### New South Wales.



ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO QUINTO

# VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

### No. XII.

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An Act to declare and amend the law of Partnership. [Assented to, 20th February, 1892.]

WHEREAS it is expedient to declare and amend the Preamble. law of Partnership: Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of New South Wales in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

### Nature of partnership.

1. (1) Partnership is the relation which exists between Definition of persons carrying on a business in common with a view of Partnership. profit.

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(II) But the relation between members of any

company or association which is-

(a) Registered as a company under the "Companies Act" or any other Act of Parliament for the time being in force and relating to the registration of joint stock companies; or

(b) Formed or incorporated by or in pursuance of any other Act of Parliament or Letters Patent

or Royal Charter,

is not a partnership within the meaning of this Act.

Rules for determining existence of partnership. 2. In determining whether a partnership does or does not exist, regard shall be had to the following rules:—

(1) Joint tenancy, tenancy in common, joint property, or part ownership does not of itself create a partnership as to anything so held or owned, whether the tenants or owners do or do not share any profits made by the use thereof.

(II) The sharing of gross returns does not of itself create a partnership, whether the persons sharing such returns have or have not a joint or common right or interest in any property from which or from the use of which the returns are derived.

(III) The receipt by a person of a share of the profits of a business is prima facie evidence that he is a partner in the business, but the receipt of such a share, or of a payment contingent on or varying with the profits of a business does not of itself make him a partner in the business; and in particular—

(a) The receipt by a person of a debt or other liquidated demand by instalments or otherwise out of the accruing profits of a business does not of itself make him a partner in the business or liable as such:

(b) A contract for the remuneration of a servant or agent of a person engaged in a business by a share of the profits of the business does not of itself make the servant or agent a partner in the business or liable as such:

(c) A person, being the widow or child of a deceased partner and receiving by way of annuity a portion of the profits made in the business in which the deceased person was a partner, is not by reason only of such receipt a partner in the business or liable as such:

(d) The advance of money by way of loan to a person engaged or about to engage in any business on a contract with that person, that the lender shall receive a rate of interest varying with the profits, or shall receive a share of the profits arising from carrying on the business, does not of itself make the lender a partner with the person or persons carrying on the business or liable as such: Provided that the contract is in writing and signed by or on behalf of all the parties thereto:

(e) A person receiving by way of annuity or otherwise a portion of the profits of a business in consideration of the sale by him of the goodwill of the business is not by reason only of such receipt a partner

in the business or liable as such.

3. In the event of any person to whom money has Postponebeen advanced by way of loan upon such a contract as is ment of mentioned in the last foregoing section, or of any buyer of persons a goodwill in consideration of a share of the profits of the lending or business being adjudged a hard-set profits of the selling in business being adjudged a bankrupt, entering into an consideration arrangement to pay his creditors less than twenty shillings of share of profits in in the pound, or dying in insolvent circumstances, the case of lender of the loan shall not be entitled to recover anything insolvency. in respect of his loan, and the seller of the goodwill shall not be entitled to recover anything in respect of the share of profits contracted for, until the claims of the other creditors of the borrower or buyer for valuable consideration in money or money's worth have been satisfied.

4. Persons who have entered into partnership with Meaning of one another are for the purpose of this Act called collectively a firm, and the name under which their business is carried

on is called the firm-name.

Relation of partners to persons dealing with them.

Power of partner to bind the firm.

5. Every partner is an agent of the firm and his other partners for the purpose of the business of the partnership; and the acts of every partner who does any act for carrying on in the usual way business of the kind carried on by the firm of which he is a member, binds the firm and his partners, unless the partner so acting has, in fact, no authority to act for the firm in the particular matter, and the person with whom he is dealing either knows that he has no authority, or does not know or believe him to be a partner.

Partners of firm.

6. An act or instrument relating to the business of the bound by acts on behalf firm, and done or executed in the firm-name, or in any other manner, showing an intention to bind the firm by any person thereto authorised, whether a partner or not, is binding on the firm and all the partners: Provided that this section shall not affect any general rule of law relating to the execution of deeds or negotiable instruments.

Partner using credit of firm for private purposes.

7. Where one partner pledges the credit of the firm for a purpose apparently not connected with the firm's ordinary course of business, the firm is not bound unless he is, in fact, specially authorised by the other partners; but this section does not affect any personal liability incurred by an individual partner.

Effect of notice that firm will not be bound by acts of partner.

8. If it has been agreed between the partners that any restrictions shall be placed upon the power of any one or more of them to bind the firm, no act done in contravention of the agreement is binding on the firm with respect to persons having notice of the agreement.

Liability of partner.

9. Every partner in a firm is liable jointly with the other partners for all debts and obligations of the firm incurred while he is a partner; and after his death his estate is also severally liable in a due course of administration for such debts and obligations so far as they remain unsatisfied, but subject to the prior payment of his separate debts.

Liability of the firm for wrongs.

10. Where by any wrongful act or omission of any partner acting in the ordinary course of the business of the firm, or with the authority of his co-partners, loss or injury is caused to any person not being a partner of the firm,

or any penalty is incurred, the firm is liable therefor to the same extent as the partner so acting or omitting to act.

11. In the following cases, namely:

Misapplication of money

- (a) Where one partner acting within the scope of his or property apparent authority receives the money or pro- or in custody perty of a third person and misapplies it; and
- (b) When a firm in the course of its business receives money or property of a third person, and the money or property so received is misapplied by one or more of the partners while it is in the custody of the firm:

the firm is liable to make good the loss.

- 12. Every partner is liable jointly with his co-partners Liability for and also severally for everything for which the firm while wrongs joint and several. he is a partner therein becomes liable under either of the two last preceding sections.
- 13. If a partner being a trustee improperly employs Improper trust property in the business or on account of the partner-employment of trust ship, no other partner is liable for the trust property to property for the persons beneficially interested therein:

purposes.

Provided as follows:—

- (I) This section shall not affect any liability incurred by any partner by reason of his having notice of a breach of trust: and
- (II) Nothing in this section shall prevent trust money from being followed and recovered from the firm if still in its possession or under its control.
- 14. (1) Everyone who, by words spoken or written, or Persons liable by conduct, represents himself, or who knowingly suffers by "holding himself to be represented as a partner in a particular firm. is liable as a partner to anyone who has on the faith of any such representation given credit to the firm, whether the representation has or has not been made or communicated to the person so giving credit by or with the knowledge of the apparent partner making the representation or suffering it to be made.
- (II) Provided that where after a partner's death the partnership business is continued in the old firm-name, the continued use of that name or of the deceased partner's

name as part thereof shall not of itself make his executors or administrators' estate or effects liable for any partnership debts contracted after his death.

Admissions and representations of partners.

15. An admission or representation made by any partner concerning the partnership affairs, and in the ordinary course of its business, is evidence against the firm.

Notice to to be notice to the firm.

16. Notice to any partner who habitually acts in the acting partner partnership business of any matter relating to partnership affairs operates as notice to the firm, except in the case of a fraud on the firm committed by or with the consent of that partner.

Liabilities of incoming and outgoing partners.

17. (1) A person who is admitted as a partner into an existing firm does not thereby become liable to the creditors of the firm for anything done before he became a partner.

(II) A partner who retires from a firm does not thereby cease to be liable for partnership debt and

obligation incurred before his retirement.

(III) A retiring partner may be discharged from any existing liabilities by an agreement to that effect between himself and the members of the firm as newly constituted and the creditors, and this agreement may be either expressed or inferred as a fact from the course of dealing between the creditors and the firm as newly constituted.

Revocation of continuing guaranty by change of firm.

18. A continuing guaranty or cautionary obligation given either to a firm or to a third person in respect of the transactions of a firm is, in the absence of agreement to the contrary, revoked as to future transactions by any change in the constitution of the firm to which, or of the firm in respect of whose transactions, the guaranty or obligation was given.

#### Relations of partners to one another.

Variation by consent of terms of partnership.

19. The mutual rights and duties of partners, whether ascertained by agreement or defined by this Act, may be varied by the consent of all the partners, and such consent may be either expressed or inferred from a course of dealing.

Partnership property.

**20.** (I) All property, and rights and interests in property, originally brought into the partnership stock or acquired, whether by purchase or otherwise, on account

of

of the firm, or for the purposes and in the course of the partnership business, are called in this Act partnership property, and must be held and applied by the partners exclusively for the purposes of the partnership, and in

accordance with the partnership agreement.

(II) Provided that the legal estate or interest in any land which belongs to the partnership shall devolve according to the nature and tenure thereof, and the general rules of law thereto applicable, but in trust so far as is necessary for the persons beneficially interested in the land under this section.

- (III) Where co-owners of an estate or interest in any land, not being itself partnership property, are partners as to profits made by the use of that land or estate, and purchase other lands and estate out of the profits to be used in like manner, the land or estate so purchased belongs to them, in the absence of an agreement to the contrary, not as partners, but as co-owners for the same respective estates and interests as are held by them in the land or estate first mentioned at the date of the purchase.
- 21. Unless the contrary intention appears, property Property bought with money belonging to the firm is deemed to bought with partnership have been bought on account of the firm.

22. Where land or any heritable interest therein has Conversion become partnership property, it shall, unless the contrary into personal estate of intention appears, be treated as between the partners land held as (including the representatives of a deceased partner), and partnership also as between the heirs of a deceased partner and his executors or administrators as personal or movable and not real or heritable estate.

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23. (1) After the commencement of this Act a writ of Procedure execution shall not issue against any partnership property against partnership except on a judgment against the firm.

(II) The Supreme Court, or a Judge thereof, may, partner's separate on the application by summons of any judgment creditor judgment of a partner, make an order charging that partner's debt. interest in the partnership property and profits with payment of the amount of the judgment debt and interest thereon, and may by the same or a subsequent order appoint a receiver of that partner's share of profits (whether already declared or accruing, and of any other money which

which may be coming to him in respect of the partnership, and direct all accounts and inquiries, and give all other orders and directions which might have been directed or given if the charge had been made in favour of the judgment creditor by the partner, or which the circumstances of the case may require.

(III) The other partner or partners shall be at liberty at any time to redeem the interest charged, or in the case of a sale being directed to purchase the same.

Rules as to the interests and duty of partners subject to special agreement.

- **24.** The interests of partners in the partnership property and their rights and duties in relation to the partnership shall be determined, subject to any agreement expressed or implied between the partners, by the following rules:—
  - (I) All the partners are entitled to share equally in the capital and profits of the business, and must contribute equally towards the losses, whether of capital or otherwise, sustained by the firm.
  - (II) The firm must indemnify every partner in respect of payment made and personal liabilities incurred by him--
    - (a) In the ordinary and proper conduct of the business of the firm; or
    - (b) In or about anything necessarily done for the preservation of the business or property of the firm.
  - (III) A partner making, for the purpose of the partnership, any actual payment or advance beyond the amount of capital which he has agreed to subscribe is entitled to interest at the rate of seven per centum per annum from the date of the payment or advances.
  - (IV) A partner is not entitled before the ascertainment of profits to interest on the capital subscribed by him.
  - (v) Every partner may take part in the management of the partnership business.
  - (VI) No partner shall be entitled to remuneration for acting in the partnership business.
  - (VII) No person may be introduced as a partner without the consent of all existing partners.

(VIII)

- (VIII) Any difference arising as to ordinary matters connected with the partnership business may be decided by a majority of partners, but no change may be made in the nature of the partnership business without the consent of all existing partners.
  - (IX) The partnership books are to be kept at the place of business of the partnership (or the principal place, if there is more than one), and every partner may, when he thinks fit, have access to and inspect and copy any of them.
- 25. No majority of the partners can expel any partner Expulsion of unless a power to do so has been conferred by express partner. agreement between the partners.
- 26. (I) Where no fixed term has been agreed upon for Retirement the duration of the partnership, any partner may determine from partnership at will. the partnership at any time on giving notice of his intention so to do to all the other partners.

- (II) Where the partnership has originally been constituted by deed, a notice signed by the partner giving it shall be sufficient for this purpose.
- 27. (1) Where a partnership entered into for a fixed Where term is continued after the term has expired, and without for term is any express new agreement, the rights and duties of the continued partners remain the same as they were at the expiration over. of the term, so far as is consistent with the incidents on old terms of a partnership at will.

- (II) A continuance of the business by the partners or such of them as habitually acted therein during the term without any settlement or liquidation of the partnership affairs, is presumed to be a continuance of the partnership.
- 28. Partners are bound to render true accounts and Duty of full information of all things affecting the partnership to pariners to any partner or his legal representatives.

29. (I) Every partner must account to the firm for any Accountabenefit derived by him without the consent of the other partners for partners from any transaction concerning the partnership, private or for any use by him of the partnership property, name, profits. or business connection.

(II) This section applies also to transactions undertaken after a partnership has been dissolved by the death of a partner, and before the affairs thereof have been completely wound up, either by any surviving partner or by the representatives of the deceased partner.

Duty of partner not to compete with firm.

**30.** If a partner, without the consent of the other partners, carries on any business of the same nature as and competing with that of the firm, he must account for and pay over to the firm all profits made by him in that business.

Rights of assignee of share in partnership.

**31.** (1) An assignment by any partner of his share in the partnership, either absolute or by way of mortgage or redeemable charge, does not, as against the other partners, entitle the assignee during the continuance of the partnership to interfere in the management or administration of the partnership business or affairs, or to require any account of the partnership transactions, or to inspect the partnership books, but entitles the assignee only to receive the share of profits to which the assigning partner would otherwise be entitled, and the assignee must accept the account of profits agreed to by the partners.

(II) In case of a dissolution of the partnership, whether as respect all the partners, or as respects the assigning partner, the assignee is entitled to receive the share of the partnership assets to which the assigning partner is entitled as between himself and the other partners, and for the purpose of ascertaining that share,

to an account as from the date of the dissolution.

#### Dissolution of partnership and its consequences.

Dissolution

32. Subject to any agreement between the partners, by expiration a partnership is dissolved—

(a) If entered into for a fixed term, by the expiration

of that term.

(b) If entered into for a single adventure or undertaking, by the termination of that adventure or undertaking.

(c) If entered into for an undefined time, by any partner giving notice to the other or others of his intention to dissolve the partnership.

In

In the last-mentioned case the partnership is dissolved as from the date mentioned in the notice as the date of dissolution, or, if no date is mentioned, as from the date of the communication of the notice.

33. (1) Subject to any agreement between the partners, Dissolution every partnership is dissolved as regards all the partners by bank-ruptcy, death, by the death or bankruptcy of any partner.

or change.

- (II) A partnership may, at the option of the other partners, be dissolved if any partner suffers his share of the partnership property to be charged under this Act for his separate debt.
- 34. A partnership is in every case dissolved by the Dissolution happening of any event which makes it unlawful for the byillegality business of the firm to be carried on, or for the members ship. of the firm to carry it on in partnership.
- **35.** On application by a partner the Court may decree Dissolution a dissolution of the partnership in any of the following by the cases :-
  - (a) When a partner has been declared in accordance with law to be of unsound mind and incapable of managing his affairs, or is shown to the satisfaction of the Court to be of permanently unsound mind, in either of which cases the application may be made as well on behalf of that partner by his committee or next friend or person having title to intervene as by any other partner.
  - (b) When a partner, other than the partner suing, becomes in any other way permanently incapable of performing his part of the partnership contract.
  - (c) When a partner, other than the partner suing, has been guilty of such conduct as, in the opinion of the Court, regard being had to the nature of the business, is calculated to prejudicially affect the carrying on of the business.
  - (d) When a partner, other than the party suing, wilfully or persistently commits a breach of the partnership agreement, or otherwise so conducts himself in matters relating to the partnership business

business that it is not reasonably practicable for the other partner or partners to carry on the business in partnership with him.

(e) When the business of the partnership can only

be carried on at a loss.

(f) Whenever in any case circumstances have arisen which, in the opinion of the Court, render it just and equitable that the partnership be dissolved.

Rights of persons dealing with firm against apparent members of firm.

**36.** (1) When a person deals with a firm after a change in its constitution, he is entitled to treat all apparent members of the old firm as still being members of the firm until he has notice of the change.

- (II) An advertisement in the Gazette and in at least one newspaper circulating in Sydney and one newspaper circulating in the district in which the firm carries on business shall be notice as to persons who had not dealings with the firm before the date of the dissolution or change so advertised.
- (III) The estate of a partner who dies, or who becomes bankrupt, or of a partner who, not having been known to the person dealing with the firm to be a partner, retires from the firm, is not liable for partnership debts contracted after the date of the death, bankruptcy, or retirement respectively.

Right of partners to notify dissolution.

**37.** On the dissolution of a partnership or retirement of a partner any partner may publicly notify the same, and may require the other partner or partners to concur for that purpose in all necessary and proper acts, if any, which cannot be done without his or their concurrence.

Continuing authority of partners for purposes of winding-up.

**38.** After the dissolution of a partnership the authority of each partner to bind the firm, and the other rights and obligations of the partners continue, notwithstanding the dissolution, so far as may be necessary to wind up the affairs of the partnership, and to complete transactions begun but unfinished at the time of the dissolution, but not otherwise: Provided that the firm is in no case bound by the acts of a partner who has become bankrupt; but this proviso does not affect the liability of any person who has, after the bankruptcy, represented himself or knowingly suffered himself to be represented as a partner of the bankrupt. 39.

- 39. On the dissolution of a partnership every partner Rights of is entitled, as against the other partners in the firm, and partners to all persons claiming through them in respect of their of partnership interests as partners, to have the property of the partner-property. ship applied in payment of the debts and liabilities of the firm, and to have the surplus assets after such payment applied in payment of what may be due to the partners respectively after deducting what may be due from them as partners to the firm; and for that purpose any partner or his representatives may, on the termination of the partnership, apply to the Court to wind up the business and affairs of the firm.
- AO. Where one partner has paid a premium to another Apportionon entering into a partnership for a fixed term, and the partnership is dissolved before the expiration of that term when otherwise than by the death of a partner, the Court may partnership order the repayment of the premium, or of such part as dissolved. it thinks just, having regard to the terms of the partnership contract, and to the length of time during which the partnership has continued; unless—
  - (a) the dissolution is, in the judgment of the Court, wholly or chiefly due to the misconduct of the partner who paid the premium; or
  - (b) the partnership has been dissolved by an agreement containing no provision for a return of any part of the premium.

41. Where a partnership contract is rescinded on the Rights where ground of the fraud or misrepresentation of one of the partnership dissolved for parties thereto, the party entitled to rescind is, without fraud or prejudice to any other right, entitled—

misrepresentation.

- (a) to a lien on, or right of retention of, the surplus of the partnership assets, after satisfying the partnership liabilities, for any sum of money paid by him for the purchase of a share in the partnership and for any capital contributed by him; and is
- (b) to stand in the place of the creditors of the firm for any payments made by him in respect of the partnership liabilities; and

  (c)

(c) to be indemnified by the person guilty of the fraud or making the representation against all the debts and liabilities of the firm.

Right of outgoing partner in certain cases to share profits made after dissolution.

- **42.** (I) Where any member of a firm has died, or otherwise ceased to be a partner, and the surviving and continuing partners carry on the business of the firm with its capital or assets without any final settlement of accounts as between the firm and the outgoing partner, or his estate, then, in the absence of any agreement to the contrary, the outgoing partner or his estate is entitled, at the option of himself or his representatives, to such share of the profits made since the dissolution as the Court may find to be attributable to the use of his share of the partnership assets, or to interest at the rate of six per centum per annum on the amount of his share of the partnership assets.
- (II) Provided that where, by the partnership contract, an option is given to surviving or continuing partners to purchase the interest of a deceased or outgoing partner, and that option is duly exercised, the estate of the deceased partner, or the outgoing partner or his estate, as the case may be, is not entitled to any further or other share of profits; but if any partner assuming to act in exercise of the option does not in all material respects comply with the terms thereof, he is liable to account under the foregoing provisions of this section.

Retiring or deceased partner's share to be a debt. **43.** Subject to any agreement between the partners, the amount due from surviving or continuing partners to an outgoing partner, or the representatives of a deceased partner, in respect of the outgoing or deceased partner's share, is a debt accruing at the date of the dissolution or death.

Rule for distribution of assets on final settlement of accounts.

- **44.** In settling accounts between the partners after a dissolution of partnership, the following rules shall, subject to any agreement, be observed—
  - (a) Losses, including losses and deficiencies of capital, shall be paid first out of profits, next out of capital, and lastly, if necessary, by the partners individually in the proportion in which they were entitled to share profits.

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(b) The assets of the firm, including the sums, if any, contributed by the partners to make up losses or deficiencies of capital, shall be applied in the following manner and order:—

1. In paying the debts and liabilities of the firm to persons who are not partners

therein.

2. In paying to each partner ratably what is due by the firm to him for advances as distinguished from capital.

3. In paying to each partner ratably what is due from the firm to him in respect of

capital.

4. The ultimate residue, if any, shall be divided among the partners in the proportion in which profits are divisible.

#### Supplemental.

**45.** In this Act, unless the contrary intention appears—Definition of "Court" and "Court" and "business."

Judge having jurisdiction in the case.

The expression "business" includes every trade,

occupation, or profession.

- 46. The rules of equity and of common law applicable saving for to partnership shall continue in force except so far as they rules of equity and are inconsistent with the express provisions of this Act.
- 47. The Act thirtieth Victoria number fourteen is Repeal of hereby repealed.

