



ANNO QUADRAGESIMO SEPTIMO ET QUADRAGESIMO  
OCTAVO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

A.D. 1884.

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No. 329.

An Act to make better provision for the Destruction of  
Vermin.

*[Assented to, November 14th, 1884.]*

**W**HEREAS it is desirable to make better provision for the destruction of vermin—Be it therefore Enacted by the Governor of the Province of South Australia, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and House of Assembly of the said province, in the present Parliament assembled, as follows:

Preamble.

1. This Act may be cited for all purposes as the “Vermin Destruction Amendment Act, 1884.”

Short title.

2. This Act shall be incorporated, and, except so far as inconsistent therewith, read as one with the “Rabbit Suppression Act, 1879,” and the “Vermin Destruction Act, 1882.”

Incorporation.

3. In the interpretation of this Act, unless inconsistent with the context, the following terms shall have the following meanings:—

Interpretation.

“Landowners” shall include all persons occupying any lands, or, as regards any unoccupied land, entitled to occupy the same, and not being lessees within the meaning of the “Vermin Destruction Act, 1882:”

“Local authority” shall mean the Municipal Corporation, District Council, or Board of Directors, having authority for the destruction of vermin in the particular locality:

4. This

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Division of Act.

4. This Act is divided into four parts, as follows:—

PART I.—Local authorities, their duties and control:

PART II.—Extension of rating system:

PART III.—Extension of provisions of Acts:

PART IV.—Miscellaneous.

## PART I.

## PART I.

## LOCAL AUTHORITIES, THEIR DUTIES AND CONTROL.

Local authorities.

5. Every Municipal Corporation, District Council, or Board of Directors of any Vermin District shall, as regards all land situated within the limits of such Corporation, District Council, or Vermin District, have authority for the destruction of vermin.

Proclamation of districts.

6. Vermin Districts shall be proclaimed in all such portions of the province in which the Governor shall consider it desirable to enforce the law for the destruction of vermin, and in which there shall be no other local authority.

Duties and control of local authorities.

7. Every local authority shall be charged with the duty of enforcing the laws for the destruction of vermin, and shall in all things carry out, conform to, and abide by all such directions, if any, as shall from time to time be received from the Commissioner; and if any local authority shall make default in so doing, the Commissioner may cause such directions to be carried out, and may exercise any power which the local authority might have exercised, and the expense of carrying out such directions and exercising such power shall be a debt from the local authority to the Commissioner, payable on demand.

Power to remove director.

8. The Governor, by Proclamation in the *Government Gazette*, may at any time remove any member of any board of directors.

Power to annex.

9. The Governor, by Proclamation in the *Government Gazette*, may at any time declare that any Vermin District, or any part thereof, shall be annexed to any other Vermin District, and thereupon all provisions shall apply as if such district, or the portion so annexed, formed portion of the district to which it shall be so annexed.

## PART II.

## PART II.

## EXTENSION OF RATING SYSTEM.

Landowners to be rated.

10. All provisions of the "Vermin Destruction Act, 1882," relating to lessees and land held by them, are extended to all landowners, and

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**PART II.**

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and all land held by them, as if such landowners and the land held by them had also been mentioned in the said Act wherever lessees or the land held by them are mentioned.

**11.** The maximum scale for the annual rate or assessment provided for by the sixth section of the “Vermin Destruction Act, 1882,” is amended as follows:— Alteration of maximum scale of rates.

By substituting in place of the words contained in subdivisions (a), (b), and (c) of the said section, the following words, namely—

“The sum of one shilling for every square mile held by the  
“lessee or landowner, except land purchased for cash or  
“on credit, or held under lease with a right of purchase,  
“or held under miscellaneous lease:”

By inserting after subdivision (c) the following words, namely—

(b) “The sum of Five Pounds for every one thousand sheep  
“depastured within the district, or a proportionate amount  
“for any smaller number of sheep so depastured:”

(c) “The sum of Two Pounds for every one hundred large stock  
“depastured within the district, or a proportionate amount  
“for any smaller number of cattle so depastured:”

(d) “The sum of one halfpenny for every acre of land purchased  
“for cash or on credit, or held under lease with a right of  
“purchase, and the sum of five shillings for every square  
“mile held under miscellaneous lease:”

And by substituting the word “average” for the word “actual,” in the fourteenth line of the said section.

