



# Explosives Act 1875

## 1875 CHAPTER 17

### PART III

#### ADMINISTRATION OF LAW

##### *Government Supervision*

##### *Inspection*

#### **53 Appointment of Government inspectors**

The Secretary of State may from time to time by order appoint any fit persons to be inspectors for the purposes of this Act, and assign them their duties, and award them such salaries as the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury may approve, and remove such inspectors, and any such inspector is referred to in this Act as a Government inspector.

Every order appointing an inspector shall be published in the London Gazette.

#### **54 Disqualification of persons as inspectors**

Any person who practises or acts, or is a partner with any person who practises or acts, as a manufacturer, storer, carrier, importer or exporter of or trader or dealer in an explosive, or holds any patent connected with an explosive, or is otherwise directly or indirectly engaged or interested in any such manufacture, storage, conveyance, importation, exportation, trade, dealing, or patent, shall not act as an inspector under this Act.

#### **55 Powers of Government inspectors**

A Government inspector shall have power to make such examination and inquiry as may be necessary to ascertain whether this Act is complied with, and for that purpose,

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- (1) He may enter, inspect, and examine any factory, magazine, or store of any explosive, and every part thereof, at all times by day and night, but so as not to unnecessarily impede or obstruct the work in such factory, magazine, or store, and may make inquiries as to the observance of this Act and all matters and things relating to the safety of the public or of the persons employed in or about such factory, magazine, or store; and
- (2) He may enter, inspect, and examine any premises registered under this Act, and every part thereof, in which any explosive is kept, or is reasonably supposed by him to be kept, at all reasonable times by day; and
- (3) He may require the occupier of any factory, magazine, store, or premises which he is entitled, under this section, to enter, or a person employed by such occupier therein, to give him samples of any explosive or ingredients of an explosive therein, or of any substance therein, the keeping of which is restricted or regulated by this Act, or of any substance therein which the inspector believes to be an explosive, or such ingredients or substance.

The occupier of every such factory, magazine, store, and registered premises, his agents and servants, shall furnish the means required by the inspector as necessary for every such entry, inspection, examination, and inquiry.

Any person who fails to permit a Government inspector to enter, inspect, examine, or make inquiries in pursuance of this section, or to comply with any requisition of such inspector in pursuance of this section, or who in any manner obstructs such inspector in the execution of his duties under this Act, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding one hundred pounds for each offence.

## **56 Notice by Government inspector to remedy dangerous practices, &c, and penalty for non-compliance. "**

If in any matter (which is not provided for by any express provision of this Act) an inspector find any factory, magazine, or store for an explosive, or any part thereof, or any thing or practice therein or connected therewith, to be unnecessarily dangerous or defective, so as in his opinion to tend to endanger the public safety or the bodily safety of any person, such inspector may require the occupier of such factory, magazine, or store to remedy the same. Where the occupier objects to comply with the requisition he may require the matter to be referred to arbitration in manner provided by this Act.

No person shall be precluded by any contract from doing such acts as may be necessary to comply with a requisition or award under this section; and no person shall be liable under any contract to any penalty or forfeiture for doing those acts if he gave notice of such contract to the inspector at or before the time at which the inspector made the requisition or to the arbitrators before the award was made.

If the occupier fail to comply with the requisition or award within twenty days after the expiration of the time for requiring the matter to be referred to arbitration if there is no reference to arbitration, or if there is such a reference after the date of the award, he shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds for every day during which he so fails to comply.

Provided that the court, if satisfied that the occupier has taken active measures for complying with the requisition or award, but has not, with reasonable diligence, been able to complete the works, may adjourn any proceedings taken before them for

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punishing such failure, and if the works are completed within a reasonable time in the opinion of the court, no penalty shall be inflicted.

**57 Annual report of Government inspectors proceedings**

A report of the proceedings under this Act shall be made annually to the Secretary of State, by such inspectors and in such manner and form as may be directed by him, and shall be laid before both Houses of Parliament.

