

A.D. 1881.



CHAP. 8.

An Act respecting Dogs.

[25th March, 1881.]

HER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the
Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia,
enacts as follows :—

1. In case any person is convicted before a Justice of the Peace on the oath of a credible witness, of owning or having in his possession a dog which has worried, injured, or destroyed any other person's sheep, such Justice of the Peace shall impose a fine upon the owner or possessor of such dog of not less than five dollars, nor more than twenty-five dollars; and in default of payment of such fine, the Justice of the Peace shall make an order for the killing of such dog within three days, describing the same according to the tenor of the description given in the complaint and in the evidence.

Imposes a fine upon the owner of any dog that has worried or killed, &c., any sheep.

Dog to be killed if fine not paid.

2. In default of such dog being killed as ordered, the owner or possessor thereof, who has been convicted as mentioned in the last section, shall be liable to imprisonment for any term not exceeding five days.

Penalty if dog not killed when ordered.

3. Any dog unaccompanied by its owner found chasing or killing sheep shall be liable on view of the owner of such sheep, or his agent, or of any person in the employ of such owner or agent, to be killed by such owner, agent, or employé, and the owner of such dog shall be liable to the owner of any sheep so chased or killed for any damage sustained by reason of such chasing or killing.

Dog seen worrying, &c., may be killed.

Owner of dog liable for damage done.

4. When any dog has worried, maimed, or killed any sheep or lamb, and the owner of such sheep or lamb, or any person on his behalf, establishes to the satisfaction of a Justice of the Peace, by evidence on oath, that he has been unable to ascertain who is the owner or possessor of such dog, although due diligence has been used for the purpose, such Justice of the Peace may order the dog complained of to be killed.

When owner unknown the dog may be killed.

5. The penalties imposed by this Act shall not be incurred where sheep are trespassing on private property, or on an Indian Reserve.

Penalties not to be incurred in certain cases.

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Nothing herein to limit
liability of dog owner for
damages.

6. Nothing in this Act contained shall be construed to prevent any person from recovering damages for sheep or lambs injured or killed by dogs from the owners of such dogs.

Act not to apply to Muni-
cipalities or Public Parks.

7. This Act shall not apply to animals on lands set apart for the purposes of a public park, or within the limits of an incorporated city.