  30 Vic. No. 14.
- 48. This Act may be cited as the "Partnership Act, Short title. 1892."

By Authority:

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(d) The advance of money by way of loan to a person engaged or about to engage in any business on a contract with that person, that the lender shall receive a rate of interest varying with the profits, or shall receive a share of the profits arising from carrying on the business, does not of itself make the lender a partner with the person or persons carrying on the business or liable as such: Provided that the contract is in writing and signed by or on behalf of all the parties thereto:

(e) A person receiving by way of annuity or otherwise a portion of the profits of a business in consideration of the sale by him of the goodwill of the business is not by reason only of such receipt a partner

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3. In the event of any person to whom money has Postponebeen advanced by way of loan upon such a contract as is ment of rights of mentioned in the last foregoing section, or of any buyer of persons a goodwill in consideration of a share of the profits of the lending or business being adjudged a hard-series to the selling in business being adjudged a bankrupt, entering into an consideration arrangement to pay his creditors less than twenty shillings of share of profits in in the pound, or dying in insolvent circumstances, the case of lender of the loan shall not be entitled to recover anything insolvency. in respect of his loan, and the seller of the goodwill shall not be entitled to recover anything in respect of the share of profits contracted for, until the claims of the other creditors of the borrower or buyer for valuable consideration in money or money's worth have been satisfied.

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Partners bound by acts on behalf of firm.

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Liability of the firm for wrongs. **10.** Where by any wrongful act or omission of any partner acting in the ordinary course of the business of the firm, or with the authority of his co-partners, loss or injury is caused to any person not being a partner of the firm,

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Misapplication of money

- (a) Where one partner acting within the scope of his or property apparent authority receives the money or pro- or in custody perty of a third person and misapplies it; and
- (b) When a firm in the course of its business receives money or property of a third person, and the money or property so received is misapplied by one or more of the partners while it is in the custody of the firm:

the firm is liable to make good the loss.

12. Every partner is liable jointly with his co-partners Liability for and also severally for everything for which the firm while wrongs joint and several. he is a partner therein becomes liable under either of the two last preceding sections.

13. If a partner being a trustee improperly employs Improper trust property in the business or on account of the partner-employment ship, no other partner is liable for the trust property to property for the persons beneficially interested therein:

partnership. purposes.

Provided as follows:—

- (1) This section shall not affect any liability incurred by any partner by reason of his having notice of a breach of trust; and
- (II) Nothing in this section shall prevent trust money from being followed and recovered from the firm if still in its possession or under its control.
- 14. (1) Everyone who, by words spoken or written, or Persons liable by conduct, represents himself, or who knowingly suffers by "holding himself to be represented as a partner in a particular firm, is liable as a partner to anyone who has on the faith of any such representation given credit to the firm, whether the representation has or has not been made or communicated to the person so giving credit by or with the knowledge of the apparent partner making the representation or suffering it to be made.
- (II) Provided that where after a partner's death the partnership business is continued in the old firm-name, the continued use of that name or of the deceased partner's

name

name as part thereof shall not of itself make his executors or administrators' estate or effects liable for any partnership debts contracted after his death.

Admissions and representations of partners.

15. An admission or representation made by any partner concerning the partnership affairs, and in the ordinary course of its business, is evidence against the firm.

Notice to to the firm.

16. Notice to any partner who habitually acts in the acting partner partnership business of any matter relating to partnership affairs operates as notice to the firm, except in the case of a fraud on the firm committed by or with the consent of that partner.

Liabilities of incoming and outgoing partners.

17. (I) A person who is admitted as a partner into an existing firm does not thereby become liable to the creditors of the firm for anything done before he became a partner.

(II) A partner who retires from a firm does not thereby cease to be liable for partnership debt and

obligation incurred before his retirement.

(III) A retiring partner may be discharged from any existing liabilities by an agreement to that effect between himself and the members of the firm as newly constituted and the creditors, and this agreement may be either expressed or inferred as a fact from the course of dealing between the creditors and the firm as newly constituted.

Revocation of continuing guaranty by change of firm.

18. A continuing guaranty or cautionary obligation given either to a firm or to a third person in respect of the transactions of a firm is, in the absence of agreement to the contrary, revoked as to future transactions by any change in the constitution of the firm to which, or of the firm in respect of whose transactions, the guaranty or obligation was given.

#### Relations of partners to one another.

Variation by consent of terms of partnership.

19. The mutual rights and duties of partners, whether ascertained by agreement or defined by this Act, may be varied by the consent of all the partners, and such consent may be either expressed or inferred from a course of dealing.

Partnership property.

20. (I) All property, and rights and interests in property, originally brought into the partnership stock or acquired, whether by purchase or otherwise, on account

of the firm, or for the purposes and in the course of the partnership business, are called in this Act partnership property, and must be held and applied by the partners exclusively for the purposes of the partnership, and in accordance with the partnership agreement.

(II) Provided that the legal estate or interest in any land which belongs to the partnership shall devolve according to the nature and tenure thereof, and the general rules of law thereto applicable, but in trust so far as is necessary for the persons beneficially interested in the land under

this section.

(III) Where co-owners of an estate or interest in any land, not being itself partnership property, are partners as to profits made by the use of that land or estate. and purchase other lands and estate out of the profits to be used in like manner, the land or estate so purchased belongs to them, in the absence of an agreement to the contrary, not as partners, but as co-owners for the same respective estates and interests as are held by them in the land or estate first mentioned at the date of the purchase.

21. Unless the contrary intention appears, property Property bought with money belonging to the firm is deemed to bought with partnership have been bought on account of the firm.

22. Where land or any heritable interest therein has Conversion become partnership property, it shall, unless the contrary into personal intention appears, be treated as between the partners land held as (including the representatives of a deceased partner), and partnership also as between the heirs of a deceased partner and his executors or administrators as personal or movable and not real or heritable estate.

23. (1) After the commencement of this Act a writ of Procedure execution shall not issue against any partnership property against partnership except on a judgment against the firm.

(II) The Supreme Court, or a Judge thereof, may, partner's on the application by summons of any judgment creditor judgment of a partner, make an order charging that partner's debt. interest in the partnership property and profits with payment of the amount of the judgment debt and interest thereon, and may by the same or a subsequent order appoint a receiver of that partner's share of profits (whether already declared or accruing, and of any other money which

which may be coming to him in respect of the partnership, and direct all accounts and inquiries, and give all other orders and directions which might have been directed or given if the charge had been made in favour of the judgment creditor by the partner, or which the circumstances of the case may require.

(III) The other partner or partners shall be at liberty at any time to redeem the interest charged, or in the case of a sale being directed to purchase the same.

Rules as to the interests and duty of partners subject to special agreement.

- **24.** The interests of partners in the partnership property and their rights and duties in relation to the partnership shall be determined, subject to any agreement expressed or implied between the partners, by the following rules:—
  - (1) All the partners are entitled to share equally in the capital and profits of the business, and must contribute equally towards the losses, whether of capital or otherwise, sustained by the firm.
  - (II) The firm must indemnify every partner in respect of payment made and personal liabilities incurred by him--
    - (a) In the ordinary and proper conduct of the business of the firm; or
    - (b) In or about anything necessarily done for the preservation of the business or property of the firm.
  - (III) A partner making, for the purpose of the partnership, any actual payment or advance beyond the amount of capital which he has agreed to subscribe is entitled to interest at the rate of seven per centum per annum from the date of the payment or advances.
  - (IV) A partner is not entitled before the ascertainment of profits to interest on the capital subscribed by him.
  - (v) Every partner may take part in the management of the partnership business.
  - (VI) No partner shall be entitled to remuneration for acting in the partnership business.
  - (VII) No person may be introduced as a partner without the consent of all existing partners.

(VIII)

- (VIII) Any difference arising as to ordinary matters connected with the partnership business may be decided by a majority of partners, but no change may be made in the nature of the partnership business without the consent of all existing partners.
  - (IX) The partnership books are to be kept at the place of business of the partnership (or the principal place, if there is more than one), and every partner may, when he thinks fit, have access to and inspect and copy any of them.
- 25. No majority of the partners can expel any partner Expulsion of unless a power to do so has been conferred by express partner. agreement between the partners.
- 26. (I) Where no fixed term has been agreed upon for Retirement the duration of the partnership, any partner may determine from partner ship at will. the partnership at any time on giving notice of his intention so to do to all the other partners.
- (II) Where the partnership has originally been constituted by deed, a notice signed by the partner giving it shall be sufficient for this purpose.
- 27. (I) Where a partnership entered into for a fixed Where term is continued after the term has expired, and without partnership for term is any express new agreement, the rights and duties of the continued partners remain the same as they were at the expiration over. of the term, so far as is consistent with the incidents on old terms of a partnership at will.

- (II) A continuance of the business by the partners or such of them as habitually acted therein during the term without any settlement or liquidation of the partnership affairs, is presumed to be a continuance of the partnership.
- 28. Partners are bound to render true accounts and Daty of full information of all things affecting the partnership to partners to any partner or his legal representatives.
- 29. (I) Every partner must account to the firm for any Accountsbenefit derived by him without the consent of the other partners for partners from any transaction concerning the partnership, private or for any use by him of the partnership property, name, profits. or business connection.

(II) This section applies also to transactions undertaken after a partnership has been dissolved by the death of a partner, and before the affairs thereof have been completely wound up, either by any surviving partner or by the representatives of the deceased partner.

Duty of partner not to compete with firm.

**30.** If a partner, without the consent of the other partners, carries on any business of the same nature as and competing with that of the firm, he must account for and pay over to the firm all profits made by him in that business.

Rights of assignee of share in partnership.

31. (1) An assignment by any partner of his share in the partnership, either absolute or by way of mortgage or redeemable charge, does not, as against the other partners, entitle the assignee during the continuance of the partnership to interfere in the management or administration of the partnership business or affairs, or to require any account of the partnership transactions, or to inspect the partnership books, but entitles the assignee only to receive the share of profits to which the assigning partner would otherwise be entitled, and the assignee must accept the account of profits agreed to by the partners.

(II) In case of a dissolution of the partnership, whether as respect all the partners, or as respects the assigning partner, the assignee is entitled to receive the share of the partnership assets to which the assigning partner is entitled as between himself and the other partners, and for the purpose of ascertaining that share,

to an account as from the date of the dissolution.

#### Dissolution of partnership and its consequences.

Dissolution

32. Subject to any agreement between the partners, by expiration a partnership is dissolved—

(a) If entered into for a fixed term, by the expiration

of that term.

(b) If entered into for a single adventure or undertaking, by the termination of that adventure or undertaking.

(c) If entered into for an undefined time, by any partner giving notice to the other or others of

his intention to dissolve the partnership.

In

In the last-mentioned case the partnership is dissolved as from the date mentioned in the notice as the date of dissolution, or, if no date is mentioned, as from the date of the communication of the notice.

33. (I) Subject to any agreement between the partners, Dissolution every partnership is dissolved as regards all the partners by bank-ruptcy, death, by the death or bankruptcy of any partner.

or change.

- (II) A partnership may, at the option of the other partners, be dissolved if any partner suffers his share of the partnership property to be charged under this Act for his separate debt.
- 34. A partnership is in every case dissolved by the Dissolution happening of any event which makes it unlawful for the by illegality business of the firm to be carried on, or for the members ship. of the firm to carry it on in partnership.
- 35. On application by a partner the Court may decree Dissolution a dissolution of the partnership in any of the following by the Court. cases :-
  - (a) When a partner has been declared in accordance with law to be of unsound mind and incapable of managing his affairs, or is shown to the satisfaction of the Court to be of permanently unsound mind, in either of which cases the application may be made as well on behalf of that partner by his committee or next friend or person having title to intervene as by any other partner.
  - (b) When a partner, other than the partner suing, becomes in any other way permanently incapable of performing his part of the partnership contract.
  - (c) When a partner, other than the partner suing, has been guilty of such conduct as, in the opinion of the Court, regard being had to the nature of the business, is calculated to prejudicially affect the carrying on of the business.
  - (d) When a partner, other than the party suing, wilfully or persistently commits a breach of the partnership agreement, or otherwise so conducts himself in matters relating to the partnership business

business that it is not reasonably practicable for the other partner or partners to carry on the business in partnership with him.

(e) When the business of the partnership can only

be carried on at a loss.

(f) Whenever in any case circumstances have arisen which, in the opinion of the Court, render it just and equitable that the partnership be dissolved.

Rights of persons dealing with firm against apparent members of firm. **36.** (I) When a person deals with a firm after a change in its constitution, he is entitled to treat all apparent members of the old firm as still being members of the firm until he has notice of the change.

(II) An advertisement in the Gazette and in at least one newspaper circulating in Sydney and one newspaper circulating in the district in which the firm carries on business shall be notice as to persons who had not dealings with the firm before the date of the dissolution or change

so advertised.

(III) The estate of a partner who dies, or who becomes bankrupt, or of a partner who, not having been known to the person dealing with the firm to be a partner, retires from the firm, is not liable for partnership debts contracted after the date of the death, bankruptcy, or retirement respectively.

Right of partners to notify dissolution.

**37.** On the dissolution of a partnership or retirement of a partner any partner may publicly notify the same, and may require the other partner or partners to concur for that purpose in all necessary and proper acts, if any, which cannot be done without his or their concurrence.

Continuing authority of partners for purposes of winding-up. **38.** After the dissolution of a partnership the authority of each partner to bind the firm, and the other rights and obligations of the partners continue, notwithstanding the dissolution, so far as may be necessary to wind up the affairs of the partnership, and to complete transactions begun but unfinished at the time of the dissolution, but not otherwise: Provided that the firm is in no case bound by the acts of a partner who has become bankrupt; but this proviso does not affect the liability of any person who has, after the bankruptcy, represented himself or knowingly suffered himself to be represented as a partner of the bankrupt.

- 39. On the dissolution of a partnership every partner Rights of is entitled, as against the other partners in the firm, and partners to all persons claiming through them in respect of their of partnership interests as partners, to have the property of the partner-property. ship applied in payment of the debts and liabilities of the firm, and to have the surplus assets after such payment applied in payment of what may be due to the partners respectively after deducting what may be due from them as partners to the firm; and for that purpose any partner or his representatives may, on the termination of the partnership, apply to the Court to wind up the business and affairs of the firm.
- Mo. Where one partner has paid a premium to another Apportionon entering into a partnership for a fixed term, and the partnership is dissolved before the expiration of that term when otherwise than by the death of a partner, the Court may partnership order the repayment of the premium, or of such part as dissolved. it thinks just, having regard to the terms of the partnership contract, and to the length of time during which the partnership has continued; unless—
  - (a) the dissolution is, in the judgment of the Court, wholly or chiefly due to the misconduct of the partner who paid the premium; or
  - (b) the partnership has been dissolved by an agreement containing no provision for a return of any part of the premium.
- 41. Where a partnership contract is rescinded on the Rights where ground of the fraud or misrepresentation of one of the partnership dissolved for parties thereto, the party entitled to rescind is, without fraud or prejudice to any other right, entitled—

  misrepresentation.
  - (a) to a lien on, or right of retention of, the surplus of the partnership assets, after satisfying the partnership liabilities, for any sum of money paid by him for the purchase of a share in the partnership and for any capital contributed by him; and is
  - (b) to stand in the place of the creditors of the firm for any payments made by him in respect of the partnership liabilities; and
    (c)

(c) to be indemnified by the person guilty of the fraud or making the representation against all the debts and liabilities of the firm.

Right of outgoing partner in certain cases to share profits made after dissolution.

- 42. (1) Where any member of a firm has died, or otherwise ceased to be a partner, and the surviving and continuing partners carry on the business of the firm with its capital or assets without any final settlement of accounts as between the firm and the outgoing partner, or his estate, then, in the absence of any agreement to the contrary, the outgoing partner or his estate is entitled, at the option of himself or his representatives, to such share of the profits made since the dissolution as the Court may find to be attributable to the use of his share of the partnership assets, or to interest at the rate of six per centum per annum on the amount of his share of the partnership assets.
- (II) Provided that where, by the partnership contract, an option is given to surviving or continuing partners to purchase the interest of a deceased or outgoing partner, and that option is duly exercised, the estate of the deceased partner, or the outgoing partner or his estate, as the case may be, is not entitled to any further or other share of profits; but if any partner assuming to act in exercise of the option does not in all material respects comply with the terms thereof, he is liable to account under the foregoing provisions of this section.

Retiring or deceased partner's share to be a debt.

**43.** Subject to any agreement between the partners, the amount due from surviving or continuing partners to an outgoing partner, or the representatives of a deceased partner, in respect of the outgoing or deceased partner's share, is a debt accruing at the date of the dissolution or death.

Rule for distribution of assets on final settlement of accounts.

- **44.** In settling accounts between the partners after a dissolution of partnership, the following rules shall, subject to any agreement, be observed—
  - (a) Losses, including losses and deficiencies of capital, shall be paid first out of profits, next out of capital, and lastly, if necessary, by the partners individually in the proportion in which they were entitled to share profits.

(b) The assets of the firm, including the sums, if any, contributed by the partners to make up losses or deficiencies of capital, shall be applied in the following manner and order:—

1. In paying the debts and liabilities of the firm to persons who are not partners

therein.

2. In paying to each partner ratably what is due by the firm to him for advances as distinguished from capital.

3. In paying to each partner ratably what is due from the firm to him in respect of

capital.

4. The ultimate residue, if any, shall be divided among the partners in the proportion in which profits are divisible.

#### Supplemental.

**45.** In this Act, unless the contrary intention appears—Definition of The expression "Court" includes every Court and "business."

Judge having jurisdiction in the case.

Judge having jurisdiction in the case.

The expression "business" includes every trade,

occupation, or profession.

- **46.** The rules of equity and of common law applicable saving for to partnership shall continue in force except so far as they rules of equity and are inconsistent with the express provisions of this Act.
- 47. The Act thirtieth Victoria number fourteen is Repeal of hereby repealed.
- 48. This Act may be cited as the "Partnership Act, Short title. 1892."

By Authority:

Reprinted by Alfred James Kent, Government Printer, Sydney, 1928.

# New South Wales.



ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO QUINTO

## VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

### No. XII.

An Act to declare and amend the law of Partnership.
[Assented to, 20th February, 1892.]

WHEREAS it is expedient to declare and amend the law of Preamble. Partnership: Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of New South Wales in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

#### Nature of partnership.

- 1. (1) Partnership is the relation which exists between persons Definition of carrying on a business in common with a view of profit.

  Partnership
- (II) But the relation between members of any company or association which is—
  - (a) Registered as a company under the "Companies Act" or any other Act of Parliament for the time being in force and relating to the registration of joint stock companies; or

Et 323 A (b)

(b) Formed or incorporated by or in pursuance of any other Act of Parliament or Letters Patent or Royal Charter,is not a partnership within the meaning of this Act.

Rules for determine ing existence of partnership.

- 2. In determining whether a partnership does or does not exist, regard shall be had to the following rules:—
  - (1) Joint tenancy, tenancy in common, joint property, or part ownership does not of itself create a partnership as to anything so held or owned, whether the tenants or owners do or do not share any profits made by the use thereof.
  - (II) The sharing of gross returns does not of itself create a partnership, whether the persons sharing such returns have or have not a joint or common right or interest in any property from which or from the use of which the returns are derived.
  - (III) The receipt by a person of a share of the profits of a business is *prima facie* evidence that he is a partner in the business, but the receipt of such a share, or of a payment contingent on or varying with the profits of a business does not of itself make him a partner in the business; and in particular—
    - (a) The receipt by a person of a debt or other liquidated demand by instalments or otherwise out of the accruing profits of a business does not of itself make him a partner in the business or liable as such:
    - (b) A contract for the remuneration of a servant or agent of a person engaged in a business by a share of the profits of the business does not of itself make the servant or agent a partner in the business or liable as such:
    - (c) A person, being the widow or child of a deceased partner and receiving by way of annuity a portion of the profits made in the business in which the deceased person was a partner, is not by reason only of such receipt a partner in the business or liable as such:
    - (d) The advance of money by way of loan to a person engaged or about to engage in any business on a contract with that person, that the lender shall receive a rate of interest varying with the profits, or shall receive a share of the profits arising from carrying on the business, does not of itself make the lender a partner with the person or persons carrying on the business or liable as such: Provided that the contract is in writing and signed by or on behalf of all the parties thereto:

(e) A person receiving by way of annuity or otherwise a portion of the profits of a business in consideration of the sale by him of the goodwill of the business is not by reason only of such receipt a partner in the business or liable as such.

3. In the event of any person to whom money has been advanced Postponement of by way of loan upon such a contract as is mentioned in the last fore- rights of persons lending or selling going section, or of any buyer of a goodwill in consideration of a share in consideration of of the profits of the business being adjudged a bankrupt, entering into an case of insolvency. arrangement to pay his creditors less than twenty shillings in the pound, or dying in insolvent circumstances, the lender of the loan shall not be entitled to recover anything in respect of his loan, and the seller of the goodwill shall not be entitled to recover anything in respect of the share of profits contracted for, until the claims of the other creditors of the borrower or buyer for valuable consideration in money or money's worth have been satisfied.

4. Persons who have entered into partnership with one another Meaning of firms. are for the purpose of this Act called collectively a firm, and the name under which their business is carried on is called the firm-name.