**58 Inspection by railway inspectors or inspectors of Board of Trade**

The Board of Trade may from time to time, by order, direct—

- (a) Any person acting under the Board as an inspector of railways to inquire into the observance of this Act by any railway company or canal company, and generally to act with respect to any railway or canal as an inspector under this Act; or
- (b) Any person acting under the Board as an inspector or otherwise for the purposes of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1854, or the Acts amending the same, to inquire into the observance of this Act in any harbour or in the case of any ship, and generally to act in such harbour and with respect to ships as an inspector under this Act.

The Board of Trade may revoke any such order; and each such inspector shall, while such order is in force, have for that purpose the same powers and authorities as he has under the Acts in pursuance of which he was originally appointed inspector, and also the powers and authorities of a Government inspector under this Act.

**59 Application of 35 & 36 Vict. c. 76. and c. 77. to magazines used for mines**

Where a magazine or store is established for the purpose of any mine subject to the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1872, or the Metalliferous Mines Regulation Act, 1872, by the owner (as defined by such Act) of the mine, the Secretary of State may from time to time by order direct an inspector under either of those Acts to act with respect to such magazine or store as a Government inspector under this Act, and may revoke any such order; and such inspector shall, while such order is in force, have for that purpose the same powers and authorities as he has under the said Acts, and also the powers and authorities of a Government inspector under this Act.

**60 License and special rules certified by Government inspector to be evidence**

A copy of any license confirmed by the Secretary of State under this Act, and of any special rules under this Act, certified by a Government inspector, shall be evidence of such license and special rules respectively, and of the fact of such license having been duly granted and confirmed and such special rules duly established under this Act.

**61 Keeping and carriage of samples by Government inspector**

A Government inspector, and any other person authorised by him for the purpose, may keep and convey any sample taken for the purposes of this Act by or by authority of such inspector, so that the amount of it do not exceed what is reasonably necessary for the purpose of enabling such inspector to perform his duties under this Act, and be kept and carried with all due precautions to prevent accident; and such inspector or

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person shall not be liable to any penalty, punishment, or forfeiture under this or any other Act for keeping or conveying such sample.

## **62 Salaries of Government inspectors and expenses of Act**

The salaries of the Government inspectors, and the expenses incurred by the Secretary of State or the Government inspectors in carrying this Act into execution, shall be defrayed out of moneys provided by Parliament.

### *Accidents*

## **63 Notice to be given of accidents connected with explosive**

Whenever there occurs any accident by explosion or by fire in or about or in connexion with any factory, magazine, or store, or any accident by explosion or by fire causing loss of life or personal injury in or about or in connexion with any registered premises, the occupier of such factory, magazine, store, or premises shall forthwith send or cause to be sent notice of such accident and of the loss of life or personal injury (if any) occasioned thereby to the Secretary of State. A notice of any accident of which notice is sent in pursuance of this section to a Government inspector need not be sent to any inspector or sub-inspector of factories or any inspector of mines.

Where in, about, or in connexion with any carriage, ship, or boat, either conveying an explosive, or on or from which an explosive is being loaded or unloaded, there occurs any accident by explosion or by fire causing loss of life or personal injury, or if the amount of explosive conveyed or being so loaded or unloaded exceeds in the case of gunpowder half a ton, and in the case of any other explosive the prescribed amount, any accident by explosion or by fire, the owner or master of such carriage, ship, or boat, and the owner of the explosive conveyed therein or being loaded or unloaded therefrom, or one of them, shall forthwith send or cause to be sent notice of such accident, and of the loss of life or personal injury, if any, occasioned thereby, to the Secretary of State.

Every such occupier, owner, or master as aforesaid who fails to comply with this section shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds.