**12.** The rate or assessment to be paid by any landowner shall be paid within four weeks after the date of the Proclamation of the rate or assessment in the *Government Gazette*, and if not so paid a penalty of Ten Pounds on the amount thereof, and interest at the rate of Ten Pounds per centum per annum on such amount shall be payable by the landowner in default. Mode of payment.

**13.** The Commissioner shall annually pay to the local authority a rate or assessment of One Shilling for every square mile of Crown lands situated within the district, and which no person shall be entitled to occupy. Payment by Commissioner.

**14.** For the purpose of making rates or assessments, and for ascertaining the amounts payable by all persons for rates, all persons who shall thereunto be required by any regulation shall make such returns, containing such particulars and information and verified in such manner as shall be prescribed by regulation, and in default shall be liable to such penalty as may be prescribed by any regulation. Returns.

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## PART III.

## PART III.

## EXTENSION OF PROVISIONS OF ACTS.

Extension of provisions of the Rabbit Suppression Act.

**15.** All provisions of the “Rabbit Suppression Act, 1879,” are extended to all vermin, as if all vermin had been mentioned in the said Act, whenever rabbits are mentioned.

Interpretation of authorised person.

**16.** For the purposes of the “Rabbit Suppression Act, 1879,” the expression “authorised person,” in addition to the meaning assigned to it by the said Act, as regards anything to be done in the district of any local authority, shall mean “any person authorised in writing “by the local authority, and all persons acting under him.”

Local authority may exercise certain powers.

**17.** Every local authority may within its district exercise any power conferred by the “Rabbit Suppression Act, 1879,” or the “Vermin Destruction Act, 1882,” on the Commissioner, and *vice versa*, but so that nothing shall limit the provisions of section 7.

Penalty for non-compliance with notice.

**18.** If, within fourteen days after the service of notice from the Commissioner or any local authority on any occupier of land, such occupier shall not commence to do everything required by such notice for the purpose of destroying the vermin on the land occupied by him and mentioned in such notice, or having so commenced, shall not continue to do everything required as aforesaid until all such vermin are destroyed such occupier shall be liable to a penalty of not less than Five Pounds nor more than Fifty Pounds.

Proof of existence of vermin.

**19.** Proof that there are on any land burrows showing signs of having been recently used by vermin, or other signs of the presence of vermin, shall be deemed to be proof of the existence of vermin on such land: And proof that such signs are not being diminished on any land shall be *prima facie* evidence that the occupier is neglecting to do what is required by any notice which has been served pursuant to the last section.

## PART IV.

## PART IV.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

Liability of Commissioner as regards Crown Lands.

**20.** The Commissioner shall not hereafter be charged with the duty of destroying vermin on any Crown Lands within the district of any local authority; and the “Vermin Destruction Act, 1882,” shall apply to all lands which the Governor may appoint by a proclamation.

Making of declarations.

**21.** Every declaration required to be made for purpose of section 16 of the “Vermin Destruction Act, 1882,” may be made in any form prescribed by regulation, and before any person to be appointed by the Commissioner for the purpose of taking declarations under the said Act.

**22.** The

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**22.** The holder of any preferential right shall be deemed to be a lessee within the meaning of the “Vermin Destruction Act, 1882.”

## PART IV.

Holders of preferential rights.

**23.** In addition to the sums of money mentioned in section 5 of the “Vermin Destruction Act, 1882,” any Board of Directors may pay any salaries, wages, interest, or other expenses incurred by such Board, or in relation to the enforcement of any law relating to the destruction of vermin.

Payment of expenses of Board.

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

WILLIAM C. F. ROBINSON, Governor.