#### Relation of partners to persons dealing with them.

5. Every partner is an agent of the firm and his other partners Power of partner for the purpose of the business of the partnership; and the acts of every to bind the firm. partner who does any act for carrying on in the usual way business of the kind carried on by the firm of which he is a member, binds the firm and his partners, unless the partner so acting has, in fact, no authority to act for the firm in the particular matter, and the person with whom he is dealing either knows that he has no authority, or does not know or believe him to be a partner.

6. An Act or instrument relating to the business of the firm, and Partners bound by done or executed in the firm-name, or in any other manner, showing an acts on behalf of firm. intention to bind the firm by any person thereto authorised, whether a partner or not, is binding on the firm and all the partners: Provided that this section shall not affect any general rule of law relating to the execution of deeds or negotiable instruments.

7. Where one partner pledges the credit of the firm for a purpose Partner using credit apparently not connected with the firm's ordinary course of business, of firm for private the firm is not bound unless he is in fact specially outborized by the purposes. the firm is not bound unless he is, in fact, specially authorised by the other partners; but this section does not affect any personal liability incurred by an individual partner.

8. If it has been agreed between the partners that any restrictions Effect of notice shall be placed upon the power of any one or more of them to bind the that firm will not be bound by acts firm, no act done in contravention of the agreement is binding on the of partner. firm with respect to persons having notice of the agreement.

9. Every partner in a firm is liable jointly with the other partners Liability of partner. for all debts and obligations of the firm incurred while he is a partner: and after his death his estate is also severally liable in a due course of administration for such debts and obligations so far as they remain unsatisfied, but subject to the prior payment of his separate debts.

Liability of the firm for wrongs.

10. Where by any wrongful act or omission of any partner acting in the ordinary course of the business of the firm, or with the authority of his co-partners, loss or injury is caused to any person not being a partner of the firm, or any penalty is incurred, the firm is liable therefor to the same extent as the partner so acting or omitting to act.

Misapplication of money or property received for or in custody of the firm. 11. In the following cases, namely:

(a) Where one partner acting within the scope of his apparent authority receives the money or property of a third person and misapplies it; and

(b) When a firm in the course of its business receives money or property of a third person, and the money or property so received is misapplied by one or more of the partners while it is in the custody of the firm;

the firm is liable to make good the loss.

Liability for wrongs joint and several.

12. Every partner is liable jointly with his co-partners and also severally for everything for which the firm while he is a partner therein becomes liable under either of the two last preceding sections.

Improper employment of trust property for partnership purposes.

13. If a partner being a trustee improperly employs trust property in the business or on account of the partnership, no other partner is liable for the trust property to the persons beneficially interested therein:

Provided as follows:-

(1) This section shall not affect any liability incurred by any partner by reason of his having notice of a breach of trust; and

(II) Nothing in this section shall prevent trust money from being followed and recovered from the firm if still in its possession or under its control.

Persons liable by "holding out."

14. (1) Everyone who, by words spoken or written, or by conduct, represents himself, or who knowingly suffers himself to be represented as a partner in a particular firm, is liable as a partner to anyone who has on the faith of any such representation given credit to the firm, whether the representation has or has not been made or communicated to the person so giving credit by or with the knowledge of the apparent partner making the representation or suffering it to be made.

(II) Provided that where after a partner's death the partnership business is continued in the old firm-name, the continued use of that name or of the deceased partner's name as part thereof shall not of itself make his executors or administrators' estate or effects liable for

any partnership debts contracted after his death.

15. An admission or representation made by any partner concerning the partnership affairs, and in the ordinary course of its business, is evidence against the firm.

16. Notice to any partner who habitually acts in the partnership business of any matter relating to partnership affairs operates as notice to the firm, except in the case of a fraud on the firm committed by or with the consent of that partner.

17.

Admissions and representations of partners.

Notice to acting partner to be notice to the firm.

17. (1) A person who is admitted as a partner into an existing Liabilities of firm does not thereby become liable to the creditors of the firm for any-incoming and outthing done before he became a partner.

(II) A partner who retires from a firm does not thereby cease to be liable for partnership debt and obligation incurred before his

retirement.

(III) A retiring partner may be discharged from any existing liabilities by an agreement to that effect between himself and the members of the firm as newly constituted and the creditors, and this agreement may be either expressed or inferred as a fact from the course of

dealing between the creditors and the firm as newly constituted.

18. A continuing guaranty or cautionary obligation given either Revocation of conto a firm or to a third person in respect of the transactions of a firm is, tinuing guaranty by in the absence of agreement to the contrary, revoked as to future transactions by any change in the constitution of the firm to which, or of the firm in respect of whose transactions, the guaranty or obligation was given.

### Relations of partners to one another.

19. The mutual rights and duties of partners, whether ascer-Variation by tained by agreement or defined by this Act, may be varied by the consent consent of terms of partnership. of all the partners, and such consent may be either expressed or inferred from a course of dealing.

- 20. (1) All property, and rights and interests in property, Partnership originally brought into the partnership stock or acquired, whether by property. purchase or otherwise, on account of the firm, or for the purposes and in the course of the partnership business, are called in this Act partnership property, and must be held and applied by the partners exclusively for the purposes of the partnership, and in accordance with the partnership agreement.
- (II) Provided that the legal estate or interest in any land which belongs to the partnership shall devolve according to the nature and tenure thereof, and the general rules of law thereto applicable, but in trust so far as is necessary for the persons beneficially interested in the land under this section.
- (III) Where co-owners of an estate or interest in any land, not being itself partnership property, are partners as to profits made by the use of that land or estate, and purchase other lands and estate out of the profits to be used in like manner, the land or estate so purchased belongs to them, in the absence of an agreement to the contrary. not as partners, but as co-owners for the same respective estates and interests as are held by them in the land or estate first mentioned at the date of the purchase.
- 21. Unless the contrary intention appears, property bought with Property bought money belonging to the firm is deemed to have been bought on account with partnership money. of the firm.

Conversion into personal estate of land held as partnership property.

22. Where land or any heritable interest therein has become partnership property, it shall, unless the contrary intention appears, be treated as between the partners (including the representatives of a deceased partner), and also as between the heirs of a deceased partner and his executors or administrators as personal or movable and not real or heritable estate.

Procedure against partnership property for a partner's separate judgment

- 23. (1) After the commencement of this Act a writ of execution shall not issue against any partnership property except on a judgment against the firm.
- (II) The Supreme Court, or a Judge thereof, may, on the application by summons of any judgment creditor of a partner, make an order charging that partner's interest in the partnership property and profits with payment of the amount of the judgment debt and interest thereon, and may by the same or a subsequent order appoint a receiver of that partner's share of profits (whether already declared or accruing, and of any other money which may be coming to him in respect of the partnership, and direct all accounts and inquiries, and give all other orders and directions which might have been directed or given if the charge had been made in favour of the judgment creditor by the partner, or which the circumstances of the case may require.

(III) The other partner or partners shall be at liberty at any time to redeem the interest charged, or in the case of a sale being

directed to purchase the same.

Rules as to the interests and duty of partners subject

24. The interests of partners in the partnership property and their rights and duties in relation to the partnership shall be determined, to special agreement. subject to any agreement expressed or implied between the partners, by the following rules:—

- (1) All the partners are entitled to share equally in the capital and profits of the business, and must contribute equally towards the losses, whether of capital or otherwise, sustained by the
- (II) The firm must indemnify every partner in respect of payment made and personal liabilities incurred by him-

(a) In the ordinary and proper conduct of the business of the

(b) In or about anything necessarily done for the preservation of the business or property of the firm.

- (III) A partner making, for the purpose of the partnership, any actual payment or advance beyond the amount of capital which he has agreed to subscribe is entitled to interest at the rate of seven per centum per annum from the date of the payment or advances.
- (iv) A partner is not entitled before the ascertainment of profits to interest on the capital subscribed by him.
- (v) Every partner may take part in the management of the partnership business. (VI)

(VI) No partner shall be entitled to remuneration for acting in the partnership business.

(VII) No person may be introduced as a partner without the consent

of all existing partners.

(VIII) Any difference arising as to ordinary matters connected with the partnership business may be decided by a majority of partners, but no change may be made in the nature of the partnership business without the consent of all existing partners.

(ix) The partnership books are to be kept at the place of business of the partnership (or the principal place, if there is more than one), and every partner may, when he thinks fit, have access

to and inspect and copy any of them.

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(II) Where the partnership has originally been constituted by deed, a notice signed by the partner giving it shall be sufficient for

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(II) This section applies also to transactions undertaken after a partnership has been dissolved by the death of a partner, and before the affairs thereof have been completely wound up, either by any surviving partner or by the representatives of the deceased partner.

30. If a partner, without the consent of the other partners, carries Duty of partner on any business of the same nature as and competing with that of the not to compete firm, he must account for and pay over to the firm all profits made by with firm. firm, he must account for and pay over to the firm all profits made by him in that business. 31.

Rights of assignee of share in partnership.

31. (1) An assignment by any partner of his share in the partnership, either absolute or by way of mortgage or redeemable charge, does not, as against the other partners, entitle the assignee during the continuance of the partnership to interfere in the management or administration of the partnership business or affairs, or to require any account of the partnership transactions, or to inspect the partnership books, but entitles the assignee only to receive the share of profits to which the assigning partner would otherwise be entitled, and the assignee must accept the account of profits agreed to by the partners.

(II) In case of a dissolution of the partnership, whether as respect all the partners, or as respects the assigning partner, the assignee is entitled to receive the share of the partnership assets to which the assigning partner is entitled as between himself and the other partners, and for the purpose of ascertaining that share, to an account

as from the date of the dissolution.

### Dissolution of partnership and its consequences.

Dissolution by expiration or otherwise.

- 32. Subject to any agreement between the partners, a partnership is dissolved—
  - (a) If entered into for a fixed term, by the expiration of that term.
  - (b) If entered into for a single adventure or undertaking, by the termination of that adventure or undertaking.
  - (c) If entered into for an undefined time, by any partner giving notice to the other or others of his intention to dissolve the partnership.

In the last-mentioned case the partnership is dissolved as from the date mentioned in the notice as the date of dissolution, or, if no date is mentioned, as from the date of the communication of the notice.

Dissolution by bankruptcy, death, or change.

Dissolution by

Di-solution by the

illegality of

partnership.

Court.

- 33. (1) Subject to any agreement between the partners, every partnership is dissolved as regards all the partners by the death or bankruptcy of any partner.
- (II) A partnership may, at the option of the other partners, be dissolved if any partner suffers his share of the partnership property to be charged under this Act for his separate debt.
- 34. A partnership is in every case dissolved by the happening of any event which makes it unlawful for the business of the firm to be carried on, or for the members of the firm to carry it on in partnership.

35. On application by a partner the Court may decree a dissolu-

tion of the partnership in any of the following cases:—

(a) When a partner has been declared in accordance with law to be of unsound mind and incapable of managing his affairs, or is shown to the satisfaction of the Court to be of permanently unsound mind, in either of which cases the application may be made as well on behalf of that partner by his committee or next friend or person having title to intervene as by any other partner.

(b)

(b) When a partner, other than the partner suing, becomes in any other way permanently incapable of performing his part of the partnership contract.

(c) When a partner, other than the partner suing, has been guilty of such conduct as, in the opinion of the Court, regard being had to the nature of the business, is calculated to prejudicially

affect the carrying on of the business.

(d) When a partner, other than the party suing, wilfully or persistently commits a breach of the partnership agreement, or otherwise so conducts himself in matters relating to the partnership business that it is not reasonably practicable for the other partner or partners to carry on the business in partnership with him.

(e) When the business of the partnership can only be carried on

(f) Whenever in any case circumstances have arisen which, in the opinion of the Court, render it just and equitable that the partnership be dissolved.

36. (I) When a person deals with a firm after a change in its Rights of persons constitution, he is entitled to treat all apparent members of the old firm dealing with firm against apparent as still being members of the firm until he has notice of the change.

(II) An advertisement in the Gazette and in at least one newspaper circulating in Sydney and one newspaper circulating in the district in which the firm carries on business shall be notice as to persons who had not dealings with the firm before the date of the dissolution or change so advertised.

(III) The estate of a partner who dies, or who becomes bankrupt, or of a partner who, not having been known to the person dealing with the firm to be a partner, retires from the firm, is not liable for partnership debts contracted after the date of the death, bankruptcy,

or retirement respectively.

37. On the dissolution of a partnership or retirement of a partner Right of partners to any partner may publicly notify the same, and may require the other notify dissolution. partner or partners to concur for that purpose in all necessary and proper acts, if any, which cannot be done without his or their concurrence.

38. After the dissolution of a partnership the authority of each Continuing partner to bind the firm, and the other rights and obligations of the authority of partners continue, notwithstanding the dissolution, so far as may be of winding up. necessary to wind up the affairs of the partnership, and to complete transactions begun but unfinished at the time of the dissolution, but not otherwise: Provided that the firm is in no case bound by the acts of a partner who has become bankrupt; but this proviso does not affect the liability of any person who has, after the bankruptcy, represented himself or knowingly suffered himself to be represented as a partner of the bankrupt. 39.

Rights of partners to application of partnership property. 39. On the dissolution of a partnership every partner is entitled, as against the other partners in the firm, and all persons claiming through them in respect of their interests as partners, to have the property of the partnership applied in payment of the debts and liabilities of the firm, and to have the surplus assets after such payment applied in payment of what may be due to the partners respectively after deducting what may be due from them as partners to the firm; and for that purpose any partner or his representatives may, on the termination of the partnership, apply to the Court to wind up the business and affairs of the firm.

Apportionment of premium when partnership prematurely dissolved.

Rights where partnership dis-

solved for fraud or

misrepresentation.

- 40. Where one partner has paid a premium to another on entering into a partnership for a fixed term, and the partnership is dissolved before the expiration of that term otherwise than by the death of a partner, the Court may order the repayment of the premium, or of such part as it thinks just, having regard to the terms of the partnership contract, and to the length of time during which the partnership has continued; unless—
  - (a) the dissolution is, in the judgment of the Court, wholly or chiefly due to the misconduct of the partner who paid the premium; or

(b) the partnership has been dissolved by an agreement containing no provision for a return of any part of the premium.

41. Where a partnership contract is rescinded on the ground of the fraud or misrepresentation of one of the parties thereto, the party entitled to rescind is, without prejudice to any other right, entitled—

- (a) to a lien on, or right of retention of, the surplus of the partnership assets, after satisfying the partnership liabilities, for any sum of money paid by him for the purchase of a share in the partnership and for any capital contributed by him; and is
- (b) to stand in the place of the creditors of the firm for any payments made by him in respect of the partnership liabilities; and
- (c) to be indemnified by the person guilty of the fraud or making the representation against all the debts and liabilities of the firm.

Right of outgoing partner in certain cases to share profits made after dissolution.

- 42. (1) Where any member of a firm has died, or otherwise ceased to be a partner, and the surviving and continuing partners carry on the business of the firm with its capital or assets without any final settlement of accounts as between the firm and the outgoing partner, or his estate, then, in the absence of any agreement to the contrary, the outgoing partner or his estate is entitled, at the option of himself or his representatives, to such share of the profits made since the dissolution as the Court may find to be attributable to the use of his share of the partnership assets, or to interest at the rate of six per centum per annum on the amount of his share of the partnership assets.
- (II) Provided that where, by the partnership contract, an option is given to surviving or continuing partners to purchase the interest

interest of a deceased or outgoing partner, and that option is duly exercised, the estate of the deceased partner, or the outgoing partner or his estate, as the case may be, is not entitled to any further or other share of profits; but if any partner assuming to act in exercise of the option does not in all material respects comply with the terms thereof, he is hable to account under the foregoing provisions of this section.

43. Subject to any agreement between the partners, the amount Retiring or deceased due from surviving or continuing partners to an outgoing partner, or partner's share to be a debt. the representatives of a deceased partner, in respect of the outgoing or deceased partner's share, is a debt accruing at the date of the dissolution

or death.

44. In settling accounts between the partners after a dissolution Rule for distribution of partnership, the following rules shall, subject to any agreement, be of assets on final settlement of observed-

accounts.

(a) Losses, including losses and deficiencies of capital, shall be paid first out of profits, next out of capital, and lastly, if necessary, by the partners individually in the proportion in which they were entitled to share profits.

(b) The assets of the firm, including the sums, if any, contributed by the partners to make up losses or deficiencies of capital,

shall be applied in the following manner and order:-

1. In paying the debts and liabilities of the firm to persons who are not partners therein.

2. In paying to each partner ratably what is due by the firm to him for advances as distinguished from capital.

3. In paying to each partner ratably what is due from the firm to him in respect of capital.

4. The ultimate residue, if any, shall be divided among the partners in the proportion in which profits are divisible.

### Supplemental.

45. In this Act, unless the contrary intention appears— The expression "Court" includes every Court and Judge having "Court" and "business." jurisdiction in the case.

The expression "business" includes every trade, occupation, or profession.

46. The rules of equity and of common law applicable to partner-Saving for rules of ship shall continue in force except so far as they are inconsistent with equity and common the express provisions of this Act.

47. The Act thirtieth Victoria number fourteen is hereby repealed. Repeal of 30 Vic. No. 14.

48. This Act may be cited as the "Partnership Act. 1892."

Short title.

By Authority: Reprinted by John Spence, Acting Government Printer, Sydney, 1929. 10d

# New Zouth Wales.



ANNO.QUINQUAGESIMO QUINTO

# VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

### No. XII.

An Act to declare and amend the law of Partnership.

[Assented to, 20th February, 1892.]

WHEREAS it is expedient to declare and amend the law of Preamble-Partnership: Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of New South Wales in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

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### Nature of partnership.

- 1. (1) Partnership is the relation which exists between persons Definition of carrying on a business in common with a view of profit.

  Partnership Partnership
- (II) But the relation between members of any company or association which is—
  - (a) Registered as a company under the "Companies Act" or any other Act of Parliament for the time being in force and relating to the registration of joint stock companies; or

(b)

Et 323

(b) Formed or incorporated by or in pursuance of any other Act of Parliament or Letters Patent or Royal Charter, is not a partnership within the meaning of this Act.

Rules for determine ing existence of partnership.

- 2. In determining whether a partnership does or does not exist, regard shall be had to the following rules:—
  - (1) Joint tenancy, tenancy in common, joint property, or part ownership does not of itself create a partnership as to anything so held or owned, whether the tenants or owners do or do not share any profits made by the use thereof.
  - (II) The sharing of gross returns does not of itself create a partnership, whether the persons sharing such returns have or have not a joint or common right or interest in any property from which or from the use of which the returns are derived.
  - (III) The receipt by a person of a share of the profits of a business is *prima facie* evidence that he is a partner in the business, but the receipt of such a share, or of a payment contingent on or varying with the profits of a business does not of itself make him a partner in the business; and in particular—
    - (a) The receipt by a person of a debt or other liquidated demand by instalments or otherwise out of the accruing profits of a business does not of itself make him a partner in the business or liable as such:
    - (b) A contract for the remuneration of a servant or agent of a person engaged in a business by a share of the profits of the business does not of itself make the servant or agent a partner in the business or liable as such:
    - (c) A person, being the widow or child of a deceased partner and receiving by way of annuity a portion of the profits made in the business in which the deceased person was a partner, is not by reason only of such receipt a partner in the business or liable as such:
    - (d) The advance of money by way of loan to a person engaged or about to engage in any business on a contract with that person, that the lender shall receive a rate of interest varying with the profits, or shall receive a share of the profits arising from carrying on the business, does not of itself make the lender a partner with the person or persons carrying on the business or liable as such: Provided that the contract is in writing and signed by or on behalf of all the parties thereto:
    - (e) A person receiving by way of annuity or otherwise a portion of the profits of a business in consideration of the sale by him of the goodwill of the business is not by reason only of such receipt a partner in the business or liable as such.

3. In the event of any person to whom money has been advanced Postponement of by way of loan upon such a contract as is mentioned in the last foreleading or selling going section, or of any buyer of a goodwill in consideration of a share in consideration of of the profits of the business being adjudged a bankrupt, entering into an case of insolvency. arrangement to pay his creditors less than twenty shillings in the pound, or dying in insolvent circumstances, the lender of the loan shall not be entitled to recover anything in respect of his loan, and the seller of the goodwill shall not be entitled to recover anything in respect of the share of profits contracted for, until the claims of the other creditors of the borrower or buyer for valuable consideration in money or money's worth have been satisfied.

4. Persons who have entered into partnership with one another Meaning of firms. are for the purpose of this Act called collectively a firm, and the name under which their business is carried on is called the firm-name.

### Relation of partners to persons dealing with them.

5. Every partner is an agent of the firm and his other partners Power of partner for the purpose of the business of the partnership; and the acts of every to bind the firm partner who does any act for carrying on in the usual way business of the kind carried on by the firm of which he is a member, binds the firm and his partners, unless the partner so acting has, in fact, no authority to act for the firm in the particular matter, and the person with whom he is dealing either knows that he has no authority, or does not know or believe him to be a partner.

6. An Act or instrument relating to the business of the firm, and Partners bound by done or executed in the firm-name, or in any other manner, showing an acts on behalf of intention to bind the firm by any person thereto authorised, whether a partner or not, is binding on the firm and all the partners: Provided that this section shall not affect any general rule of law relating to the execution of deeds or negotiable instruments.

