

published in the *Cyprus Gazette* as soon as possible after it has received the assent of His Majesty or of the High Commissioner, and shall, unless some other time is therein specified for bringing it into operation, come into operation on such publication in the *Cyprus Gazette*.

(2.) The date of such publication in the *Cyprus Gazette* shall be printed in some convenient place on each copy of the Law, and shall, unless some other time is specified in the Law for bringing it into operation, be taken notice of, in all Courts and for other purposes, as the date of such Law coming into operation.

17. Every Law shall be numbered, dated and cited as of the year in which it is passed :

Assent not given in same year as Law is passed. 4. 1913, 3

Provided that, where the assent to a Law is not or cannot be obtained in the year in which the same is passed, and such Law contains in its title or short title, if any, the date of such year, such Law shall be numbered, dated and cited as of the year in which the assent shall be given, and shall be so read and construed, and in every copy or edition of the said Law the said title and short title shall be printed accordingly.

INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE.

29 OF 1879.

TO REMOVE DOUBTS AS TO THE LEGAL ABOLITION OF INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE IN CYPRUS, AND TO DECLARE THE LAW IN RESPECT THERETO.

ROBERT BIDDULPH.]

[December 27, 1879.

WHEREAS doubts have been expressed whether involuntary servitude in this island has been abolished in due form of Law, and it is expedient that these doubts should be removed :

Be it therefore enacted :—

1. Involuntary servitude, except for any crime or offence whereof a person shall have been duly convicted, is hereby declared to be unlawful.

Involuntary servitude unlawful.

2. No rights arising out of an alleged property in the person and services of another as a slave shall be enforced by any Civil or Criminal Court, or other authority whatsoever within this Island.

No rights arising out of involuntary servitude to be enforced.

Right of property not to be affected by alleged slavery of owner.

3. No person who may have acquired property by his own industry, or by the exercise of any art, calling, or profession, or by inheritance, assignment, gift, or bequest, shall be dispossessed of it or prevented from taking possession of it on the ground that he or the person from whom the property may have been derived was a slave.

Penal offences against alleged slaves not excused.

4. No one shall be excused from the consequences of doing any act amounting to a penal offence on the ground that the person to, upon or against whom the act was done, was, or was believed to be in a state of slavery.

Short title.

5. This Law may be cited as the Involuntary Servitude Declaration Law, 1879.

IRRIGATION AND WATER.

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11 OF 1887.

FOR REGULATING AND EXTENDING THE USE OF WATER IN AGRICULTURE IN CYPRUS.

HENRY BULWER.]

[April 25, 1887.

Definition.

1. In this Law, "Proprietor" means proprietor of land, water or water rights, and in the case of trust property includes the trustee.

Construction and Maintenance of Works.

Meeting of proprietors to determine on irrigation works.

2. It shall be lawful for the Commissioner of any District, at his own instance, or on the application of three or more proprietors in any village or group of contiguous villages, to summon by notice in writing a meeting of the proprietors of lands in such village or villages which appear to him likely to be benefited by any irrigation or drainage work, to determine by a majority of the proprietors present, either in person or by proxy in writing, whether or not it is expedient that local public works shall be undertaken for the construction of any canals or channels or wells within the lands of such village or villages, or for the improvement, or clearance from obstruction, of any rivers or water-courses, or for the re-construction or repair of any canals, weirs, sluices or other irrigation works lying wholly or in part within the lands of such village or villages, and, if so, whether or not Government aid is necessary for such work.