TRESPASSING

as of goods coming by sea, or by a freight train; the time of the arrival of which is liable to delay. On the other hand, he cannot for his own convenience, prolong the heavier liability of the carrier beyond a reasonable time. He should know when the goods may be expected to arrive. If he is not otherwise aware of it, it is the business of the consignor to inform him. His ignorance—at all events when the carrier has no means of communicating with him—cannot avail him in prolonging the liability of the carrier, as such, beyond a reasonable time.

You complain that a person is trespassing upon your land, and wish to know how you may legally deal with them. You may remove the trespasser, but in so doing you must only use such force as is absolutely necessary. You may also take an action against him and you are entitled to damages without having to prove that you have sustained actual loss by the trespassers. Speaking strictly, you cannot prosecute them, that is, you cannot take a criminal action against them, unless indeed, the trespass is accompanied by wilful injury to property such as breaking down fences or trampling growing crops. Under those circumstances, indeed, you might prosecute them, as for maliciously injured property.

The ordinary notice board declaring that "trespassers will be prosecuted" has accordingly been called "a wooden falsehood."

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