7. Where one partner pledges the credit of the firm for a purpose Partner using credit apparently not connected with the firm's ordinary course of business, of firm for private the firm is not bound unless he is, in fact, specially authorised by the other partners; but this section does not affect any personal liability incurred by an individual partner.

8. If it has been agreed between the partners that any restrictions effect of notice shall be placed upon the power of any one or more of them to bind the that firm will not firm, no act done in contravention of the agreement is binding on the of partner. firm with respect to persons having notice of the agreement.

9. Every partner in a firm is liable jointly with the other partners Liability of partner. for all debts and obligations of the firm incurred while he is a partner; and after his death his estate is also severally liable in a due course of administration for such debts and obligations so far as they remain unsatisfied, but subject to the prior payment of his separate debts.

Liability of the firm for wrongs.

10. Where by any wrongful act or omission of any partner acting in the ordinary course of the business of the firm, or with the authority of his co-partners, loss or injury is caused to any person not being a partner of the firm, or any penalty is incurred, the firm is liable therefor to the same extent as the partner so acting or omitting to act.

Misapplication of money or property received for or in custody of the firm. 11. In the following cases, namely:

(a) Where one partner acting within the scope of his apparent authority receives the money or property of a third person and misapplies it; and

(b) When a firm in the course of its business receives money or property of a third person, and the money or property so received is misapplied by one or more of the partners while it is in the custody of the firm;

the firm is liable to make good the loss.

Liability for wrongs joint and several.

12. Every partner is liable jointly with his co-partners and also severally for everything for which the firm while he is a partner therein becomes liable under either of the two last preceding sections.

ship purposes.

13. If a partner being a trustee improperly employs trust proment of trust property for partner-perty in the business or on account of the partnership, no other partner is liable for the trust property to the persons beneficially interested therein:

Provided as follows:-

(1) This section shall not affect any liability incurred by any partner by reason of his having notice of a breach of trust; and

(II) Nothing in this section shall prevent trust money from being followed and recovered from the firm if still in its possession or under its control.

Persons liable by "holding out."

14. (1) Everyone who, by words spoken or written, or by conduct, represents himself, or who knowingly suffers himself to be represented as a partner in a particular firm, is liable as a partner to anyone who has on the faith of any such representation given credit to the firm, whether the representation has or has not been made or communicated to the person so giving credit by or with the knowledge of the apparent partner making the representation or suffering it to be made.

(II) Provided that where after a partner's death the partnership business is continued in the old firm-name, the continued use of that name or of the deceased partner's name as part thereof shall not of itself make his executors or administrators' estate or effects liable for

any partnership debts contracted after his death.

15. An admission or representation made by any partner concerning the partnership affairs, and in the ordinary course of its business, is evidence against the firm.

16. Notice to any partner who habitually acts in the partnership business of any matter relating to partnership affairs operates as notice to the firm, except in the case of a fraud on the firm committed by or 17. with the consent of that partner.

Admissions and representations of partners.

Notice to acting partner to be notice to the firm.

17. (1) A person who is admitted as a partner into an existing Liabilities of firm does not thereby become liable to the creditors of the firm for any incoming and outthing done before he became a partner.

(II) A partner who retires from a firm does not thereby cease to be liable for partnership debt and obligation incurred before his

retirement.

(III) A retiring partner may be discharged from any existing liabilities by an agreement to that effect between himself and the members of the firm as newly constituted and the creditors, and this agreement may be either expressed or inferred as a fact from the course of

dealing between the creditors and the firm as newly constituted.

18. A continuing guaranty or cautionary obligation given either Revocation of conto a firm or to a third person in respect of the transactions of a firm is, tinuing guaranty by in the absence of agreement to the contrary, revoked as to future transactions by any change in the constitution of the firm to which, or of the firm in respect of whose transactions, the guaranty or obligation was given.

### Relations of partners to one another.

19. The mutual rights and duties of partners, whether ascer-Variation by tained by agreement or defined by this Act, may be varied by the consent consent of terms of partnership. of all the partners, and such consent may be either expressed or inferred from a course of dealing.

20. (1) All property, and rights and interests in property, Partnership originally brought into the partnership stock or acquired, whether by property. purchase or otherwise, on account of the firm, or for the purposes and in the course of the partnership business, are called in this Act partnership property, and must be held and applied by the partners exclusively for the purposes of the partnership, and in accordance with the partnership agreement.

(II) Provided that the legal estate or interest in any land which belongs to the partnership shall devolve according to the nature and tenure thereof, and the general rules of law thereto applicable, but in trust so far as is necessary for the persons beneficially interested in the land under this section.

(III) Where co-owners of an estate or interest in any land, not being itself partnership property, are partners as to profits made by the use of that land or estate, and purchase other lands and estate out of the profits to be used in like manner, the land or estate so purchased belongs to them, in the absence of an agreement to the contrary. not as partners, but as co-owners for the same respective estates and interests as are held by them in the land or estate first mentioned at the date of the purchase.

21. Unless the contrary intention appears, property bought with Property bought money belonging to the firm is deemed to have been bought on account with partnership money. of the firm.

Conversion into personal estate of land held as partnership property.

22. Where land or any heritable interest therein has become partnership property, it shall, unless the contrary intention appears, be treated as between the partners (including the representatives of a deceased partner), and also as between the heirs of a deceased partner and his executors or administrators as personal or movable and not real or heritable estate.

Procedure against partnership property for a partner's separate judgment

- 23. (1) After the commencement of this Act a writ of execution shall not issue against any partnership property except on a judgment against the firm.
- (II) The Supreme Court, or a Judge thereof, may, on the application by summons of any judgment creditor of a partner, make an order charging that partner's interest in the partnership property and profits with payment of the amount of the judgment debt and interest thereon, and may by the same or a subsequent order appoint a receiver of that partner's share of profits (whether already declared or accruing, and of any other money which may be coming to him in respect of the partnership, and direct all accounts and inquiries, and give all other orders and directions which might have been directed or given if the charge had been made in favour of the judgment creditor by the partner, or which the circumstances of the case may require.

(III) The other partner or partners shall be at liberty at any time to redeem the interest charged, or in the case of a sale being

directed to purchase the same.

Rules as to the interests and duty of partners subject

- 24. The interests of partners in the partnership property and their rights and duties in relation to the partnership shall be determined, to special agreement. subject to any agreement expressed or implied between the partners, by the following rules:
  - (1) All the partners are entitled to share equally in the capital and profits of the business, and must contribute equally towards the losses, whether of capital or otherwise, sustained by the
  - (II) The firm must indemnify every partner in respect of payment made and personal liabilities incurred by him—
    - (a) In the ordinary and proper conduct of the business of the firm; or
    - (b) In or about anything necessarily done for the preservation of the business or property of the firm.
  - (III) A partner making, for the purpose of the partnership, any actual payment or advance beyond the amount of capital which he has agreed to subscribe is entitled to interest at the rate of seven per centum per annum from the date of the payment or advances.
  - (iv) A partner is not entitled before the ascertainment of profits to interest on the capital subscribed by him.
  - (v) Every partner may take part in the management of the partnership business. (VI)

(VI) No partner shall be entitled to remuneration for acting in the partnership business.

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of all existing partners.

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(ix) The partnership books are to be kept at the place of business of the partnership (or the principal place, if there is more than one), and every partner may, when he thinks fit, have access

to and inspect and copy any of them.

25. No majority of the partners can expel any partner unless a Expulsion of power to do so has been conferred by express agreement between the partner. partners.

26. (1) Where no fixed term has been agreed upon for the dura-Retirement from tion of the partnership, any partner may determine the partnership partnership at will. at any time on giving notice of his intention so to do to all the other partners.

(II) Where the partnership has originally been constituted by deed, a notice signed by the partner giving it shall be sufficient for

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(II) A continuance of the business by the partners or such of them as habitually acted therein during the term without any settlement or liquidation of the partnership affairs, is presumed to be a continuance of the partnership.

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representatives.

29. (1) Every partner must account to the firm for any benefit Accountability of derived by him without the consent of the other partners from any partners for private transaction concerning the partnership, or for any use by him of the partnership property, name, or business connection.

(II) This section applies also to transactions undertaken after a partnership has been dissolved by the death of a partner, and before the affairs thereof have been completely wound up, either by any surviving partner or by the representatives of the deceased partner.

30. If a partner, without the consent of the other partners, carries Duty of partner on any business of the same nature as and competing with that of the not to compete with firm. firm, he must account for and pay over to the firm all profits made by him in that business.

Rights of assignee of share in partnership.

31. (1) An assignment by any partner of his share in the partnership, either absolute or by way of mortgage or redeemable charge, does not, as against the other partners, entitle the assignee during the continuance of the partnership to interfere in the management or administration of the partnership business or affairs, or to require any account of the partnership transactions, or to inspect the partnership books, but entitles the assignee only to receive the share of profits to which the assigning partner would otherwise be entitled, and the assignee must accept the account of profits agreed to by the partners.

(II) In case of a dissolution of the partnership, whether as respect all the partners, or as respects the assigning partner, the assignee is entitled to receive the share of the partnership assets to which the assigning partner is entitled as between himself and the other partners, and for the purpose of ascertaining that share, to an account

as from the date of the dissolution.

### Dissolution of partnership and its consequences.

Dissolution by expiration or otherwise.

32. Subject to any agreement between the partners, a partnership is dissolved-

(a) If entered into for a fixed term, by the expiration of that term.

(b) If entered into for a single adventure or undertaking, by the termination of that adventure or undertaking.

(c) If entered into for an undefined time, by any partner giving notice to the other or others of his intention to dissolve the partnership.

In the last-mentioned case the partnership is dissolved as from the date mentioned in the notice as the date of dissolution, or, if no date is mentioned, as from the date of the communication of the notice.

Dissolution by bankruptcy, death,

- 33. (1) Subject to any agreement between the partners, every partnership is dissolved as regards all the partners by the death or bankruptcy of any partner.
- (II) A partnership may, at the option of the other partners. be dissolved if any partner suffers his share of the partnership property to be charged under this Act for his separate debt.

34. A partnership is in every case dissolved by the happening of any event which makes it unlawful for the business of the firm to be carried on, or for the members of the firm to carry it on in partnership.

35. On application by a partner the Court may decree a dissolu-

tion of the partnership in any of the following cases:—

(a) When a partner has been declared in accordance with law to be of unsound mind and incapable of managing his affairs, or is shown to the satisfaction of the Court to be of permanently unsound mind, in either of which cases the application may be made as well on behalf of that partner by his committee or next friend or person having title to intervene as by any other partner.

or change.

Dissolution by illegality of partnership.

Dissolution by the Court.

(b) When a partner, other than the partner suing, becomes in any other way permanently incapable of performing his part of the partnership contract.

(c) When a partner, other than the partner suing, has been guilty of such conduct as, in the opinion of the Court, regard being had to the nature of the business, is calculated to prejudicially

affect the carrying on of the business.

(d) When a partner, other than the party suing, wilfully or persistently commits a breach of the partnership agreement, or otherwise so conducts himself in matters relating to the partnership business that it is not reasonably practicable for the other partner or partners to carry on the business in partnership with him.

(e) When the business of the partnership can only be carried on

(f) Whenever in any case circumstances have arisen which, in the opinion of the Court, render it just and equitable that the partnership be dissolved.

36. (1) When a person deals with a firm after a change in its Rights of persons constitution, he is entitled to treat all apparent members of the old firm dealing with firm against apparent as still being members of the firm until he has notice of the change.

(II) An advertisement in the Gazette and in at least one newspaper circulating in Sydney and one newspaper circulating in the district in which the firm carries on business shall be notice as to persons who had not dealings with the firm before the date of the dissolution or change so advertised.

(III) The estate of a partner who dies, or who becomes bankrupt, or of a partner who, not having been known to the person dealing with the firm to be a partner, retires from the firm, is not liable for partnership debts contracted after the date of the death, bankruptcy,

or retirement respectively.

37. On the dissolution of a partnership or retirement of a partner Right of partners to any partner may publicly notify the same, and may require the other notify dissolution. partner or partners to concur for that purpose in all necessary and proper acts, if any, which cannot be done without his or their concurrence.

38. After the dissolution of a partnership the authority of each Continuing partner to bind the firm, and the other rights and obligations of the partners for purposes partners continue, notwithstanding the dissolution, so far as may be of winding-up. necessary to wind up the affairs of the partnership, and to complete transactions begun but unfinished at the time of the dissolution, but not otherwise: Provided that the firm is in no case bound by the acts of a partner who has become bankrupt; but this proviso does not affect the liability of any person who has, after the bankruptcy, represented himself or knowingly suffered himself to be represented as a partner of the bankrupt. 39.

Rights of partners to application of partnership property. 39. On the dissolution of a partnership every partner is entitled, as against the other partners in the firm, and all persons claiming through them in respect of their interests as partners, to have the property of the partnership applied in payment of the debts and liabilities of the firm, and to have the surplus assets after such payment applied in payment of what may be due to the partners respectively after deducting what may be due from them as partners to the firm; and for that purpose any partner or his representatives may, on the termination of the partnership, apply to the Court to wind up the business and affairs of the firm.

Apportionment of premium when partnership prematurely dissolved.

- 40. Where one partner has paid a premium to another on entering into a partnership for a fixed term, and the partnership is dissolved before the expiration of that term otherwise than by the death of a partner, the Court may order the repayment of the premium, or of such part as it thinks just, having regard to the terms of the partnership contract, and to the length of time during which the partnership has continued; unless—
  - (a) the dissolution is, in the judgment of the Court, wholly or chiefly due to the misconduct of the partner who paid the premium; or

(b) the partnership has been dissolved by an agreement containing no provision for a return of any part of the premium.

Rights where partnership dissolved for fraud or misrepresentation.

- 41. Where a partnership contract is rescinded on the ground of the fraud or misrepresentation of one of the parties thereto, the party entitled to rescind is, without prejudice to any other right, entitled—
  - (a) to a lien on, or right of retention of, the surplus of the partnership assets, after satisfying the partnership liabilities, for any sum of money paid by him for the purchase of a share in the partnership and for any capital contributed by him; and is

(b) to stand in the place of the creditors of the firm for any payments made by him in respect of the partnership liabilities; and

(c) to be indemnified by the person guilty of the fraud or making the representation against all the debts and liabilities of the firm.

Right of outgoing partner in certain cases to share profits made after dissolution.

- 42. (1) Where any member of a firm has died, or otherwise ceased to be a partner, and the surviving and continuing partners carry on the business of the firm with its capital or assets without any final settlement of accounts as between the firm and the outgoing partner, or his estate, then, in the absence of any agreement to the contrary, the outgoing partner or his estate is entitled, at the option of himself or his representatives, to such share of the profits made since the dissolution as the Court may find to be attributable to the use of his share of the partnership assets, or to interest at the rate of six per centum per annum on the amount of his share of the partnership assets.
- (II) Provided that where, by the partnership contract, an option is given to surviving or continuing partners to purchase the interest

interest of a deceased or outgoing partner, and that option is duly exercised, the estate of the deceased partner, or the outgoing partner or his estate, as the case may be, is not entitled to any further or other share of profits; but if any partner assuming to act in exercise of the option does not in all material respects comply with the terms thereof, he is hable to account under the foregoing provisions of this section.

43. Subject to any agreement between the partners, the amount Retiring or deceased due from surviving or continuing partners to an outgoing partner, or partner's share to the representatives of a deceased partner, in respect of the outgoing or deceased partner's share, is a debt accruing at the date of the dissolution

or death.

44. In settling accounts between the partners after a dissolution Rule for distribution of partnership, the following rules shall, subject to any agreement, be of assets on final settlement of observed-

accounts.

(a) Losses, including losses and deficiencies of capital, shall be paid first out of profits, next out of capital, and lastly, if necessary, by the partners individually in the proportion in which they were entitled to share profits.

(b) The assets of the firm, including the sums, if any, contributed by the partners to make up losses or deficiencies of capital,

shall be applied in the following manner and order:—

1. In paying the debts and liabilities of the firm to persons who are not partners therein.

2. In paying to each partner ratably what is due by the firm to him for advances as distinguished from capital.

3. In paying to each partner ratably what is due from the firm

to him in respect of capital.

4. The ultimate residue, if any, shall be divided among the partners in the proportion in which profits are divisible.

### Supplemental.

45. In this Act, unless the contrary intention appears— Definition of The expression "Court" includes every Court and Judge having "Court" and "business." jurisdiction in the case.

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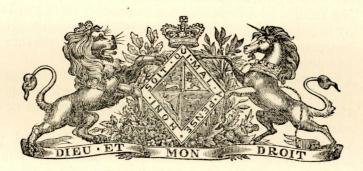
46. The rules of equity and of common law applicable to partner- Saving for rules of ship shall continue in force except so far as they are inconsistent with equity and common the express provisions of this Act.

47. The Act thirtieth Victoria number fourteen is hereby repealed. Repeal of 30 Vic. No. 14.

48. This Act may be cited as the "Partnership Act, 1892."

Short title.

# New South Wales.



ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO QUINTO

# VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

## No. XII.

An Act to declare and amend the law of Partnership. [Assented to, 20th February, 1892.]

HEREAS it is expedient to declare and amend the law of Preamble. Partnership: Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of New South Wales in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:-

### Nature of Partnership.

- 1. (1) Partnership is the relation which exists between persons Definition of carrying on a business in common with a view of profit.
- (II) But the relation between members of any company or association which is—
  - (a) Registered as a company under the "Companies Act" or any other Act of Parliament for the time being in force and relating to the registration of joint stock companies; or
    (b) Formed or incorporated by or in pursuance of any other Act of Parliament or Letters Patent or Royal Charter

is not a Partnership within the meaning of this Act.

2.

Rules for determining existence of partnership.

2. In determining whether a partnership does or does not exist, regard shall be had to the following rules:-

(I) Joint tenancy, tenancy in common, joint property, or part ownership does not of itself create a partnership as to anything so held or owned, whether the tenants or owners do or do not share any profits made by the use thereof.

(II) The sharing of gross returns does not of itself create a partnership, whether the persons sharing such returns have or have not a joint or common right or interest in any property from which or from the use of which the returns are derived.

(III) The receipt by a person of a share of the profits of a business is prima facie evidence that he is a partner in the business, but the receipt of such a share, or of a payment contingent on, or varying with the profits of a busines does not of itself make him a partner in the business; and in particular-

(a) The receipt by a person of a debt or other liquidated demand by instalments or otherwise out of the accruing profits of a business does not of itself make him a partner in the

business or liable as such:

(b) A contract for the remuneration of a servant or agent of a person engaged in a business by a share of the profits of the business does not of itself make the servant or agent a partner in the business or liable as such:

(c) A person being the widow or child of a deceased partner, and receiving by way of annuity a portion of the profits made in the business in which the deceased person was a partner, is not by reason only of such receipt a partner in the business or liable as such:

(d) The advance of money by way of loan to a person engaged or about to engage in any business on a contract with that person, that the lender shall receive a rate of interest varying with the profits, or shall receive a share of the profits arising from carrying on the business, does not of itself make the lender a partner with the person or persons carrying on the business or liable as such: Provided that the contract is in writing and signed by or on behalf of all the parties thereto:

(e) A person receiving by way of annuity or otherwise a portion of the profits of a business in consideration of the sale by him of the goodwill of the business is not by reason only of such receipt a partner in the business or liable as such.

3. In the event of any person to whom money has been advanced by way of loan upon such a contract as is mentioned in the last foregoing section, or of any buyer of a goodwill in consideration of a share of the profits of the business being adjudged a bankrupt, entering into an arrangement to pay his creditors less than twenty shillings in the pound, or dying in insolvent circumstances, the lender of the loan shall not be entitled to recover anything in respect of his loan, and the seller of the goodwill shall not be entitled to recover anything in respect of the share of profits contracted for, until the claims of the other creditors of the borrower or buyer for valuable consideration in money or money's worth have been satisfied.

4. Persons who have entered into partnership with one another are for the purpose of this Act called collectively a firm, and the name under which their business is carried on is called the firm-name.

Relation of partners to persons dealing with them.

Power of partner to bind the firm.

5. Every partner is an agent of the firm and his other partners for the purpose of the business of the partnership; and the acts of every partner who does any act for carrying on in the usual way business

Postponement of rights of persons lending or selling in consideration of share of profits in case of insolvency.

Meaning of firms.

business of the kind carried on by the firm of which he is a member, binds the firm and his partners, unless the partner so acting has in fact no authority to act for the firm in the particular matter, and the person with whom he is dealing either knows that he has no authority, or does not know or believe him to be a partner.

6. An act or instrument relating to the business of the firm, Partners bound by and done or executed in the firm-name, or in any other manner, show-firm ing an intention to bind the firm by any person thereto authorised, whether a partner or not, is binding on the firm and all the partners: Provided that this section shall not affect any general rule of law relating

to the execution of deeds or negotiable instruments.

7. Where one partner pledges the credit of the firm for a Partner using credit purpose apparently not connected with the firm's ordinary course of purposes. business, the firm is not bound unless he is in fact specially authorised by the other partners; but this section does not affect any personal liability incurred by an individual partner.

