

New Zealand.



ANALYSIS.

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2. Legalization of certain marriages notwithstanding non-compliance with provisions of the Marriage Act.
3. Evidence of marriage.

1885, No. 3.

AN ACT for removing Doubts as to the Validity of certain Marriages solemnized in the Provincial Districts of Canterbury and Otago respectively. Title.
[11th July, 1885.]

WHEREAS by "The Marriage Act, 1880," provision is made for the regulation of the solemnization of marriages in New Zealand: Preamble.

And whereas a certain marriage has been solemnized at Amberley, in the Provincial District of Canterbury, by the Reverend William McGregor, a minister of the Presbyterian Church of New Zealand, and other marriages have been solemnized at Hawea Flat and at Lower Hawea, in the Provincial District of Otago, by the Reverend Charles Connor, a minister of the Presbyterian Church of Otago and Southland, and another marriage has been solemnized at Invercargill, also in the Provincial District of Otago, by the Reverend Thomas Harrington, a Baptist minister:

And whereas doubts are entertained as to the validity of the said marriages by reason of a non-compliance with the provisions of the said Act, the names of the aforesaid several ministers having been omitted from the List of Officiating Ministers, of which they were not cognizant at the time of the solemnization of such marriages respectively:

And whereas such non-compliance has not arisen in consequence of any wilful neglect or default on the part of the parties to the said marriages:

BE IT THEREFORE ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. The Short Title of this Act is "The Canterbury and Otago Marriages Act, 1885." Short Title.

2. All marriages solemnized in the Provincial District of Canterbury previously to the passing of this Act by or in the presence of the Reverend William McGregor, and all marriages solemnized in the Provincial District of Otago previously to the passing of this Act by or Legalization of certain marriages notwithstanding non-compliance with provisions of the Marriage Act.

in the presence of the Reverend Charles Connor and the Reverend Thomas Harrington respectively, shall, notwithstanding any non-compliance with the provisions of "The Marriage Act, 1880," be held to be as valid as if all the formalities required by any of the provisions of the said Act had been duly observed and complied with.

But nothing herein contained shall legalize any marriage in respect to which a lawful impediment existed at the time of such marriage.

Evidence of marriage.

3. Where, in the register of any marriage registered in the manner required by "The Marriage Act, 1880," such marriage purports to have been solemnized in the Provincial District of Canterbury by or in the presence of the said Reverend William McGregor as the officiating minister, or purports to have been solemnized in the Provincial District of Otago by or in the presence of the said Reverend Charles Connor or of the said Thomas Harrington respectively, as officiating minister, the production of such register, or of any duly certified copy thereof, or any extract therefrom, shall be admitted as evidence of such marriage, notwithstanding that the name of the said Reverend William McGregor, or of the said Reverend Charles Connor, or of the said Thomas Harrington, respectively, was not, at the time of the solemnization of such marriages respectively, entered on the List of Officiating Ministers, as required by "The Marriage Act, 1880;" and such register and certified copy thereof or extract therefrom shall be of the like force and effect as such register, copy, or extract would have been if all the formalities required by the said Act had, in respect of the said marriage, been complied with.