## **64 Reconstruction of buildings destroyed by accident**

Where an accident by explosion or fire has occurred in, and wholly or partly destroyed a factory magazine, or any magazine or store, the factory magazine, magazine, or store shall not be reconstructed, and any further supply of an explosive shall not be put therein, except with the permission of the Secretary of State; and any explosive put therein in contravention of this section shall be deemed to be kept in an unauthorised place, and the offence may be punished accordingly:

Provided, that this enactment shall not prevent the reconstruction of a factory magazine in any lawfully existing factory upon such site in the factory, and with such precautions as may seem reasonable to the Secretary of State, due regard being had to the working of the factory as well as to the safety of the public and of the persons employed therein.

Where an accident by explosion or fire in a factory has wholly or partly destroyed any building of such factory as to which a Government inspector has previously to the accident sent to the occupier a notice that the building is unduly near to some building

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or work outside the factory, such building shall be reconstructed only upon such site in the factory and with such precautions as may seem reasonable to the Secretary of State, due regard being had to the working of the factory as well as to the safety of the public and of the persons employed therein.

Where an accident by explosion or by fire in a factory has wholly or partly destroyed two or more buildings in such factory, not more than one of such buildings shall be reconstructed except with the permission of the Secretary of State; provided that this enactment shall not apply to any buildings in a lawfully existing factory, if either both or all such buildings are incorporating mills, or if as regards any other buildings a Government inspector has not previously to the accident sent to the occupier a notice that such buildings are unduly near to each other.

Where a building is constructed on a different site in pursuance of this section, the Secretary of State shall cause the necessary alterations to be made in the license, and such alterations shall be deemed to be part of the license.

The reconstruction of any building in contravention of this section shall be deemed to be a breach of the terms of the license, and shall be punished accordingly.

## **65 Provisions as to coroners inquests on deaths from accidents connected with explosives**

With respect to coroners inquests on the bodies of persons whose death may have been caused by the explosion of any explosive or by any accident in connexion with an explosive, the following provisions shall have effect:

- (1) Where a coroner holds an inquest upon a body of any person whose death may have been caused by any accident of which notice is required by this Act to be given to the Secretary of State, or by the explosion of any explosive, the coroner shall adjourn such inquest unless a Government inspector, or some person on behalf of the Secretary of State, is present to watch the proceedings:
- (2) The coroner, at least four days before holding the adjourned inquest, shall send to the Secretary of State notice in writing of the time and place of holding the adjourned inquest:
- (3) The coroner, before the adjournment, may take evidence to identify the body, and may order the interment thereof:
- (4) If an explosion or accident has not occasioned the death of more than one person, and the coroner has sent to the Secretary of State notice of the time and place of holding the inquest not less than forty-eight hours before the time of holding the same, it shall not be imperative on him to adjourn such inquest in pursuance of this section, if the majority of the jury think it unnecessary so to adjourn:
- (5) A Government inspector or person employed on behalf of the Secretary of State shall be at liberty at any such inquest to examine any witness, subject nevertheless to the order of the coroner on points of law :
- (6) Where evidence is given at an inquest at which no Government inspector or person employed on behalf of the Secretary of State is present, of any neglect as having caused or contributed to the explosion or accident, or of any defect in or about or in connexion with any factory, magazine, store, or registered premises, or any carriage, ship, or boat carrying an explosive, appearing to the coroner or jury to require a remedy, the coroner shall send to the Secretary of State notice in writing of such neglect or defect.

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## 66 Inquiry into accidents and formal investigation in serious cases

The Secretary of State may direct an inquiry to be made by a Government inspector into the cause of any accident which is caused by an explosion or fire either in connexion with any explosive, or of which notice is required by this Act to be given to the Secretary of State, and where it appears to the Secretary of State, either before or after the commencement of any such inquiry, that a more formal investigation of the accident, and of the causes thereof, and of the circumstances attending the same, is expedient, the Secretary of State may by order direct such investigation to be held, and with respect to such inquiry and investigation the following provisions, shall have effect:

- (1) The Secretary of State may, by the same or any subsequent order, appoint any person or persons possessing legal or special knowledge- to assist the Government inspector in holding the formal investigation, or may direct the county court judge, stipendiary magistrate, metropolitan police magistrate, or other person or persons named in the same or any subsequent order, to hold the same with the assistance of a Government inspector or any other assessor or assessors named in the order:
- (2) The persons holding any such formal investigation (in this section referred to as the court) shall hold the same in open court in such manner and under such conditions as they may think most effectual for ascertaining the causes and circumstances of the accident, and enabling them to make the report in this section mentioned:
- (3) The court shall have for the purpose of such investigation all the powers of a court of summary jurisdiction when acting court in hearing informations for offences against this Act, and all the powers of a Government inspector under this Act, and in addition the following powers; namely,
  - (a) They may enter and inspect any place or building the entry or inspection whereof appears to them requisite for the said purpose :
  - (b) They may by summons under their hands require the attendance of all such persons as they think fit to call before them and examine for the said purpose, and may for such purpose require answers or returns to such inquiries as they think fit to make :
  - (c) They may require the production of all books, papers and documents which they consider important for the said purpose :
  - (d) They may administer an oath, and require any person examined to make and sign a declaration of the truth of the statements made by him in his examination:
  - (e) Persons attending as witnesses before the court shall be allowed such expenses as would be allowed to witnesses attending before a court of record; and in case of dispute as to the amount to be allowed, the same shall be referred by the court to a master of one of the superior courts, who, on request under the hands of the members of the court, shall ascertain and certify the proper amount of such expenses:
- (4) The Government inspector making an inquiry into any accident and the court holding an investigation of any accident under this section shall make a report to the Secretary of State, stating the causes of the accident and all the circumstances attending the same, and any observations thereon or on the evidence or on any matters arising out of the inquiry or investigation which he or they think right to make to the Secretary of State, and the Secretary of State shall cause every such report to be made public in such manner as he thinks expedient:

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- (5) All expenses incurred in and about an inquiry or investigation under this section shall be deemed to be part of the expenses of the Secretary of State in carrying this Act into execution: and
- (6) Any person who without reasonable excuse (proof whereof shall lie on him) either fails, after having had the expenses (if any) to which he is entitled tendered to him, to comply with any summons or requisition of a court holding an investigation under this Act, or prevents or impedes such court in the execution of their duty, shall for every, such offence incur a penalty not exceeding ten pounds, and in the case of a failure to comply with a requisition for making any return or producing any document, not exceeding ten pounds during every day that such failure continues.

### *Local Supervision*

#### *Definition and Powers of Local Authority*

#### **67 Definition of local authority**

The local authority, for the purposes of this Act, shall be—

- (1) In the city of London, except as hereafter in this section mentioned, the court of the Lord Mayor and aldermen of the said city; and
- (2) In the metropolis, (that is, in places for the time being within the jurisdiction of the Metropolitan Board of Works under the Metropolitan Management Act, 1855,) except the city of London, and except as hereafter in this section mentioned, the Metropolitan Board of Works; and
- (3) In any borough in England which is not assessed to the county rate of any county by the justices of such county, except as hereafter in this section mentioned, the mayor, aldermen, and burgesses acting by the council; and
- (4) In any harbour within the jurisdiction of a harbour authority, whether situate or not within the jurisdiction of any local authority before in this section mentioned, the harbour authority, to the exclusion of any other local authority; and
- (5) In any place in which there is no local authority as before in this section defined, the justices in petty sessions assembled.

#### **68 Power of certain local bodies to become a local authority**

The council of any borough which is assessed to the county rate of any county by the justices of such county and the commissioners of any improvement district may by order of a Secretary of State made upon the application of such council or commissioners, and published in the London Gazette, be declared to be a local authority for the purposes of this Act, and thereupon shall become a local authority accordingly for such part of their borough or district as is not included in any harbour, to the exclusion of the justices in petty sessions.

#### **69 Duty of local authority and power of officer**

It shall be the duty of every local authority to carry into effect within their jurisdiction the powers vested in them under this Act.