8. If it has been agreed between the partners that any restrictions Effect of notice that shall be placed upon the power of any one or more of them to bind firm will not be bound by acts of the firm, no act done in contravention of the agreement is binding on partner.

the firm with respect to persons having notice of the agreement.

9. Every partner in a firm is liable jointly with the other partners Liability of partner. for all debts and obligations of the firm incurred while he is a partner; and after his death his estate is also severally liable in a due course of administration for such debts and obligations so far as they remain

unsatisfied, but subject to the prior payment of his separate debts.

10. Where by any wrongful act or omission of any partner Liability of the firm acting in the ordinary course of the business of the firm, or with the for wrongs. authority of his co-partners, loss or injury is caused to any person not being a partner of the firm, or any penalty is incurred, the firm is liable therefore to the same extent as the partner so acting or omitting

to act.

11. In the following cases, namely:

(a) Where one partner acting within the scope of his apparent Misapplication of authority receives the money or property of a third person money or property and misapplies it; and

(b) When a firm in the course of its business receives money or property of a third person, and the money or property so received is misapplied by one or more of the partners while it is in the custody of the firm;

the firm is liable to make good the loss.

12. Every partner is liable jointly with his co-partners and also Liability for wrongs severally for everything for which the firm while he is a partner therein joint and several.

becomes liable under either of the two last preceding sections.

13. If a partner being a trustee improperly employs trust Improper employ-property in the business or on account of the partnership, no other property for partner partner is liable for the trust property to the persons beneficially ship purposes. interested therein:

Provided as follows:—

- (I) This section shall not affect any liability incurred by any partner by reason of his having notice of a breach of trust; and
- (II) Nothing in this section shall prevent trust money from being followed and recovered from the firm if still in its possession or under its control.
- 14. (I) Every one who by words spoken or written, or by Persons liable by conduct represents himself, or who knowingly suffers himself to be "holding out." represented as a partner in a particular firm, is liable as a partner to any one who has on the faith of any such representation given credit to the firm, whether the representation has or has not been made

Admissions and representations of

Notice to acting

Liabilities of

going partners.

incoming and out-

Revocation of continuing guaranty by

change of firm.

partner to be notice to the firm.

partners.

### Partnership.

or communicated to the person so giving credit by or with the knowledge of the apparent partner making the representation or suffering it to be made.

(II) Provided that where after a partner's death the partnership business is continued in the old firm-name, the continued use of that name or of the deceased partner's name as part thereof shall not of itself make his executors or administrators' estate or effects liable for any partnership debts contracted after his death.

15. An admission or representation made by any partner concerning the partnership affairs, and in the ordinary course of its

business, is evidence against the firm.

16. Notice to any partner who habitually acts in the partnership business of any matter relating to partnership affairs operates as notice to the firm, except in the case of a fraud on the firm committed by or with the consent of that partner.

17. (1) A person who is admitted as a partner into an existing firm does not thereby become liable to the creditors of the firm for

anything done before he became a partner.

(II) A partner who retires from a firm does not thereby cease to be liable for partnership debt and obligation incurred before his retirement.

(III) A retiring partner may be discharged from any existing liabilities by an agreement to that effect between himself and the members of the firm as newly constituted and the creditors, and this agreement may be either expressed or inferred as a fact from the course of dealing between the creditors and the firm as newly constituted.

18. A continuing guaranty or cautionary obligation given either to a firm or to a third person in respect of the transactions of a firm is, in the absence of agreement to the contrary, revoked as to future transactions by any change in the constitution of the firm to which, or of the firm in respect of whose transactions, the guaranty or

obligation was given.

### Relations of partners to one another.

Variation by consent of terms of partner-

19. The mutual rights and duties of partners, whether ascertained by agreement or defined by this Act, may be varied by the consent of all the partners, and such consent may be either expressed or inferred from a course of dealing.

20. (I) All property, and rights and interests in property, originally brought into the partnership stock or acquired, whether by purchase or otherwise, on account of the firm, or for the purposes and in the course of the partnership business, are called in this Act partnership property, and must be held and applied by the partners exclusively for the purposes of the partnership, and in accordance with the partnership agreement.

(II) Provided that the legal estate or interest in any land which belongs to the partnership shall devolve according to the nature and tenure thereof, and the general rules of law thereto applicable, but in trust so far as is necessary for the persons beneficially interested

in the land under this section.

(III) Where co-owners of an estate or interest in any land, not being itself partnership property, are partners as to profits made by the use of that land or estate, and purchase other lands and estate out of the profits to be used in like manner, the land or estate so purchased belongs to them, in the absence of an agreement to the contrary, not as partners, but as co-owners for the same respective estates and interests as are held by them in the land or estate firstmentioned at the date of the purchase.

Partnership property.

21.

- 21. Unless the contrary intention appears, property bought with Property bought with money belonging to the firm is deemed to have been bought on partnership money. account of the firm.
- 22. Where land or any heritable interest therein has become Conversion into partnership property, it shall, unless the contrary intention appears, be personal estate of treated as between the partnership property. treated as between the partners (including the representatives of a ship property. deceased partner), and also as between the heirs of a deceased partner and his executors or administrators as personal or movable and not real or heritable estate.

23. (I) After the commencement of this Act a writ of execution Procedure against shall not issue against any partnership property except on a judgment partnership property the form against the firm

parate judgment

- (II) The Supreme Courtor a Judge thereof, may, on the appli- debt. cation by summons of any judgment creditor of a partner, make an order charging that partner's interest in the partnership property and profits with payment of the amount of the judgment debt and interest thereon and may by the same or a subsequent order appoint a receiver of that partner's share of profits (whether already declared or accruing), and of any other money which may be coming to him in respect of the partnership, and direct all accounts and inquiries, and give all other orders and directions which might have been directed or given if the charge had been made in favour of the judgment creditor by the partner, or which the circumstances of the case may require.
- (III) The other partner or partners shall be at liberty at any time to redeem the interest charged, or in the case of a sale being directed to purchase the same.
- 24. The interests of partners in the partnership property and Rules as to the their rights and duties in relation to the partnership shall be determined, subject to any agreement expressed or implied between the special agreement. partners, by the following rules:

- (I) All the partners are entitled to share equally in the capital and profits of the business, and must contribute equally towards the losses whether of capital or otherwise sustained by the firm.
- (II) The firm must indemnify every partner in respect of payment made and personal liabilities incurred by him.
  - (a) In the ordinary and proper conduct of the business of the firm; or
  - (b) In or about anything necessarily done for the preservation of the business or property of the firm.
- (III) A partner making, for the purpose of the partnership, any actual payment or advance beyond the amount of capital which he has agreed to subscribe is entitled to interest at the rate of seven per centum per annum from the date of the payment or advances.
- (IV) A partner is not entitled before the ascertainment of profits to interest on the capital subscribed by him.
- (v) Every partner may take part in the management of the partnership business.
- (VI) No partner shall be entitled to remuneration for acting in the partnership business.
- (VII) No person may be introduced as a partner without the consent of all existing partners.
- (VIII) Any difference arising as to ordinary matters connected with the partnership business may be decided by a majority of partners, but no change may be made in the nature of the partnership business without the consent of all existing partners.

(IX) The partnership books are to be kept at the place of business of the partnership (or the principal place, if there is more than one), and every partner may, when he thinks fit, have access to and inspect and copy any of them.

Expulsion of partner.

25. No majority of the partners can expel any partner unless a power to do so has been conferred by express agreement between the partners.

Retirement from partnership\_at will.

26. (I) Where no fixed term has been agreed upon for the duration of the partnership, any partner may determine the partnership at any time on giving notice of his intention so to do to all the other partners.

(II) Where the partnership has originally been constituted by deed, a notice signed by the partner giving it, shall be sufficient

for this purpose.

Where partnership

27. (1) Where a partnership entered into for a fixed term is for term is continued continued after the term has expired, and without any express new over, continuance on old terms presumed. agreement, the rights and duties of the partners remain the same as they were at the expiration of the term, so far as is consistent with the incidents of a partnership at will.

(II) A continuance of the business by the partners or such of them as habitually acted therein during the term without any settlement or liquidation of the partnership affairs, is presumed to be a

continuance of the partnership.

Duty of partners to render accounts.

28. Partners are bound to render true accounts and full information of all things affecting the partnership to any partner or his legal representatives.

Accountability of partners for private profits.

29. (I) Every partner must account to the firm for any benefit derived by him without the consent of the other partners from any transaction concerning the partnership, or for any use by him of the partnership property, name, or business connexion.

(II) This section applies also to transactions undertaken after a partnership has been dissolved by the death of a partner, and before the affairs thereof have been completely wound up, either by any surviving partner or by the representatives of the deceased partner.

30. If a partner, without the consent of the other partners, carries on any business of the same nature as and competing with that of the firm, he must account for and pay over to the firm all profits

made by him in that business.

Rights of assignee of share in partner-

Duty of partner not

to compete with

firm.

ship.

31. (1) An assignment by any partner of his share in the partnership, either absolute or by way of mortgage or redeemable charge, does not, as against the other partners, entitle the assignee during the continuance of the partnership, to interfere in the management or administration of the partnership business or affairs, or to require any account of the partnership transactions, or to inspect the partnership books, but entitles the assignee only to receive the share of profits to which the assigning partner would otherwise be entitled, and the assignee must accept the account of profits agreed to by the partners.

(II) In case of a dissolution of the partnership, whether

as respect all the partners, or as respects the assigning partner, the assignee is entitled to receive the share of the partnership assets to which the assigning partner is entitled as between himself and the other partners, and for the purpose of ascertaining that share, to an account

as from the date of the dissolution.

### Dissolution of Partnership and its consequences.

Dissolution by expiration or other ship is dissolved-

32. Subject to any agreement between the partners, a partner-

(a) If entered into for a fixed term, by the expiration of that term

(b) If entered into for a single adventure or undertaking, by the termination of that adventure or undertaking:

(c) If entered into for an undefined time, by any partner giving notice to the other or others of his intention to dissolve the partnership.

In the last-mentioned case the partnership is dissolved as from the date mentioned in the notice as the date of dissolution, or, if no date is mentioned, as from the date of the communication of the notice.

33. (1) Subject to any agreement between the partners, every Dissolution by partnership is dissolved as regards all the partners by the death or bankruptcy, death, or change. bankruptcy of any partner.

(II) A partnership may, at the option of the other partners, be dissolved if any partner suffers his share of the partnership property

to be charged under this Act for his separate debt.

34. A partnership is in every case dissolved by the happening Dissolution by of any event which makes it unlawful for the business of the firm to illegality of partner-be carried on, or for the members of the firm to carry it on in partnership.

35. On application by a partner the Court may decree a Dissolution by the

dissolution of the partnership in any of the following cases:-

(a) When a partner has been declared in accordance with law to be of unsound mind and incapable of managing his affairs, or is shown to the satisfaction of the Court to be of permanently unsound mind, in either of which cases the application may be made as well on behalf of that partner by his committee or next friend or person having title to intervene as by any other partner.

(b) When a partner, other than the partner suing, becomes in any other way permanently incapable of performing his part

of the partnership contract.

(c) When a partner, other than the partner suing, has been guilty of such conduct as, in the opinion of the Court, regard being had to the nature of the business, is calculated to prejudicially affect the carrying on of the business.

When a partner, other than the party suing, wilfully or persistently commits a breach of the partnership agreement, or otherwise so conducts himself in matters relating to the partnership business that it is not reasonably practicable for the other partner or partners to carry on the business in partnership with him.

(e) When the business of the partnership can only be carried on

(f) Whenever in any case circumstances have arisen which, in the opinion of the Court, render it just and equitable that the partnership be dissolved.

36. (1) When a person deals with a firm after a change in its Rights of persons constitution, he is entitled to treat all apparent members of the old dealing with firm firm as still being members of the firm until he has notice of the members of firm. change.

(II) An advertisement in the Gazette and in at least one newspaper circulating in Sydney and one newspaper circulating in the district in which the firm carries on business shall be notice as to persons who had not dealings with the firm before the date of the

dissolution or change so advertised.

(III) The estate of a partner who dies, or who becomes bankrupt, or of a partner who, not having been known to the person dealing with the firm to be a partner, retires from the firm, is not liable for partnership debts contracted after the date of the death, bankruptcy, or retirement respectively. 37.

Right of partners to notify dissolution.

37. On the dissolution of a partnership or retirement of a partner any partner may publicly notify the same, and may require the other partner or partners to concur for that purpose in all necessary and proper acts, if any, which cannot be done without his or their concurrence.

Continuing authority

38. After the dissolution of a partnership the authority of each of partners for purposes of winding-up partner to bind the firm, and the other rights and obligations of the partners continue, notwithstanding the dissolution, so far as may be necessary to wind up the affairs of the partnership, and to complete transactions begun but unfinished at the time of the dissolution, but not otherwise: Provided that the firm is in no case bound by the acts of a partner who has become bankrupt; but this proviso does not effect the liability of any person who has, after the bankruptcy, represented himself or knowingly suffered himself to be represented as a partner of the bankrupt.

Rights of partners to application of

39. On the dissolution of a partnership every partner is entitled, application of partnership property as against the other partners in the firm, and all persons claiming through them in respect of their interests as partners, to have the property of the partnership applied in payment of the debts and liabilities of the firm, and to have the surplus assets after such payment applied in payment of what may be due to the partners respectively after deducting what may be due from them as partners to the firm; and for that purpose any partner or his representatives may, on the termination of the partnership, apply to the Court to wind up the business and affairs of the firm.

Apportionment of emium when partnership prematurely dissolved.

- 40. Where one partner has paid a premium to another on entering into a partnership for a fixed term, and the partnership is dissolved before the expiration of that term otherwise than by the death of a partner, the Court may order the repayment of the premium, or of such part as it thinks just, having regard to the terms of the partnership contract, and to the length of time during which the partnership as continued; unless-
  - (a) the dissolution is, in the judgement of the Court, wholly or chiefly due to the misconduct of the partner who paid the
  - (b) the partnership has been dissolved by an agreement containing no provision for a return of any part of the premium.

Rights where partnership dissolved for fraud or misrepresentation.

- 41. Where a partnership contract is rescinded on the ground of the fraud or misrepresentation of one of the parties thereto, the party entitled to rescind is, without prejudice to any other right, entitled-
  - (a) to a lien on, or right of retention of, the surplus of the partnership assets, after satisfying the partnership liabilities, for any sum of money paid by him for the purchase of a share in the partnership and for any capital contributed by him; and is
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42. (1) Where any member of a firm has died, or otherwise ccased to be a partner, and the surviving and continuing partners carry on the business of the firm with its capital or assets without any final settlement of accounts as between the firm and the outgoing partner, or his estate, then, in the absence of any agreement to the contrary, the outgoing partner or his estate is entitled, at the option of himself

Right of outgoing partner in certain cases to share profits made after dissolu-

or his representatives, to such share of the profits made since the dissolution as the Court may find to be attributable to the use of his share of the partnership assets, or to interest at the rate of six per centum per annum on the amount of his share of the partnership assets.

(II) Provided that where, by the partnership contract, an option is given to surviving or continuing partners to purchase the interest of a deceased or outgoing partner, and that option is duly exercised, the estate of the deceased partner, or the outgoing partner or his estate, as the case may be, is not entitled to any further or other share of profits; but if any partner assuming to act in exercise of the option does not in all material respects comply with the terms thereof, he is liable to account under the foregoing provisions of this section.

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1. In paying the debts and liabilities of the firm to persons who are not partners therein.

2. In paying to each partner ratably what is due by the firm to him for advances as distinguished from capital.

3. In paying to each partner ratably what is due from the firm to him in respect of capital.

4. The ultimate residue, if any, shall be divided among the partners in the proportion in which profits are divisible.

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The expression "Court" includes every Court and Judge having and business."

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46. The rules of equity and of common law applicable to Saving for rules of partnership shall continue in force except so far as they are inconsistent law with the express provisons of this Act.

47. The Act thirtieth Victoria number fourteen is hereby Repeal of 30 Vic. No. 14. repealed.

48. This Act may be cited as the "Partnership Act, 1892." Short title. .

## New South Wales.



ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO QUINTO

# VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

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Partnership: Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's Most
Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the
Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of New South Wales in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:-

### Nature of Partnership.

1. (1) Partnership is the relation which exists between persons Definition of carrying on a business in common with a view of profit.

(II) But the relation between members of any company or association which is-

(a) Registered as a company under the "Companies Act" or any other Act of Parliament for the time being in force and relating to the registration of joint stock companies; or

(b) Formed or incorporated by or in pursuance of any other Act of Parliament or Letters Patent or Royal Charter is not a Partnership within the meaning of this Act.

Rules for determining existence of partnership.

2. In determining whether a partnership does or does not exist, regard shall be had to the following rules:-

(I) Joint tenancy, tenancy in common, joint property, or part ownership does not of itself create a partnership as to anything so held or owned, whether the tenants or owners do or do not share any profits made by the use thereof.

(II) The sharing of gross returns does not of itself create a partnership, whether the persons sharing such returns have or have not a joint or common right or interest in any property from which or from the use of which the returns are derived.

(III) The receipt by a person of a share of the profits of a business is prima facie evidence that he is a partner in the business, but the receipt of such a share, or of a payment contingent on, or varying with the profits of a busines does not of itself make him a partner in the business; and in particular-

(a) The receipt by a person of a debt or other liquidated demand by instalments or otherwise out of the accruing profits of a business does not of itself make him a partner in the

business or liable as such:

(b) A contract for the remuneration of a servant or agent of a person engaged in a business by a share of the profits of the business does not of itself make the servant or agent a partner in the business or liable as such:

(c) A person being the widow or child of a deceased partner, and receiving by way of annuity a portion of the profits made in the business in which the deceased person was a partner, is not by reason only of such receipt a partner in

the business or liable as such:

(d) The advance of money by way of loan to a person engaged or about to engage in any business on a contract with that person, that the lender shall receive a rate of interest varying with the profits, or shall receive a share of the profits arising from carrying on the business, does not of itself make the lender a partner with the person or persons carrying on the business or liable as such: Provided that the contract is in writing and signed by or on behalf of all the parties thereto:

(e) A person receiving by way of annuity or otherwise a portion of the profits of a business in consideration of the sale by him of the goodwill of the business is not by reason only of such receipt a partner in the business or liable as such.

3. In the event of any person to whom money has been advanced by way of loan upon such a contract as is mentioned in the last foregoing section, or of any buyer of a goodwill in consideration of a share of the profits of the business being adjudged a bankrupt, entering into an arrangement to pay his creditors less than twenty shillings in the pound, or dying in insolvent circumstances, the lender of the loan shall not be entitled to recover anything in respect of his loan, and the seller of the goodwill shall not be entitled to recover anything in respect of the share of profits contracted for, until the claims of the other creditors of the borrower or buyer for valuable consideration in money or money's worth have been satisfied.

4. Persons who have entered into partnership with one another are for the purpose of this Act called collectively a firm, and the name under which their business is carried on is called the firm-name.

Meaning of firms.

Postponement of rights of persons lending or selling in consideration of

share of profits in case of insolvency.

Relation of partners to persons dealing with them.

Power of partner to bind the firm.

5. Every partner is an agent of the firm and his other partners for the purpose of the business of the partnership; and the acts of every partner who does any act for carrying on in the usual way business

business of the kind carried on by the firm of which he is a member, binds the firm and his partners, unless the partner so acting has in fact no authority to act for the firm in the particular matter, and the person with whom he is dealing either knows that he has no authority, or does not know or believe him to be a partner.

6. An act or instrument relating to the business of the firm, Partners bound by and done or executed in the firm-name, or in any other manner, show-firm ing an intention to bind the firm by any person thereto authorised, whether a partner or not, is binding on the firm and all the partners: Provided that this section shall not affect any general rule of law relating

to the execution of deeds or negotiable instruments.

7. Where one partner pledges the credit of the firm for a Partner using credit purpose apparently not connected with the firm's ordinary course of purposes. business, the firm is not bound unless he is in fact specially authorised by the other partners; but this section does not affect any personal liability incurred by an individual partner.

8. If it has been agreed between the partners that any restrictions Effect of notice that shall be placed upon the power of any one or more of them to bind firm will not be the firm, no act done in contravention of the agreement is binding on partner.

the firm with respect to persons having notice of the agreement.

9. Every partner in a firm is liable jointly with the other partners Liability of partner. for all debts and obligations of the firm incurred while he is a partner; and after his death his estate is also severally liable in a due course of administration for such debts and obligations so far as they remain unsatisfied, but subject to the prior payment of his separate debts.

10. Where by any wrongful act or omission of any partner Liability of the firm acting in the ordinary course of the business of the firm, or with the for wrongs. authority of his co-partners, loss or injury is caused to any person not being a partner of the firm, or any penalty is incurred, the firm is liable therefore to the same extent as the partner so acting or omitting

to act.

11. In the following cases, namely:

(a) Where one partner acting within the scope of his apparent Misapplication of authority receives the money or property of a third person money or property and misapplies it; and

(b) When a firm in the course of its business receives money or property of a third person, and the money or property so received is misapplied by one or more of the partners while it is in the custody of the firm;

the firm is liable to make good the loss.

12. Every partner is liable jointly with his co-partners and also Liability for wrongs severally for everything for which the firm while he is a partner therein joint and several. becomes liable under either of the two last preceding sections.

