

NEW ZEALAND.

ANNO VICESIMO QUARTO ET VICESIMO QUINTO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

N^o. 1.

ANALYSIS.

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| Title. | | 4. Penalty for refusing to appear as a witness. |
| Preamble. | | 5. Or to produce Books &c. |
| 1. Short Title. | | 6. Witnesses expenses. |
| 2. Commissioner may summon witnesses. | | 7. False evidence perjury. |
| 3. And require production of Books &c. | | Schedule. |

AN ACT to enable certain Commissioners appointed under the Seal of the Colony to examine Witnesses on Oath. Title.
[3rd July 1861.]

WHEREAS the Commissions specified in the Schedule hereunto annexed have been appointed by the Governor and it is expedient that certain powers should be given to the several Commissioners to enable them efficiently to discharge their duties Preamble.

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

I. The Short Title of this Act shall be "The Commissioners Powers Act 1861." Short Title.

II. It shall be lawful for the Commissioner named in each of the said Commissions and also for any Commissioner to be hereafter appointed in like manner for the same purpose by summons under his hand to require the attendance of Witnesses at any sitting of such Commission and to take evidence on Oath which Oath every such Commissioner is hereby authorised to administer. Commissioner may summon witnesses.

III. It shall also be lawful for any such Commissioner by Summons under his hand to require the production at any such sitting of all books writings and documents of which any Court of Law might compel the production. And require production of Books &c.

IV. Every person who without sufficient cause shall refuse or neglect to appear according to the exigency of the summons requiring his attendance or who being present shall refuse to be Penalty for refusing to appear as a witness.

Commissioners Powers.

sworn or to give evidence shall forfeit and pay for every such default any sum not exceeding one hundred pounds to be recovered in a summary way before a Resident Magistrate or any two Justices of the Peace.

Or to produce Books
&c.

V. Every person who without sufficient cause shall neglect or refuse to produce any books writings or documents according to the exigency of the summons requiring the production of the same shall forfeit and pay for every such default any sum not exceeding one hundred pounds to be recovered in a summary way before a Resident Magistrate or any two Justices of the Peace.

Witnesses expenses.

VI. All witnesses attending in pursuance of the Summons of any such Commissioner other than the party prosecuting the claim shall be entitled to expenses according to the scale allowed by the Rules of the Supreme Court in Civil Cases.

False evidence per-
jury.

VII. Every person wilfully and corruptly giving false evidence upon Oath before any such Commission shall be deemed guilty of perjury and may on conviction be sentenced to penal servitude for any term not exceeding four years or imprisonment with or without hard labour for any term not exceeding two years.

SCHEDULE.

28 May 1861.—Commission under the Public Seal of the Colony to Alexander James Johnston Esquire to investigate certain Native claims to Land at Taranaki.

20 June 1861.—Commission under the Public Seal of the Colony to Henry Sewell Esquire intituled "The Taranaki Relief Commission."