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Any officer authorised by the local authority may, on producing, if demanded, either a copy of his authority purporting to be certified by the clerk or some member of the local authority, or some other sufficient evidence of his authority, require the occupier of any store (not being subject to the inspection under this Act of any inspector of mines) or any registered premises, or any small firework factory, to show him every or any place and all or any of the receptacles in which any explosive or ingredient of an explosive or any substance the keeping of which is restricted or regulated by this Act, that is in his possession is kept, and to give him samples of such explosive, ingredient, or substance, or of any substance which the officer believes to be an explosive or such ingredient or substance.

Any occupier of a store or registered premises or a small firework factory who refuses to comply with any such requisition of an officer of the local authority, or to give him such assistance as he may require for the purpose of this section, or who wilfully obstructs the local authority, or any officer of the local authority, in the execution of this Act, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds.

## **70 Expenses of local authority**

All expenses incurred by any local authority in carrying into effect the execution of this Act, including the salary and expenses of any officer directed by them to act under this Act, shall be paid out of the local rate. The local rate shall for the purposes of this Act mean as follows; that is to say,

In the city of London the consolidated rate;

In the metropolis (exclusive of the city of London) the consolidated rate as levied in the metropolis exclusive of the city of London, and without any demand on such city;

In a borough the borough fund or borough rate;

In a harbour any moneys, fund, or rate applicable or leviable by the harbour authority for any harbour purposes;

In any place where the justices in petty sessions are the local authority the county rate; and

In an improvement district any fund, moneys, or rate applicable or leviable by the Improvement Commissioners for any purposes of improvement within their district;

And the local rate or any increase of the local rate may notwithstanding any limitation in any Act be levied for the purposes of this Act.

*Power of Local Authority to provide Carriages and Magazines*

## **71 Undertaking of carriage by harbour authority and canal company**

Every harbour authority and canal company shall, in addition to any other powers they may have for the like purpose, have power to provide carriages, ships, and boats for the conveyance, loading, or unloading of an explosive within the jurisdiction of such authority or company, and may charge a reasonable sum fixed by a byelaw under this Act for the use of such carriage, ship, or boat.



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## **72 Provision of magazines by local authority**

Where any local authority other than justices in petty sessions satisfy the Secretary of State that the erection of a magazine by such authority, either within or without their jurisdiction, for the keeping of any explosive, would conduce to the safety of the public within their jurisdiction, and would not be injurious to any harbour or urban sanitary district out of their jurisdiction, the Secretary of State may grant a license under this Act for such magazine.

Where the magazine is without the jurisdiction of the local authority erecting the same, the assent of the local authority within whose jurisdiction the site is situate to such site shall be applied for in manner provided by this Act, and when the magazine is within the said jurisdiction notice of the application to the Secretary of State for the license shall be given in like manner as notice of the intention to apply for the assent of the local authority to a site is required by this Act to be given.

The local authority may, for the purpose of any such license, acquire any land or right over land, or appropriate any land or right belonging to them, and acquire or build a magazine, and may maintain and manage such magazine, and may charge for the use by persons of any such magazine such reasonable sums as they may from time to time., with the approval of the Secretary of State,

Such sums shall be applied in aid of the local rate, and the expenses incurred for the purposes of this section may be defrayed out of the local rate, and the local authority may borrow on the security of the local rate the amount required for the purpose of acquiring any land or right over land, or acquiring or building a magazine in pursuance of this section.

Any such loan shall be made with the approval, in the case of a council, of the Treasury, and in the case of Improvement Commissioners, of the Local Government Board, and in the case of a harbour authority, of the Board of Trade.

For the purpose of such borrowing the clauses of " The Commissioners Clauses Act, 1847," with respect to the mortgages to be executed by the Commissioners, shall be incorporated with this Act, and in the construction of those clauses for the purpose of this Act, this Act shall be deemed to be the special Act, and the local authority which is borrowing shall be deemed to be the Commissioners.

