lease or preferential right to a lease heretofore granted in pursuance thereof contained, all lands in the Northern Territory heretofore leased or agreed to be leased for pastoral purposes under and by virtue of the Act and regulations in that behalf shall be, and be deemed to have been, leased at a rental payable annually in advance of Sixpence per square mile for the first seven years, and Two Shillings and Sixpence per square mile for the remainder of the time thereof.

Power to Governor to make regulations, &c.

2. Every lease, or preferential right to a lease, for pastoral purposes in the said Northern Territory to be hereafter granted, shall be granted upon such terms, and at such rental, and in such areas as may by any regulation to be hereafter made and published by the Governor in Council, under the authority of "The Northern Territory Land Act, 1872," and until such last-mentioned regulation shall have been made and published, the pastoral regulations for leases for pastoral purposes, published in the *Government Gazette* of 28th December, 1876, shall, as to the first clause thereof, be read as if the words "and Ten Shillings per square mile for the remainder of the term" had at all times been, "and Two Shillings and Sixpence per square mile for the remainder of the term."

Power to Governor to remit rents paid.

3. It shall be lawful for the Governor in Executive Council, within six months from the passing hereof, to remit payment of rents paid by the pastoral lessees of the Crown in the Northern Territory in the schedule hereto named and described, so that such remission of rent does not exceed in the whole the sum of seven shillings and sixpence per annum per square mile: Provided that such power of remission shall only extend to increased rents heretofore paid by the lessees after the expiration of seven years from the date of the lease under which the said lands were held.

In the name and on behalf of Her Majesty, I hereby assent to this Bill.

WM. F. DRUMMOND JERVOIS, Governor.

THE SCHEDULE REFERRED TO

No. of
Lease.

1. Tennant & Love.
2. Tennant & Love.
3. W. Gilbert.
4. W. Gilbert.
5. W. Gilbert.
6. W. Gilbert.