13. If a partner being a trustee improperly employs trust Improper employ-property in the business or on account of the partnership, no other property for partner partner is liable for the trust property to the persons beneficially ship purposes. interested therein:

Provided as follows:-

(1) This section shall not affect any liability incurred by any partner by reason of his having notice of a breach of trust; and

(II) Nothing in this section shall prevent trust money from being followed and recovered from the firm if still in its possession or under its control.

14. (1) Every one who by words spoken or written, or by Persons liable by conduct represents himself, or who knowingly suffers himself to be "holding out." represented as a partner in a particular firm, is liable as a partner to any one who has on the faith of any such representation given credit to the firm, whether the representation has or has not been made

or

or communicated to the person so giving credit by or with the knowledge of the apparent partner making the representation or suffering it to be made.

(II) Provided that where after a partner's death the partnership business is continued in the old firm-name, the continued use of that name or of the deceased partner's name as part thereof shall not of itself make his executors or administrators' estate or effects liable for any partnership debts contracted after his death.

15. An admission or representation made by any partner concerning the partnership affairs, and in the ordinary course of its

business, is evidence against the firm.

16. Notice to any partner who habitually acts in the partnership business of any matter relating to partnership affairs operates as notice to the firm, except in the case of a fraud on the firm committed by or with the consent of that partner.

17. (I) A person who is admitted as a partner into an existing firm does not thereby become liable to the creditors of the firm for

anything done before he became a partner.

(II) A partner who retires from a firm does not thereby cease to be liable for partnership debt and obligation incurred before his retirement.

(III) A retiring partner may be discharged from any existing liabilities by an agreement to that effect between himself and the members of the firm as newly constituted and the creditors, and this agreement may be either expressed or inferred as a fact from the course of dealing between the creditors and the firm as newly constituted.

Revocation of continuing guaranty by change of firm.

Admissions and representations of

Notice to acting

Liabilities of

going partners.

incoming and out-

partner to be notice to the firm.

partners.

18. A continuing guaranty or cautionary obligation given either to a firm or to a third person in respect of the transactions of a firm is, in the absence of agreement to the contrary, revoked as to future transactions by any change in the constitution of the firm to which, or of the firm in respect of whose transactions, the guaranty or obligation was given.

### Relations of partners to one another.

Variation by consent

19. The mutual rights and duties of partners, whether ascerof terms of partner- tained by agreement or defined by this Act, may be varied by the consent of all the partners, and such consent may be either expressed or inferred from a course of dealing.

Partnership property.

20. (I) All property, and rights and interests in property, originally brought into the partnership stock or acquired, whether by purchase or otherwise, on account of the firm, or for the purposes and in the course of the partnership business, are called in this Act partnership property, and must be held and applied by the partners exclusively for the purposes of the partnership, and in accordance with the partnership agreement.

(II) Provided that the legal estate or interest in any land which belongs to the partnership shall devolve according to the nature and tenure thereof, and the general rules of law thereto applicable, but in trust so far as is necessary for the persons beneficially interested

in the land under this section.

(III) Where co-owners of an estate or interest in any land, not being itself partnership property, are partners as to profits made by the use of that land or estate, and purchase other lands and estate out of the profits to be used in like manner, the land or estate so purchased belongs to them, in the absence of an agreement to the contrary, not as partners, but as co-owners for the same respective estates and interests as are held by them in the land or estate firstmentioned at the date of the purchase.

- 21. Unless the contrary intention appears, property bought with Property bought with money belonging to the firm is deemed to have been bought on partnership money. account of the firm.
- 22. Where land or any heritable interest therein has become conversion into partnership property, it shall, unless the contrary intention appears, be personal estate of treated as between the partners (including the representatives of a land held as partners) treated as between the partners (including the representatives of a ship property. deceased partner), and also as between the heirs of a deceased partner and his executors or administrators as personal or movable and not real or heritable estate.

23. (I) After the commencement of this Act a writ or execution procedure against shall not issue against any partnership property except on a judgment partnership property for a partner's separate judgment

(II) The Supreme Courtor a Judge thereof, may, on the appli- debt. cation by summons of any judgment creditor of a partner, make an order charging that partner's interest in the partnership property and profits with payment of the amount of the judgment debt and interest thereon and may by the same or a subsequent order appoint a receiver of that partner's share of profits (whether already declared or accruing), and of any other money which may be coming to him in respect of the partnership, and direct all accounts and inquiries, and give all other orders and directions which might have been directed or given if the charge had been made in favour of the judgment creditor by the partner, or which the circumstances of the case may require.

(III) The other partner or partners shall be at liberty at any time to redeem the interest charged, or in the case of a sale being directed to purchase the same.

24. The interests of partners in the partnership property and Rules as to the their rights and duties in relation to the partnership shall be determined, subject to any agreement expressed or implied between the special agreement. partners, by the following rules:-

- (I) All the partners are entitled to share equally in the capital and profits of the business, and must contribute equally towards the losses whether of capital or otherwise sustained by the firm.
- (II) The firm must indemnify every partner in respect of payment made and personal liabilities incurred by him.
  - (a) In the ordinary and proper conduct of the business of the firm; or
  - (b) In or about anything necessarily done for the preservation of the business or property of the firm.
- (III) A partner making, for the purpose of the partnership, any actual payment or advance beyond the amount of capital which he has agreed to subscribe is entitled to interest at the rate of seven per centum per annum from the date of the payment or advances.
- (IV) A partner is not entitled before the ascertainment of profits to interest on the capital subscribed by him.
- (v) Every partner may take part in the management of the partnership business.
- (VI) No partner shall be entitled to remuneration for acting in the partnership business.
- (VII) No person may be introduced as a partner without the consent of all existing partners.
- (VIII) Any difference arising as to ordinary matters connected with the partnership business may be decided by a majority of partners, but no change may be made in the nature of the partnership business without the consent of all existing partners.

(IX) The partnership books are to be kept at the place of business of the partnership (or the principal place, if there is more than one), and every partner may, when he thinks fit, have access to and inspect and copy any of them.

Expulsion of partner.

25. No majority of the partners can expel any partner unless a power to do so has been conferred by express agreement between the partners.

Retirement from partnership\_at will.

26. (I) Where no fixed term has been agreed upon for the duration of the partnership, any partner may determine the partnership at any time on giving notice of his intention so to do to all the other partners.

(II) Where the partnership has originally been constituted by deed, a notice signed by the partner giving it, shall be sufficient

for this purpose.

Where partnership old terms presumed.

Duty of partners to

render accounts.

Accountability of partners for private profits.

27. (1) Where a partnership entered into for a fixed term is for term is continued continued after the term has expired, and without any express new agreement, the rights and duties of the partners remain the same as they were at the expiration of the term, so far as is consistent with the incidents of a partnership at will.

(II) A continuance of the business by the partners or such of them as habitually acted therein during the term without any settlement or liquidation of the partnership affairs, is presumed to be a

continuance of the partnership.

28. Partners are bound to render true accounts and full information of all things affecting the partnership to any partner or

his legal representatives. 29. (I) Every partner must account to the firm for any benefit derived by him without the consent of the other partners from any transaction concerning the partnership, or for any use by him of the

partnership property, name, or business connexion. (II) This section applies also to transactions undertaken after a partnership has been dissolved by the death of a partner, and before the affairs thereof have been completely wound up, either by any surviving partner or by the representatives of the deceased partner.

30. If a partner, without the consent of the other partners, carries on any business of the same nature as and competing with that of the firm, he must account for and pay over to the firm all profits

made by him in that business.

Duty of partner not to compete with

Rights of assignee of share in partnership.

31. (I) An assignment by any partner of his share in the partnership, either absolute or by way of mortgage or redeemable charge, does not, as against the other partners, entitle the assignee during the continuance of the partnership, to interfere in the management or administration of the partnership business or affairs, or to require any account of the partnership transactions, or to inspect the partnership books, but entitles the assignee only to receive the share of profits to which the assigning partner would otherwise be entitled, and the assignee must accept the account of profits agreed to by the partners.

(II) In case of a dissolution of the partnership, whether as respect all the partners, or as respects the assigning partner, the assignee is entitled to receive the share of the partnership assets to which the assigning partner is entitled as between himself and the other partners, and for the purpose of ascertaining that share, to an account

as from the date of the dissolution.

## Dissolution of Partnership and its consequences.

32. Subject to any agreement between the partners, a partner-Dissolution by expiration or other ship is dissolved-(a) If entered into for a fixed term, by the expiration of that term

(b)

(b) If entered into for a single adventure or undertaking, by the termination of that adventure or undertaking:

(c) If entered into for an undefined time, by any partner giving notice to the other or others of his intention to dissolve the partnership.

In the last-mentioned case the partnership is dissolved as from the date mentioned in the notice as the date of dissolution, or, if no date is mentioned, as from the date of the communication of the notice.

33. (1) Subject to any agreement between the partners, every Dissolution by partnership is dissolved as regards all the partners by the death or bankruptcy, death, or bankruptcy of any partner.

(II) A partnership may, at the option of the other partners, be dissolved if any partner suffers his share of the partnership property

to be charged under this Act for his separate debt.

34. A partnership is in every case dissolved by the happening Dissolution by of any event which makes it unlawful for the business of the firm to illegality of partner-be carried on, or for the members of the firm to carry it on in partnership.

35. On application by a partner the Court may decree a Dissolution by the

dissolution of the partnership in any of the following cases:—

(a) When a partner has been declared in accordance with law

(a) When a partner has been declared in accordance with law to be of unsound mind and incapable of managing his affairs, or is shown to the satisfaction of the Court to be of permanently unsound mind, in either of which cases the application may be made as well on behalf of that partner by his committee or next friend or person having title to intervene as by any other partner.

(b) When a partner, other than the partner suing, becomes in any other way permanently incapable of performing his part

of the partnership contract.

(c) When a partner, other than the partner suing, has been guilty of such conduct as, in the opinion of the Court, regard being had to the nature of the business, is calculated to prejudicially affect the carrying on of the business.

(d) When a partner, other than the party suing, wilfully or persistently commits a breach of the partnership agreement, or otherwise so conducts himself in matters relating to the partnership business that it is not reasonably practicable for the other partner or partners to carry on the business in partnership with him.

(e) When the business of the partnership can only be carried on

at a loss.

(f) Whenever in any case circumstances have arisen which, in the opinion of the Court, render it just and equitable that the partnership be dissolved.

36. (I) When a person deals with a firm after a change in its Rights of persons constitution, he is entitled to treat all apparent members of the old dealing with firm firm as still being members of the firm until he has notice of the members of firm. change.

(II) An advertisement in the Gazette and in at least one newspaper circulating in Sydney and one newspaper circulating in the district in which the firm carries on business shall be notice as to persons who had not dealings with the firm before the date of the

dissolution or change so advertised.

(III) The estate of a partner who dies, or who becomes bankrupt, or of a partner who, not having been known to the person dealing with the firm to be a partner, retires from the firm, is not liable for partnership debts contracted after the date of the death, bankruptcy, or retirement respectively.

37.

Right of partners to notify dissolution.

37. On the dissolution of a partnership or retirement of a partner any partner may publicly notify the same, and may require the other partner or partners to concur for that purpose in all necessary and proper acts, if any, which cannot be done without his or their concurrence.

Continuing authority

38. After the dissolution of a partnership the authority of each of partners for purposes of winding-up. partner to bind the firm, and the other rights and obligations of the partners continue, notwithstanding the dissolution, so far as may be necessary to wind up the affairs of the partnership, and to complete transactions begun but unfinished at the time of the dissolution, but not otherwise: Provided that the firm is in no case bound by the acts of a partner who has become bankrupt; but this proviso does not effect the liability of any person who has, after the bankruptcy, represented himself or knowingly suffered himself to be represented as a partner of the bankrupt.

Rights of partners to

39. On the dissolution of a partnership every partner is entitled, partnership property as against the other partners in the firm, and all persons claiming through them in respect of their interests as partners, to have the property of the partnership applied in payment of the debts and liabilities of the firm, and to have the surplus assets after such payment applied in payment of what may be due to the partners respectively after deducting what may be due from them as partners to the firm; and for that purpose any partner or his representatives may, on the termination of the partnership, apply to the Court to wind up the business and affairs of the firm.

Apportionment of premium when partnership prematurely dissolved.

- 40. Where one partner has paid a premium to another on entering into a partnership for a fixed term, and the partnership is dissolved before the expiration of that term otherwise than by the death of a partner, the Court may order the repayment of the premium, or of such part as it thinks just, having regard to the terms of the partnership contract, and to the length of time during which the partnership as continued; unless-
  - (a) the dissolution is, in the judgement of the Court, wholly or chiefly due to the misconduct of the partner who paid the premium, or

(b) the partnership has been dissolved by an agreement containing no provision for a return of any part of the premium.

Rights where partnership dissolved for fraud or misrepresentation.

- 41. Where a partnership contract is rescinded on the ground of the fraud or misrepresentation of one of the parties thereto, the party entitled to rescind is, without prejudice to any other right, entitled-
  - (a) to a lien on, or right of retention of, the surplus of the partnership assets, after satisfying the partnership liabilities, for any sum of money paid by him for the purchase of a share in the partnership and for any capital contributed by him; and is
  - (b) to stand in the place of the creditors of the firm for any payments made by him in respect of the partnership liabilities;
  - (c) to be indemnified by the person guilty of the fraud or making the representation against all the debts and liabilities of the

Right of outgoing partner in certain cases to share profits made after dissolu-

42. (I) Where any member of a firm has died, or otherwise ccased to be a partner, and the surviving and continuing partners carry on the business of the firm with its capital or assets without any final settlement of accounts as between the firm and the outgoing partner, or his estate, then, in the absence of any agreement to the contrary, the outgoing partner or his estate is entitled, at the option of himself

or his representatives, to such share of the profits made since the dissolution as the Court may find to be attributable to the use of his share of the partnership assets, or to interest at the rate of six per centum per annum on the amount of his share of the partnership assets.

(II) Provided that where, by the partnership contract, an option is given to surviving or continuing partners to purchase the interest of a deceased or outgoing partner, and that option is duly exercised, the estate of the deceased partner, or the outgoing partner or his estate, as the case may be, is not entitled to any further or other share of profits; but if any partner assuming to act in exercise of the option does not in all material respects comply with the terms thereof, he is liable to account under the foregoing provisions of this

43. Subject to any agreement between the partners, the amount Retiring or deceased due from surviving or continuing partners to an outgoing partner, or partner, a debt. the representatives of a deceased partner, in respect of the outgoing or deceased partner's share, is a debt accruing at the date of the dissolution or death.

44. In settling accounts between the partners after a dissolution Rule for distribution of partnership, the following rules shall, subject to any agreement, be of assets on final observed.

(a) Losses, including losses and deficiencies of capital, shall be paid first out of profits, next out of capital, and lastly, if necessary, by the partners individually in the proportion in which they were entitled to share profits.

(b) The assets of the firm, including the sums, if any, contributed by the partners to make up losses or deficiencies of capital, shall be applied in the following manner and order:-

1. In paying the debts and liabilities of the firm to persons who are not partners therein.

2. In paying to each partner ratably what is due by the firm to him for advances as distinguished from capital.

3. In paying to each partner ratably what is due from the firm to him in respect of capital

4. The ultimate residue, if any, shall be divided among the partners in the proportion in which profits are divisible.

#### Supplemental.

45. In this Act unless the contrary intention appears— Definition of "Court" The expression "Court" includes every Court and Judge having and business. jurisdiction in the case.

The expression "business" includes every trade, occupation, or profession.

46. The rules of equity and of common law applicable to Saving for rules of partnership shall continue in force except so far as they are inconsistent equity and common with the express provisons of this Act.

47. The Act thirtieth Victoria number fourteen is hereby Repeal of 30 Vic. No. 14. repealed.

48. This Act may be cited as the "Partnership Act, 1892." Short title.

at subject to any expenses of the fathers, it subject to an obtgoing partners of the partners, it subject to an obtgoing partner of the representatives of a deceased partner, in respect of the outgoing of deceased partner's share, is a dalpt accruing at the date of the dissoluprincipal to following these and definiencies of capital shall be a paid, there are a profits, next out of capital and health if and there are at a profits, next out of capital and health if a recessory by the partners individually at a the profits of the firm, including the same from a capital of the firm, including the same from, contributed by the nartners to make up losses or describing of capital shall be applied in the following manner and order and a larger my the debts sand in his following manner and order and a larger my the debts sand in his fall has of the firm to present who are not partners therein.

2. In paring to cach partners ratably what is due by the firm and a paring to cach partner ratably what is due from the firm.

I Certify that this Public Bill, which originated in the LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, has finally passed the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL and the LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY of NEW SOUTH WALES.

Legislative Assembly Chamber, Sydney, 15 February, 1892. F. W. WEBB, Clerk of Legislative Assembly.

# New South Wales.



ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO QUINTO

# VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

### No. XII.

An Act to declare and amend the law of Partnership.

[Assented to, 20th February, 1892.]

WHEREAS it is expedient to declare and amend the law of Preamble. Partnership: Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of New South Wales in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

#### Nature of Partnership.

- 1. (1) Partnership is the relation which exists between persons Definition of carrying on a business in common with a view of profit.

  Partnership.
- (II) But the relation between members of any company or association which is—
  - (a) Registered as a company under the "Companies Act" or any other Act of Parliament for the time being in force and relating to the registration of joint stock companies; or
- (b) Formed or incorporated by or in pursuance of any other Act of Parliament or Letters Patent or Royal Charter is not a Partnership within the meaning of this Act.

2.

I have examined this Bill, and find it to correspond in all respects with the Bill as finally passed by both Houses.

NINIAN MELVILLE, Chairman of Committees of the Legislative Assembly.

Rules for determining existence of partnership.

2. In determining whether a partnership does or does not exist, regard shall be had to the following rules:-

(1) Joint tenancy, tenancy in common, joint property, or part ownership does not of itself create a partnership as to anything so held or owned, whether the tenants or owners do or do not share any profits made by the use thereof.

(II) The sharing of gross returns does not of itself create a partnership, whether the persons sharing such returns have or have not a joint or common right or interest in any property from which or from the use of which the returns are derived.

(III) The receipt by a person of a share of the profits of a business is prima facie evidence that he is a partner in the business, but the receipt of such a share, or of a payment contingent on, or varying with the profits of a busines does not of itself make him a partner in the business; and in particular-

(a) The receipt by a person of a debt or other liquidated demand by instalments or otherwise out of the accruing profits of a business does not of itself make him a partner in the

business or liable as such:

(b) A contract for the remuneration of a servant or agent of a person engaged in a business by a share of the profits of the business does not of itself make the servant or agent a partner in the business or liable as such:

(c) A person being the widow or child of a deceased partner, and receiving by way of annuity a portion of the profits made in the business in which the deceased person was a partner, is not by reason only of such receipt a partner in the business or liable as such:

(d) The advance of money by way of loan to a person engaged or about to engage in any business on a contract with that person, that the lender shall receive a rate of interest varying with the profits, or shall receive a share of the profits arising from carrying on the business, does not of itself make the lender a partner with the person or persons carrying on the business or liable as such: Provided that the contract is in writing and signed by or on behalf of all the parties thereto:

(e) A person receiving by way of annuity or otherwise a portion of the profits of a business in consideration of the sale by him of the goodwill of the business is not by reason only of such receipt a partner in the business or liable as such.

3. In the event of any person to whom money has been advanced by way of loan upon such a contract as is mentioned in the last foregoing section, or of any buyer of a goodwill in consideration of a share of the profits of the business being adjudged a bankrupt, entering into an arrangement to pay his creditors less than twenty shillings in the pound, or dying in insolvent circumstances, the lender of the loan shall not be entitled to recover anything in respect of his loan, and the seller of the goodwill shall not be entitled to recover anything in respect of the share of profits contracted for, until the claims of the other creditors of the borrower or buyer for valuable consideration in money or money's worth have been satisfied.

4. Persons who have entered into partnership with one another are for the purpose of this Act called collectively a firm, and the name under which their business is carried on is called the firm-name.

Relation of partners to persons dealing with them.

Power of partner to

Meaning of firms.

5. Every partner is an agent of the firm and his other partners for the purpose of the business of the partnership; and the acts of every partner who does any act for carrying on in the usual way business

Postponement of rights of persons lending or selling in consideration of share of profits in case of insolvency.

business of the kind carried on by the firm of which he is a member, binds the firm and his partners, unless the partner so acting has in fact no authority to act for the firm in the particular matter, and the person with whom he is dealing either knows that he has no authority, or does not know or believe him to be a partner.

6. An act or instrument relating to the business of the firm, Partners bound by and done or executed in the firm-name, or in any other manner, show-acts on behalf of firm ing an intention to bind the firm by any person thereto authorised, whether a partner or not, is binding on the firm and all the partners: Provided that this section shall not affect any general rule of law relating to the execution of deeds or negotiable instruments.

7. Where one partner pledges the credit of the firm for a Partner using credit purpose apparently not connected with the firm's ordinary course of purposes. business, the firm is not bound unless he is in fact specially authorised by the other partners; but this section does not affect any personal

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9. Every partner in a firm is liable jointly with the other partners Liability of partner, for all debts and obligations of the firm incurred while he is a partner; and after his death his estate is also severally liable in a due course of administration for such debts and obligations so far as they remain unsatisfied, but subject to the prior payment of his separate debts.

unsatisfied, but subject to the prior payment of his separate debts.