For the purpose of the purchase of any land or right over land for the purpose of this section " The Lands Clauses Consolidation " Act, 1845," and the Acts amending the same (except so much as relates to the purchase of land otherwise than by agreement), shall be incorporated with this section, and in construing those Acts for the purposes of this section the special Act shall be construed to mean this Act, and the promoters of the undertaking shall be construed to mean the local authority, and land shall be construed to include any right over land.

Where any offence under this Act is committed in or about any magazine erected in pursuance of this section, such offence may be prosecuted and tried and the penalty and forfeiture therefor recovered either in the county or place in which the magazine is situate, or in any adjoining county or place.

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### *General Power of Search*

#### **73 Search for explosive when in place in contravention of this Act, or offence being committed with respect to it**

Where any of the following officers,—namely, any Government inspector, or any constable or any officer of the local authority, if such constable or officer is specially authorised either (a) by a warrant of a justice (which warrant such justice may grant upon reasonable ground being assigned on oath), or (b) (where it appears to a superintendent or other officer of police of equal or superior rank, or to a Government inspector, that the case is one of emergency and that the delay in obtaining a warrant would be likely to endanger life,) by a written order from such superintendent, officer, or inspector,—has reasonable cause to believe that any offence has been or is being committed with respect to an explosive in any place (whether a building or not, or a carriage, boat, or ship), or that any explosive is in any such place in contravention of this Act, or that the provisions of this Act are not duly observed in any such place, such officer may, on producing, if demanded, in the case of a Government inspector a copy of his appointment, and in the case of any other officer his authority, enter at any time, and if needs be by force, and as well on Sunday as on other days, the said place, and every part thereof, and examine the same, and search for explosives therein, and take samples of any explosive and ingredient of an explosive therein, and any substance reasonably supposed to be an explosive, or such ingredient which may be found therein.

Any person who, by himself or by others, fails to admit into any place occupied by or under the control of such person any officer demanding to enter in pursuance of this section, or in any way obstructs such officer in the execution of his duty under this section, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding fifty pounds, and shall also be liable to forfeit all explosives, and ingredients thereof, which are at the time of the offence in his possession or under his control at the said place.

Where a constable or officer of the local authority specially authorised by written authority other than a warrant of a justice of the peace, enters and searches as above provided, a special report in writing of every act done by such constable or officer in pursuance of that authority, and of the grounds on which it is done, shall be forthwith sent by the person by whom or under whose authority it was done to the Secretary of State.

#### **74 Seizure and detention of explosives liable to forfeiture**

Where any of the following officers, namely, any Government inspector, or any constable, or any officer of the local authority, has reasonable cause to believe that any explosive or ingredient of an explosive or substance found by him is liable to be forfeited under this Act, he may seize and detain the same until some court of summary jurisdiction has determined whether the same is or is not so liable to be forfeited, and with respect thereto the following provisions shall have effect:

- (1) The officer seizing may either require the occupier of the place in which it was seized (whether a building or not, or a carriage, boat, or ship) to detain the same in such place or in any place under the control of such occupier, or may remove it in such manner and to such place as will in his opinion least endanger the public safety, and there detain it, and may, where the matter appears to him to be urgent and fraught with serious public danger, and he is a Government inspector, or is authorised by an order

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from a Government inspector or a justice of the peace, or from a superintendent or other officer of police of equal or superior rank, cause the same to be destroyed or otherwise rendered harmless; but before destroying or rendering harmless the same he shall take and keep a sample thereof, and shall, if required, give a portion of the sample to the person owning the explosive, or having the same under his control at the time of the seizure; and any such occupier who, by himself or by others, fails to keep the same when he is required in pursuance of this section to detain it, and any such occupier or other person who, except with the authority of the officer seizing the same, or of a Government inspector, or in case of emergency for the purpose of preventing explosion or fire, removes, alters, or in any way tampers or deals with the same while so detained, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding fifty pounds, and shall also be liable to forfeit all explosives, and ingredients thereof, which are at the time of the offence in his possession or under his control at the said place :

- (2) The proceedings before a court of summary jurisdiction for determining whether the same is or is not liable to forfeiture shall be commenced as soon as practicable after the seizure; and
- (3) The receptacles containing the same may be seized, detained, and removed in like manner as the contents thereof; and
- (4) The officer seizing the same may use for the purposes of the removal and detention thereof any ship, boat, or carriage in which the same was seized, and any tug, tender, engine, tackle, beasts, and accoutrements belonging to or drawing or provided for drawing such ship, boat, or carriage, and shall pay to the owner a reasonable compensation for such use, to be determined, in case of dispute, by a court of summary jurisdiction, and to be recovered in like manner as penalties under this Act; and
- (5) The same shall, so far as practicable, be kept and conveyed in accordance with this Act, and with all due precaution to prevent accident, but the person seizing, removing, detaining, keeping, or conveying the same shall not be liable to any penalty, punishment, or forfeiture under this or any other Act, or to any damages, for keeping or conveying the same, so that he use all such due precautions as aforesaid; and
- (6) The officer seizing the same, or dealing with the same in pursuance of this section, shall not be liable to damages or otherwise in respect of such seizure or dealing, or any act incidental to or consequential thereon, unless it is proved that he made such seizure without reasonable cause, or that he caused damage to the article seized by some wilful neglect or default.

## **75 Inspection of wharf, carriage, boat, &c. with explosives in transitu**

Any of the following officers, namely, any Government inspector under this Act, any chief officer of police, and any superior officer appointed for the purposes of this Act where the justices in petty sessions are the local authority, by the court of quarter sessions to which such justices belong, and' in the case of any other local authority by the local authority itself, may, for the purpose of ascertaining whether the provisions of this Act with respect to the conveyance, loading, unloading, and importation of an explosive are complied with, enter, inspect, and examine at any time, and as well on Sundays as on other days, the wharf, carriage, ship, or boat of any carrier or other person who conveys goods for hire, or of the occupier of any factory, magazine, or store, or of the importer of any explosive, on or in which wharf, carriage, ship, or boat he has reasonable cause to suppose an explosive to be for the purpose of or in course

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of conveyance, but so as not to unnecessarily obstruct the work or business of any such carrier, person, occupier, or importer.

Any such officer, if he find any offence being committed under this Act in any such wharf, carriage, ship, or boat, or on any public wharf, may seize and detain or remove the said carriage, ship, or boat, or the explosive, in such manner and with such precautions as appear to him to be necessary to remove any danger to the public, and may seize and detain the said explosive, as if it were liable to forfeiture.

Any officer above mentioned in this section, and any officer of police, or officer of the local authority who has reasonable cause to suppose that any offence against this Act is being committed in respect of any carriage (not being on a railway) or any boat conveying, loading, or unloading any explosive, and that the case is one of emergency, and that the delay in obtaining a warrant will be likely to endanger life, may stop, and enter, inspect, and examine, such carriage or boat, and by detention or removal thereof or otherwise take such precautions as may be reasonably necessary for removing such danger, in like manner as if such explosive were liable to forfeiture.

Every officer shall for the purpose of this section have the same powers and be in the same position as if he were authorised by a search warrant granted under this Act, and any person failing to admit or obstructing such officer shall be liable to the same penalty.

## **76 Payment for samples of explosives**

When a Government inspector, constable, or officer of the local authority in pursuance of this Act takes samples of any explosive, or ingredient, or substance, he shall pay for or tender payment for the same to such amount as he considers to be the market value thereof, and the occupier of the place in which, or the owner of the bulk from which, the sample was taken, may recover any excess of the real value over the amount so paid or tendered, and any amount so tendered, from the inspector, constable, or officer taking the sample as a debt in the county court of the district within which the sample was taken.