10. Where by any wrongful act or omission of any partner Liability of the firm acting in the ordinary course of the business of the firm, or with the for wrongs. authority of his co-partners, loss or injury is caused to any person not being a partner of the firm, or any penalty is incurred, the firm is liable therefore to the same extent as the partner so acting or omitting to act.

11. In the following cases, namely:

(a) Where one partner acting within the scope of his apparent Misapplication of authority receives the money or property of a third person money or property and misapplies it; and

(b) When a firm in the course of its business receives money or property of a third person, and the money or property so received is misapplied by one or more of the partners while it is in the custody of the firm;

the firm is liable to make good the loss.

12. Every partner is liable jointly with his co-partners and also Liability for wrongs severally for everything for which the firm while he is a partner therein joint and several. becomes liable under either of the two last preceding sections.

13. If a partner being a trustee improperly employs trust Improper employ-property in the business or on account of the partnership, no other ment of trust partner is liable for the trust property to the persons beneficially ship purposes. interested therein:

Provided as follows:-

- (I) This section shall not affect any liability incurred by any partner by reason of his having notice of a breach of trust; and
- (II) Nothing in this section shall prevent trust money from being followed and recovered from the firm if still in its possession or under its control.
- 14. (I) Every one who by words spoken or written, or by Persons liable by conduct represents himself, or who knowingly suffers himself to be "holding out." represented as a partner in a particular firm, is liable as a partner to any one who has on the faith of any such representation given credit to the firm, whether the representation has or has not been made

or communicated to the person so giving credit by or with the knowledge of the apparent partner making the representation or suffering it to be made.

(II) Provided that where after a partner's death the partnership business is continued in the old firm-name, the continued use of that name or of the deceased partner's name as part thereof shall not of itself make his executors or administrators' estate or effects liable for any partnership debts contracted after his death.

15. An admission or representation made by any partner concerning the partnership affairs, and in the ordinary course of its

business, is evidence against the firm.

16. Notice to any partner who habitually acts in the partnership business of any matter relating to partnership affairs operates as notice to the firm, except in the case of a fraud on the firm committed by or with the consent of that partner.

17. (I) A person who is admitted as a partner into an existing firm does not thereby become liable to the creditors of the firm for

anything done before he became a partner.

(II) A partner who retires from a firm does not thereby cease to be liable for partnership debt and obligation incurred before his retirement.

(III) A retiring partner may be discharged from any existing liabilities by an agreement to that effect between himself and the members of the firm as newly constituted and the creditors, and this agreement may be either expressed or inferred as a fact from the course of dealing between the creditors and the firm as newly constituted.

Revocation of continuing guaranty by change of firm.

Admissions and

Notice to acting

Liabilities of

incoming and outgoing partners.

partner to be notice to the firm.

representations of partners.

> 18. A continuing guaranty or cautionary obligation given either to a firm or to a third person in respect of the transactions of a firm is, in the absence of agreement to the contrary, revoked as to future transactions by any change in the constitution of the firm to which, or of the firm in respect of whose transactions, the guaranty or obligation was given.

### Relations of partners to one another.

Variation by consent ship.

19. The mutual rights and duties of partners, whether ascerof terms of partner- tained by agreement or defined by this Act, may be varied by the consent of all the partners, and such consent may be either expressed or inferred from a course of dealing.

Partnership property.

20. (I) All property, and rights and interests in property, originally brought into the partnership stock or acquired, whether by purchase or otherwise, on account of the firm, or for the purposes and in the course of the partnership business, are called in this Act partnership property, and must be held and applied by the partners exclusively for the purposes of the partnership, and in accordance with the partnership agreement.

(II) Provided that the legal estate or interest in any land which belongs to the partnership shall devolve according to the nature and tenure thereof, and the general rules of law thereto applicable, but in trust so far as is necessary for the persons beneficially interested

in the land under this section.

(III) Where co-owners of an estate or interest in any land, not being itself partnership property, are partners as to profits made by the use of that land or estate, and purchase other lands and estate out of the profits to be used in like manner, the land or estate so purchased belongs to them, in the absence of an agreement to the contrary, not as partners, but as co-owners for the same respective estates and interests as are held by them in the land or estate firstmentioned at the date of the purchase. 21.

- 21. Unless the contrary intention appears, property bought with Property bought with money belonging to the firm is deemed to have been bought on partnership money. account of the firm.
- 22. Where land or any heritable interest therein has become Conversion into partnership property, it shall, unless the contrary intention appears, be personal estate of land held as partnertreated as between the partners (including the representatives of a ship property. deceased partner), and also as between the heirs of a deceased partner and his executors or administrators as personal or movable and not real or heritable estate.

23. (1) After the commencement of this Act a writ of execution Procedure against shall not issue against any partnership property except on a judgment partnership property for a partner's against the firm.

eparate judgment

- (II) The Supreme Courtor a Judge thereof, may, on the appli- dett. cation by summons of any judgment creditor of a partner, make an order charging that partner's interest in the partnership property and profits with payment of the amount of the judgment debt and interest thereon and may by the same or a subsequent order appoint a receiver of that partner's share of profits (whether already declared or accruing), and of any other money which may be coming to him in respect of the partnership, and direct all accounts and inquiries, and give all other orders and directions which might have been directed or given if the charge had been made in favour of the judgment creditor by the partner, or which the circumstances of the case may require.
- (III) The other partner or partners shall be at liberty at any time to redeem the interest charged, or in the case of a sale being directed to purchase the same.
- 24. The interests of partners in the partnership property and Rules as to the their rights and duties in relation to the partnership shall be deter-interests and duty of mined, subject to any agreement expressed or implied between the special agreement. partners, by the following rules:—
  - (I) All the partners are entitled to share equally in the capital and profits of the business, and must contribute equally towards the losses whether of capital or otherwise sustained by
  - (II) The firm must indemnify every partner in respect of payment made and personal liabilities incurred by him.
    - (a) In the ordinary and proper conduct of the business of the
    - (b) In or about anything necessarily done for the preservation of the business or property of the firm.
  - (III) A partner making, for the purpose of the partnership, any actual payment or advance beyond the amount of capital which he has agreed to subscribe is entitled to interest at the rate of seven per centum per annum from the date of the payment or advances.
  - (IV) A partner is not entitled before the ascertainment of profits to interest on the capital subscribed by him.
  - (v) Every partner may take part in the management of the partnership business.
  - (VI) No partner shall be entitled to remuneration for acting in the partnership business.
  - (VII) No person may be introduced as a partner without the consent of all existing partners.
  - (VIII) Any difference arising as to ordinary matters connected with the partnership business may be decided by a majority of partners, but no change may be made in the nature of the partnership business without the consent of all existing partners.

(IX)

- 21. Unless the contrary intention appears, property bought with Property bought with money belonging to the firm is deemed to have been bought on partnership money. account of the firm.
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(III) The other partner or partners shall be at liberty at any time to redeem the interest charged, or in the case of a sale being

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(I) All the partners are entitled to share equally in the capital and profits of the business, and must contribute equally towards the losses whether of capital or otherwise sustained by

(II) The firm must indemnify every partner in respect of payment made and personal liabilities incurred by him.

(a) In the ordinary and proper conduct of the business of the

(b) In or about anything necessarily done for the preservation

of the business or property of the firm.

- (III) A partner making, for the purpose of the partnership, any actual payment or advance beyond the amount of capital which he has agreed to subscribe is entitled to interest at the rate of seven per centum per annum from the date of the payment or advances.
- (IV) A partner is not entitled before the ascertainment of profits to interest on the capital subscribed by him.

(v) Every partner may take part in the management of the partnership business.

(VI) No partner shall be entitled to remuneration for acting in the partnership business.

(VII) No person may be introduced as a partner without the con-

sent of all existing partners. (VIII) Any difference arising as to ordinary matters connected with the partnership business may be decided by a majority of partners, but no change may be made in the nature of the partnership business without the consent of all existing partners.

(IX)

(IX) The partnership books are to be kept at the place of business of the partnership (or the principal place, if there is more than one), and every partner may, when he thinks fit, have access to and inspect and copy any of them.

Expulsion of partner.

25. No majority of the partners can expel any partner unless a power to do so has been conferred by express agreement between the partners.

Retirement from partnership at will.

- 26. (1) Where no fixed term has been agreed upon for the duration of the partnership, any partner may determine the partnership at any time on giving notice of his intention so to do to all the other partners.
- (II) Where the partnership has originally been constituted by deed, a notice signed by the partner giving it, shall be sufficient for this purpose.

Where partnership

- 27. (I) Where a partnership entered into for a fixed term is for term is continued continued after the term has expired, and without any express new over, continuance on agreement, the rights and duties of the partners remain the same as they were at the expiration of the term, so far as is consistent with the incidents of a partnership at will.
  - (II) A continuance of the business by the partners or such of them as habitually acted therein during the term without any settlement or liquidation of the partnership affairs, is presumed to be a continuance of the partnership.

Duty of partners to render accounts.

28. Partners are bound to render true accounts and full information of all things affecting the partnership to any partner or his legal representatives.

Accountability of partners for private profits.

- 29. (1) Every partner must account to the firm for any benefit derived by him without the consent of the other partners from any transaction concerning the partnership, or for any use by him of the partnership property, name, or business connexion.
- (II) This section applies also to transactions undertaken after a partnership has been dissolved by the death of a partner, and before the affairs thereof have been completely wound up, either by any surviving partner or by the representatives of the deceased partner.

30. If a partner, without the consent of the other partners, carries on any business of the same nature as and competing with that of the firm, he must account for and pay over to the firm all profits made by him in that business.

Rights of assignee of share in partnership.

Duty of partner not to compete with

firm.

- 31. (1) An assignment by any partner of his share in the partnership, either absolute or by way of mortgage or redeemable charge, does not, as against the other partners, entitle the assignee during the continuance of the partnership, to interfere in the management or administration of the partnership business or affairs, or to require any account of the partnership transactions, or to inspect the partnership books, but entitles the assignee only to receive the share of profits to which the assigning partner would otherwise be entitled, and the assignee must accept the account of profits agreed to by the partners.
- (II) In case of a dissolution of the partnership, whether as respect all the partners, or as respects the assigning partner, the assignee is entitled to receive the share of the partnership assets to which the assigning partner is entitled as between himself and the other partners, and for the purpose of ascertaining that share, to an account as from the date of the dissolution.

#### Dissolution of Partnership and its consequences.

Dissolution by

32. Subject to any agreement between the partners, a partnerexpiration or other ship is dissolved

(a) If entered into for a fixed term, by the expiration of that term

**(b)** 

(b) If entered into for a single adventure or undertaking, by the termination of that adventure or undertaking:

(c) If entered into for an undefined time, by any partner giving notice to the other or others of his intention to dissolve the

partnership.

In the last-mentioned case the partnership is dissolved as from the date mentioned in the notice as the date of dissolution, or, if no date is mentioned, as from the date of the communication of the notice.

33. (1) Subject to any agreement between the partners, every Dissolution by partnership is dissolved as regards all the partners by the death or bankruptcy, death, or change. bankruptcy of any partner.

(II) A partnership may, at the option of the other partners, be dissolved if any partner suffers his share of the partnership property

to be charged under this Act for his separate debt.

34. A partnership is in every case dissolved by the happening Dissolution by of any event which makes it unlawful for the business of the firm to illegality of partnerbe carried on, or for the members of the firm to carry it on in partner-

35. On application by a partner the Court may decree a Dissolution by the

dissolution of the partnership in any of the following cases:-

(a) When a partner has been declared in accordance with law to be of unsound mind and incapable of managing his affairs, or is shown to the satisfaction of the Court to be of permanently unsound mind, in either of which cases the application may be made as well on behalf of that partner by his committee or next friend or person having title to intervene as by any other partner.

(b) When a partner, other than the partner suing, becomes in any other way permanently incapable of performing his part

of the partnership contract.

(c) When a partner, other than the partner suing, has been guilty of such conduct as, in the opinion of the Court, regard being had to the nature of the business, is calculated to prejudicially affect the carrying on of the business.

(d) When a partner, other than the party suing, wilfully or persistently commits a breach of the partnership agreement, or otherwise so conducts himself in matters relating to the partnership business that it is not reasonably practicable for the other partner or partners to carry on the business in partnership with him.

(e) When the business of the partnership can only be carried on

at a loss.

(f) Whenever in any case circumstances have arisen which, in the opinion of the Court, render it just and equitable that

the partnership be dissolved.

36. (1) When a person deals with a firm after a change in its Rights of persons constitution, he is entitled to treat all apparent members of the old dealing with firm firm as still being members of the firm until he has notice of the members of firm.

(II) An advertisement in the Gazette and in at least one newspaper circulating in Sydney and one newspaper circulating in the district in which the firm carries on business shall be notice as to persons who had not dealings with the firm before the date of the

dissolution or change so advertised.

bankrupt, or of a partner who, not having been known to the person dealing with the firm to be a partner, retires from the firm, is not liable for partnership debts contracted after the date of the death, bankruptcy, or retirement respectively.

37.

Right of partners to notify dissolution.

37. On the dissolution of a partnership or retirement of a partner any partner may publicly notify the same, and may require the other partner or partners to concur for that purpose in all necessary and proper acts, if any, which cannot be done without his or their concurrence.

Continuing authority

38. After the dissolution of a partnership the authority of each of partners for purposes of winding-up, partner to bind the firm, and the other rights and obligations of the partners continue, notwithstanding the dissolution, so far as may be necessary to wind up the affairs of the partnership, and to complete transactions begun but unfinished at the time of the dissolution, but not otherwise: Provided that the firm is in no case bound by the acts of a partner who has become bankrupt; but this proviso does not effect the liability of any person who has, after the bankruptcy, represented himself or knowingly suffered himself to be represented as a partner of the bankrupt.

Rights of partners to application of

39. On the dissolution of a partnership every partner is entitled, partnership property. as against the other partners in the firm, and all persons claiming through them in respect of their interests as partners, to have the property of the partnership applied in payment of the debts and liabilities of the firm, and to have the surplus assets after such payment applied in payment of what may be due to the partners respectively after deducting what may be due from them as partners to the firm; and for that purpose any partner or his representatives may, on the termination of the partnership, apply to the Court to wind up the business and affairs of the firm.

Apportionment of premium when partnership prematurely dissolved.

- 40. Where one partner has paid a premium to another on entering into a partnership for a fixed term, and the partnership is dissolved before the expiration of that term otherwise than by the death of a partner, the Court may order the repayment of the premium, or of such part as it thinks just, having regard to the terms of the partnership contract, and to the length of time during which the partnership as continued; unless-
  - (a) the dissolution is, in the judgement of the Court, wholly or chiefly due to the misconduct of the partner who paid the premium, or
  - (b) the partnership has been dissolved by an agreement containing no provision for a return of any part of the premium.

Rights where misrepresentation.

- 41. Where a partnership contract is rescinded on the ground of partnership dissolved the fraud or misrepresentation of one of the parties thereto, the party entitled to rescind is, without prejudice to any other right, entitled-
  - (a) to a lien on, or right of retention of, the surplus of the partnership assets, after satisfying the partnership liabilities, for any sum of money paid by him for the purchase of a share in the partnership and for any capital contributed by him; and is
  - (b) to stand in the place of the creditors of the firm for any payments made by him in respect of the partnership liabilities;
  - (c) to be indemnified by the person guilty of the fraud or making the representation against all the debts and liabilities of the

Right of outgoing partner in certain cases to share profits made after dissolu-

42. (1) Where any member of a firm has died, or otherwise ceased to be a partner, and the surviving and continuing partners carry on the business of the firm with its capital or assets without any final settlement of accounts as between the firm and the outgoing partner, or his estate, then, in the absence of any agreement to the contrary, the outgoing partner or his estate is entitled, at the option of himself

or his representatives, to such share of the profits made since the dissolution as the Court may find to be attributable to the use of his share of the partnership assets, or to interest at the rate of six per centum per annum on the amount of his share of the partnership assets.

- (11) Provided that where, by the partnership contract, an option is given to surviving or continuing partners to purchase the interest of a deceased or outgoing partner, and that option is duly exercised, the estate of the deceased partner, or the outgoing partner or his estate, as the case may be, is not entitled to any further or other share of profits; but if any partner assuming to act in exercise of the option does not in all material respects comply with the terms thereof, he is liable to account under the foregoing provisions of this section.
- 43. Subject to any agreement between the partners, the amount Retiring or deceased due from surviving or continuing partners to an outgoing partner, or partner, the representatives of a decread partner in respect of the autocing or a debt. the representatives of a deceased partner, in respect of the outgoing or deceased partner's share, is a debt accruing at the date of the dissolution or death.

44. In settling accounts between the partners after a dissolution Rule for distribution of partnership, the following rules shall, subject to any agreement, be of assets on final settlement of observed,-

accounts.

(a) Losses, including losses and deficiencies of capital, shall be paid first out of profits, next out of capital, and lastly, if necessary, by the partners individually in the proportion in which they were entitled to share profits.

(b) The assets of the firm, including the sums, if any, contributed by the partners to make up losses or deficiencies of capital, shall be applied in the following manner and order:-

1. In paying the debts and liabilities of the firm to persons who are not partners therein.

2. In paying to each partner ratably what is due by the firm to him for advances as distinguished from capital.

3. In paying to each partner ratably what is due from the firm to him in respect of capital.

4. The ultimate residue, if any, shall be divided among the partners in the proportion in which profits are divisible.

#### Supplemental.

The expression "Court" includes every Court and Judge having and "business." jurisdiction in the case.

The expression "business" includes every trade, occupation, or profession.

46. The rules of equity and of common law applicable to Saving for rules of partnership shall continue in force except so far as they are inconsistent equity and common with the express provisons of this Act.

47. The Act thirtieth Victoria number fourteen is hereby Repeal of 30 Vic. No. 14. repealed.

48. This Act may be cited as the "Partnership Act, 1892." Short title.

In the name and on the behalf of Her Majesty I assent to this Act.

JERSEY.

Government House, 20th February, 1892.

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The assets of the firm includes of the more to persons who are an are not parameter the more includes of the more to persons who are an area of the more than the firm eached. The article of the second seco 

I Certify that this Public Bill, which originated in the Legislative Assembly, has finally passed the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

Legislative Assembly Chamber, Sydney, 15 February, 1892. F. W. WEBB, Clerk of Legislative Assembly.

# New South Wales.



ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO QUINTO

# VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

### No. XII.

An Act to declare and amend the law of Partnership. [Assented to, 20th February, 1892.]

WHEREAS it is expedient to declare and amend the law of Preamble. Partnership: Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of New South Wales in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

#### Nature of Partnership.

1. (I) Partnership is the relation which exists between persons Definition of carrying on a business in common with a view of profit.

Partnership.

(II) But the relation between members of any company or association which is—

(a) Registered as a company under the "Companies Act" or any other Act of Parliament for the time being in force and relating to the registration of joint stock companies; or

relating to the registration of joint stock companies; or

(b) Formed or incorporated by or in pursuance of any other Act
of Parliament or Letters Patent or Royal Charter

is not a Partnership within the meaning of this Act.

2.

I have examined this Bill, and find it to correspond in all respects with the Bill as finally passed by both Houses.

NINIAN MELVILLE, Chairman of Committees of the Legislative Assembly.

Rules for determining existence of partnership.

2. In determining whether a partnership does or does not exist, regard shall be had to the following rules:—

(I) Joint tenancy, tenancy in common, joint property, or part ownership does not of itself create a partnership as to anything so held or owned, whether the tenants or owners do or do not share any profits made by the use thereof.

(II) The sharing of gross returns does not of itself create a partnership, whether the persons sharing such returns have or have not a joint or common right or interest in any property from which or from the use of which the returns are derived.

(III) The receipt by a person of a share of the profits of a business is *prima facie* evidence that he is a partner in the business, but the receipt of such a share, or of a payment contingent on, or varying with the profits of a busines does not of itself make him a partner in the business; and in particular—

(a) The receipt by a person of a debt or other liquidated demand by instalments or otherwise out of the accruing profits of a business does not of itself make him a partner in the

business or liable as such:

(b) A contract for the remuneration of a servant or agent of a person engaged in a business by a share of the profits of the business does not of itself make the servant or agent a partner in the business or liable as such:

(c) A person being the widow or child of a deceased partner, and receiving by way of annuity a portion of the profits made in the business in which the deceased person was a partner, is not by reason only of such receipt a partner in

the business or liable as such:

(d) The advance of money by way of loan to a person engaged or about to engage in any business on a contract with that person, that the lender shall receive a rate of interest varying with the profits, or shall receive a share of the profits arising from carrying on the business, does not of itself make the lender a partner with the person or persons carrying on the business or liable as such: Provided that the contract is in writing and signed by or on behalf of all the parties thereto:

(e) A person receiving by way of annuity or otherwise a portion of the profits of a business in consideration of the sale by him of the goodwill of the business is not by reason only of such receipt a partner in the business or liable as such.

3. In the event of any person to whom money has been advanced by way of loan upon such a contract as is mentioned in the last foregoing section, or of any buyer of a goodwill in consideration of a share of the profits of the business being adjudged a bankrupt, entering into an arrangement to pay his creditors less than twenty shillings in the pound, or dying in insolvent circumstances, the lender of the loan shall not be entitled to recover anything in respect of his loan, and the seller of the goodwill shall not be entitled to recover anything in respect of the share of profits contracted for, until the claims of the other creditors of the borrower or buyer for valuable consideration in money or money's worth have been satisfied.

4. Persons who have entered into partnership with one another are for the purpose of this Act called collectively a firm, and the name under which their business is carried on is called the firm-name.

Relation of partners to persons dealing with them.

Power of partner to bind the firm.

Meaning of firms.

5. Every partner is an agent of the firm and his other partners for the purpose of the business of the partnership; and the acts of every partner who does any act for carrying on in the usual way

Postponement of rights of persons lending or selling in consideration of share of profits in case of insolvency.

(b) If entered into for a single adventure or undertaking, by the termination of that adventure or undertaking:

(c) If entered into for an undefined time, by any partner giving notice to the other or others of his intention to dissolve the

partnership.

In the last-mentioned case the partnership is dissolved as from the date mentioned in the notice as the date of dissolution, or, if no date is mentioned, as from the date of the communication of the notice.

33. (I) Subject to any agreement between the partners, every Dissolution by partnership is dissolved as regards all the partners by the death or bankruptcy, death, or bankruptcy of any partner.

(II) A partnership may, at the option of the other partners, be dissolved if any partner suffers his share of the partnership property

to be charged under this Act for his separate debt.

34. A partnership is in every case dissolved by the happening Dissolution by of any event which makes it unlawful for the business of the firm to illegality of partner-be carried on, or for the members of the firm to carry it on in partnership.

35. On application by a partner the Court may decree a Dissolution by the

dissolution of the partnership in any of the following cases:

(a) When a partner has been declared in accordance with law to be of unsound mind and incapable of managing his affairs, or is shown to the satisfaction of the Court to be of permanently unsound mind, in either of which cases the application may be made as well on behalf of that partner by his committee or next friend or person having title to intervene as by any other partner.

(b) When a partner, other than the partner suing, becomes in any other way permanently incapable of performing his part

of the partnership contract.

(c) When a partner, other than the partner suing, has been guilty of such conduct as, in the opinion of the Court, regard being had to the nature of the business, is calculated to prejudicially affect the carrying on of the business.

(d) When a partner, other than the party suing, wilfully or persistently commits a breach of the partnership agreement, or otherwise so conducts himself in matters relating to the partnership business that it is not reasonably practicable for the other partner or partners to carry on the business in partnership with him.

(e) When the business of the partnership can only be carried on

at a loss.

(f) Whenever in any case circumstances have arisen which, in the opinion of the Court, render it just and equitable that the partnership be dissolved.

36. (I) When a person deals with a firm after a change in its Rights of persons constitution, he is entitled to treat all apparent members of the old dealing with firm firm as still being members of the firm until he has notice of the members of firm. change.

(II) An advertisement in the Gazette and in at least one newspaper circulating in Sydney and one newspaper circulating in the district in which the firm carries on business shall be notice as to persons who had not dealings with the firm before the date of the

dissolution or change so advertised.

(III) The estate of a partner who dies, or who becomes bankrupt, or of a partner who, not having been known to the person dealing with the firm to be a partner, retires from the firm, is not liable for partnership debts contracted after the date of the death, bankruptcy, or retirement respectively.

37.

business of the kind carried on by the firm of which he is a member, binds the firm and his partners, unless the partner so acting has in fact no authority to act for the firm in the particular matter, and the person with whom he is dealing either knows that he has no authority, or does not know or believe him to be a partner.

6. An act or instrument relating to the business of the firm, Partners bound by and done or executed in the firm-name, or in any other manner, show-acts on behalf of ing an intention to bind the firm by any person thereto authorised, whether a partner or not, is binding on the firm and all the partners: Provided that this section shall not affect any general rule of law relating to the execution of deeds or negotiable instruments.

7. Where one partner pledges the credit of the firm for a Partner using credit purpose apparently not connected with the firm's ordinary course of purposes, business, the firm is not bound unless he is in fact specially authorised by the other partners; but this section does not affect any personal

liability incurred by an individual partner.

8. If it has been agreed between the partners that any restrictions Effect of notice that shall be placed upon the power of any one or more of them to bind firm will not be the firm, no act done in contravention of the agreement is binding on partner. the firm with respect to persons having notice of the agreement.

9. Every partner in a firm is liable jointly with the other partners Liability of partner. for all debts and obligations of the firm incurred while he is a partner; and after his death his estate is also severally liable in a due course of administration for such debts and obligations so far as they remain unsatisfied, but subject to the prior payment of his separate debts.

unsatisfied, but subject to the prior payment of his separate debts.

10. Where by any wrongful act or omission of any partner Liability of the firm acting in the ordinary course of the business of the firm, or with the for wrongs. authority of his co-partners, loss or injury is caused to any person not being a partner of the firm, or any penalty is incurred, the firm is liable therefore to the same extent as the partner so acting or omitting to act.

11. In the following cases, namely:

(a) Where one partner acting within the scope of his apparent Misapplication of authority receives the money or property of a third person money or property and misapplies it; and

(b) When a firm in the course of its business receives money or property of a third person, and the money or property so received is misapplied by one or more of the partners while it is in the custody of the firm;

the firm is liable to make good the loss.

12. Every partner is liable jointly with his co-partners and also Liability for wrongs severally for everything for which the firm while he is a partner therein joint and several. becomes liable under either of the two last preceding sections.

13. If a partner being a trustee improperly employs trust Improper employ-property in the business or on account of the partnership, no other property for partner is liable for the trust property to the persons beneficially ship purposes.

Provided as follows:—

- (I) This section shall not affect any liability incurred by any partner by reason of his having notice of a breach of trust; and
- (II) Nothing in this section shall prevent trust money from being followed and recovered from the firm if still in its possession or under its control.
- 14. (I) Every one who by words spoken or written, or by Persons liable by conduct represents himself, or who knowingly suffers himself to be "holding out." represented as a partner in a particular firm, is liable as a partner to any one who has on the faith of any such representation given credit to the firm, whether the representation has or has not been made

or communicated to the person so giving credit by or with the knowledge of the apparent partner making the representation or suffering it to be made.

(II) Provided that where after a partner's death the partner-ship business is continued in the old firm-name, the continued use of that name or of the deceased partner's name as part thereof shall not of itself make his executors or administrators' estate or effects liable for any partnership debts contracted after his death.

15. An admission or representation made by any partner concerning the partnership affairs, and in the ordinary course of its

business, is evidence against the firm.

16. Notice to any partner who habitually acts in the partner-ship business of any matter relating to partnership affairs operates as notice to the firm, except in the case of a fraud on the firm committed by or with the consent of that partner.

17. (I) A person who is admitted as a partner into an existing firm does not thereby become liable to the creditors of the firm for

anything done before he became a partner.

(II) A partner who retires from a firm does not thereby cease to be liable for partnership debt and obligation incurred before his retirement.

(III) A retiring partner may be discharged from any existing liabilities by an agreement to that effect between himself and the members of the firm as newly constituted and the creditors, and this agreement may be either expressed or inferred as a fact from the course of dealing between the creditors and the firm as newly constituted.

18. A continuing guaranty or cautionary obligation given either to a firm or to a third person in respect of the transactions of a firm is, in the absence of agreement to the contrary, revoked as to future transactions by any change in the constitution of the firm to which, or of the firm in respect of whose transactions, the guaranty or obligation was given.

Revocation of continuing guaranty by change of firm.

Admissions and

Notice to acting

Liabilities of

incoming and out-

partner to be notice to the firm.

representations of partners.

#### Relations of partners to one another.

Variation by consent of terms of partner-ship.

19. The mutual rights and duties of partners, whether ascertained by agreement or defined by this Act, may be varied by the consent of all the partners, and such consent may be either expressed or inferred from a course of dealing.

Partnership property.

20. (I) All property, and rights and interests in property, originally brought into the partnership stock or acquired, whether by purchase or otherwise, on account of the firm, or for the purposes and in the course of the partnership business, are called in this Act partnership property, and must be held and applied by the partners exclusively for the purposes of the partnership, and in accordance with the partnership agreement.

(II) Provided that the legal estate or interest in any land which belongs to the partnership shall devolve according to the nature and tenure thereof, and the general rules of law thereto applicable, but in trust so far as is necessary for the persons beneficially interested

in the land under this section.

(III) Where co-owners of an estate or interest in any land, not being itself partnership property, are partners as to profits made by the use of that land or estate, and purchase other lands and estate out of the profits to be used in like manner, the land or estate so purchased belongs to them, in the absence of an agreement to the contrary, not as partners, but as co-owners for the same respective estates and interests as are held by them in the land or estate first-mentioned at the date of the purchase.

21.

- 21. Unless the contrary intention appears, property bought with Property bought with money belonging to the firm is deemed to have been bought on partnership money. account of the firm.
- 22. Where land or any heritable interest therein has become Conversion into partnership property, it shall, unless the contrary intention appears, be personal estate of land held as partnertreated as between the partners (including the representatives of a ship property. deceased partner), and also as between the heirs of a deceased partner and his executors or administrators as personal or movable and not real or heritable estate.

23. (I) After the commencement of this Act a writ of execution Procedure against shall not issue against any partnership property except on a judgment partnership property for a partner's against the firm.

parate judgment

- (II) The Supreme Courtor a Judge thereof, may, on the appli-debt. cation by summons of any judgment creditor of a partner, make an order charging that partner's interest in the partnership property and profits with payment of the amount of the judgment debt and interest thereon and may by the same or a subsequent order appoint a receiver of that partner's share of profits (whether already declared or accruing), and of any other money which may be coming to him in respect of the partnership, and direct all accounts and inquiries, and give all other orders and directions which might have been directed or given if the charge had been made in favour of the judgment creditor by the partner, or which the circumstances of the case may require.
- (III) The other partner or partners shall be at liberty at any time to redeem the interest charged, or in the case of a sale being directed to purchase the same.
- 24. The interests of partners in the partnership property and Rules as to the their rights and duties in relation to the partnership shall be deter-interests and duty of partners subject to mined, subject to any agreement expressed or implied between the special agreement. partners, by the following rules:-

- (I) All the partners are entitled to share equally in the capital and profits of the business, and must contribute equally towards the losses whether of capital or otherwise sustained by
- (II) The firm must indemnify every partner in respect of payment made and personal liabilities incurred by him.
  - (a) In the ordinary and proper conduct of the business of the
  - (b) In or about anything necessarily done for the preservation of the business or property of the firm.
- (III) A partner making, for the purpose of the partnership, any actual payment or advance beyond the amount of capital which he has agreed to subscribe is entitled to interest at the rate of seven per centum per annum from the date of the payment or advances.
- (IV) A partner is not entitled before the ascertainment of profits to interest on the capital subscribed by him.
- (v) Every partner may take part in the management of the partnership business.
- (VI) No partner shall be entitled to remuneration for acting in the partnership business.
- (VII) No person may be introduced as a partner without the consent of all existing partners.
- (VIII) Any difference arising as to ordinary matters connected with the partnership business may be decided by a majority of partners, but no change may be made in the nature of the partnership business without the consent of all existing partners.

(IX) The partnership books are to be kept at the place of business of the partnership (or the principal place, if there is more than one), and every partner may, when he thinks fit, have access to and inspect and copy any of them.

Expulsion of partner.

25. No majority of the partners can expel any partner unless a power to do so has been conferred by express agreement between the partners.

Retirement from partnership at will.

26. (1) Where no fixed term has been agreed upon for the duration of the partnership, any partner may determine the partnership at any time on giving notice of his intention so to do to all the other partners.

(II) Where the partnership has originally been constituted by deed, a notice signed by the partner giving it, shall be sufficient

Where partnership over, continuance on

Duty of partner not to compete with

Rights of assignee of share in partner-

ship.

27. (1) Where a partnership entered into for a fixed term is for term is continued continued after the term has expired, and without any express new old terms presumed, agreement, the rights and duties of the partners remain the same as they were at the expiration of the term, so far as is consistent with the incidents of a partnership at will.

> (II) A continuance of the business by the partners or such of them as habitually acted therein during the term without any settlement or liquidation of the partnership affairs, is presumed to be a

continuance of the partnership.

28. Partners are bound to render true accounts and full Duty of partners to render accounts. information of all things affecting the partnership to any partner or his legal representatives.

Accountability of partners for private profits.

29. (1) Every partner must account to the firm for any benefit derived by him without the consent of the other partners from any transaction concerning the partnership, or for any use by him of the partnership property, name, or business connexion.

(II) This section applies also to transactions undertaken after a partnership has been dissolved by the death of a partner, and before the affairs thereof have been completely wound up, either by any surviving partner or by the representatives of the deceased partner.

30. If a partner, without the consent of the other partners, carries on any business of the same nature as and competing with that of the firm, he must account for and pay over to the firm all profits

made by him in that business.

31. (1) An assignment by any partner of his share in the partnership, either absolute or by way of mortgage or redeemable charge, does not, as against the other partners, entitle the assignee during the continuance of the partnership, to interfere in the management or administration of the partnership business or affairs, or to require any account of the partnership transactions, or to inspect the partnership books, but entitles the assignee only to receive the share of profits to which the assigning partner would otherwise be entitled, and the assignee must accept the account of profits agreed to by the partners.

(II) In case of a dissolution of the partnership, whether

as respect all the partners, or as respects the assigning partner, the assignee is entitled to receive the share of the partnership assets to which the assigning partner is entitled as between himself and the other partners, and for the purpose of ascertaining that share, to an account

as from the date of the dissolution.

### Dissolution of Partnership and its consequences.

Dissolution by expiration or other ship is dissolved-

32. Subject to any agreement between the partners, a partner-

(a) If entered into for a fixed term, by the expiration of that term *(b)* 

(b) If entered into for a single adventure or undertaking, by the termination of that adventure or undertaking:

(c) If entered into for an undefined time, by any partner giving notice to the other or others of his intention to dissolve the partnership.

In the last-mentioned case the partnership is dissolved as from the date mentioned in the notice as the date of dissolution, or, if no

date is mentioned, as from the date of the communication of the notice. • 33. (1) Subject to any agreement between the partners, every Dissolution by partnership is dissolved as regards all the partners by the death or bankruptcy, death, or bankruptcy, death, or change. bankruptcy of any partner.

(II) A partnership may, at the option of the other partners, be dissolved if any partner suffers his share of the partnership property

to be charged under this Act for his separate debt.

34. A partnership is in every case dissolved by the happening Dissolution by of any event which makes it unlawful for the business of the firm to illegality of partner-be carried on, or for the members of the firm to carry it on in partnership.

35. On application by a partner the Court may decree a pissolution by the dissolution of the partnership in any of the following cases:

(a) When a partner has been declared in accordance with law to be of unsound mind and incapable of managing his affairs, or is shown to the satisfaction of the Court to be of permanently unsound mind, in either of which cases the application may be made as well on behalf of that partner by his committee or next friend or person having title to intervene as by any other partner.

(b) When a partner, other than the partner suing, becomes in any other way permanently incapable of performing his part of the partnership contract.

(c) When a partner, other than the partner suing, has been guilty of such conduct as, in the opinion of the Court, regard being had to the nature of the business, is calculated to prejudicially affect the carrying on of the business.

(d) When a partner, other than the party suing, wilfully or persistently commits a breach of the partnership agreement, or otherwise so conducts himself in matters relating to the partnership business that it is not reasonably practicable for the other partner or partners to carry on the business in partnership with him.

(e) When the business of the partnership can only be carried on

at a loss.

(f) Whenever in any case circumstances have arisen which, in the opinion of the Court, render it just and equitable that the partnership be dissolved.

36. (1) When a person deals with a firm after a change in its Rights of persons constitution, he is entitled to treat all apparent members of the old dealing with firm firm as still being members of the firm until he has notice of the members of firm. change.

37.

(II) An advertisement in the Gazette and in at least one newspaper circulating in Sydney and one newspaper circulating in the district in which the firm carries on business shall be notice as to persons who had not dealings with the firm before the date of the

dissolution or change so advertised.

(III) The estate of a partner who dies, or who becomes bankrupt, or of a partner who, not having been known to the person dealing with the firm to be a partner, retires from the firm, is not liable for partnership debts contracted after the date of the death, bankruptcy, or retirement respectively.

Right of partners to notify dissolution.

37. On the dissolution of a partnership or retirement of a partner any partner may publicly notify the same, and may require the other partner or partners to concur for that purpose in all necessary and proper acts, if any, which cannot be done without his or their concurrence.

Continuing authority of partners for pur-

38. After the dissolution of a partnership the authority of each of partners for purposes of winding-up, partner to bind the firm, and the other rights and obligations of the partners continue, notwithstanding the dissolution, so far as may be necessary to wind up the affairs of the partnership, and to complete transactions begun but unfinished at the time of the dissolution, but not otherwise: Provided that the firm is in no case bound by the acts of a partner who has become bankrupt; but this proviso does not effect the liability of any person who has, after the bankruptcy, represented himself or knowingly suffered himself to be represented as a partner of the bankrupt.

Rights of partners to application of

39. On the dissolution of a partnership every partner is entitled, application of partnership property. as against the other partners in the firm, and all persons claiming through them in respect of their interests as partners, to have the property of the partnership applied in payment of the debts and liabilities of the firm, and to have the surplus assets after such payment applied in payment of what may be due to the partners respectively after deducting what may be due from them as partners to the firm; and for that purpose any partner or his representatives may, on the termination of the partnership, apply to the Court to wind up the business and affairs of the firm.

Apportionment of premium when partnership prematurely dissolved.

- 40. Where one partner has paid a premium to another on entering into a partnership for a fixed term, and the partnership is dissolved before the expiration of that term otherwise than by the death of a partner, the Court may order the repayment of the premium, or of such part as it thinks just, having regard to the terms of the partnership contract, and to the length of time during which the partnership as continued; unless—
  - (a) the dissolution is, in the judgement of the Court, wholly or chiefly due to the misconduct of the partner who paid the premium, or
  - (b) the partnership has been dissolved by an agreement containing no provision for a return of any part of the premium.

partnership dissolved for fraud or misrepresentation.

- 41. Where a partnership contract is rescinded on the ground of the fraud or misrepresentation of one of the parties thereto, the party entitled to rescind is, without prejudice to any other right, entitled-
  - (a) to a lien on, or right of retention of, the surplus of the partnership assets, after satisfying the partnership liabilities, for any sum of money paid by him for the purchase of a share in the partnership and for any capital contributed by him; and is
  - (b) to stand in the place of the creditors of the firm for any payments made by him in respect of the partnership liabilities; and
  - (c) to be indemnified by the person guilty of the fraud or making the representation against all the debts and liabilities of the

Right of outgoing cases to share profits made after dissolution.

42. (1) Where any member of a firm has died, or otherwise ceased to be a partner, and the surviving and continuing partners carry on the business of the firm with its capital or assets without any final settlement of accounts as between the firm and the outgoing partner, or his estate, then, in the absence of any agreement to the contrary, the outgoing partner or his estate is entitled, at the option of himself

or his representatives, to such share of the profits made since the dissolution as the Court may find to be attributable to the use of his share of the partnership assets, or to interest at the rate of six per centum per annum on the amount of his share of the partnership assets.

(11) Provided that where, by the partnership contract, an option is given to surviving or continuing partners to purchase the interest of a deceased or outgoing partner, and that option is duly exercised, the estate of the deceased partner, or the outgoing partner or his estate, as the case may be, is not entitled to any further or other share of profits; but if any partner assuming to act in exercise of the option does not in all material respects comply with the terms thereof, he is liable to account under the foregoing provisions of this section.

43. Subject to any agreement between the partners, the amount Retiring or deceased due from surviving or continuing partners to an outgoing partner, or partner a debt. the representatives of a deceased partner, in respect of the outgoing or deceased partner's share, is a debt accruing at the date of the dissolution or death.

44. In settling accounts between the partners after a dissolution Rule for distribution of partnership, the following rules shall, subject to any agreement, be of assets on final settlement of observed,-

(a) Losses, including losses and deficiencies of capital, shall be paid first out of profits, next out of capital, and lastly, if necessary, by the partners individually in the proportion in which they were entitled to share profits.

(b) The assets of the firm, including the sums, if any, contributed by the partners to make up losses or deficiencies of capital, shall be applied in the following manner and order :-

1. In paying the debts and liabilities of the firm to persons who are not partners therein.

2. In paying to each partner ratably what is due by the firm ' to him for advances as distinguished from capital.

3. In paying to each partner ratably what is due from the firm to him in respect of capital.

4. The ultimate residue, if any, shall be divided among the partners in the proportion in which profits are divisible.

#### Supplemental.

45. In this Act unless the contrary intention appears— Definition of "Court" The expression "Court" includes every Court and Judge having and business. jurisdiction in the case.

The expression "business" includes every trade, occupation, or profession.

46. The rules of equity and of common law applicable to Saving for rules of partnership shall continue in force except so far as they are inconsistent equity and common law with the express provisons of this Act.

47. The Act thirtieth Victoria number fourteen is hereby Repeal of 30 Vic. No. 14. repealed.

48. This Act may be cited as the "Partnership Act, 1892." Short title.

In the name and on the behalf of Her Majesty I assent to this Act.

JERSEY.

Government House, 20th February, 1892.

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