

Maori Prisoners' Trials.

Title.
 Preamble.
 1. Short Title.
 2. Governor may fix date of trial.

3. Governor may alter place of trial. Date of trial to be set forth in Order of Council.
 4. No trial to be delayed longer than six months.

A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to enable the Governor in Council to fix the Date and Place of Trial of certain Maori Prisoners. Title.

WHEREAS a large number of aboriginal natives have been duly committed for trial at the Supreme Court at Wellington, and are now confined in the Mount Cook Gaol at Wellington aforesaid: Preamble.
 And whereas the said Natives have been so committed for offences
 5 against the public peace and for other offences dangerous to the person of the country: And whereas other Natives may hereafter be committed for the like offences: And whereas it is desirable that convenient arrangements should be made for the trial of such offenders:

10 **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 Maori Prisoners' Trials Act, 1879." Short Title.

15 **2.** The Governor may, by Order in Council, fix the date of trial of the said persons so committed for trial as aforesaid, and may declare what number of them shall be tried at any one sitting of the said Supreme Court, and any such order may alter or vary as occasion shall require. Governor may fix date of trial.

20 **3.** If it shall be made to appear to the Governor in Council that, for any reason, it is expedient that the place of trial of any of the said prisoners shall be altered, then, notwithstanding any such committal as aforesaid, the Governor in Council may order that such prisoners, or any of them, shall be tried in the Supreme Court at any other place
 25 in the colony where the Supreme Court sits. Governor may alter place of trial.

The date and place of trial shall be set forth in the Order in Council, and the Supreme Court at which any trial shall be ordered to take place under this Act, and every Judge of such Court, shall have the same powers, jurisdiction, and authority in respect of any such
 30 person or the trial to be had under this Act, as if originally such person had been committed for trial at the date and place named in the Order in Council. Date of trial to be set forth in Order of Council.

4. The trial of any of such Maori prisoners shall not be delayed by virtue of the powers contained in this Act for a longer period than
 35 six months from the date of the passing of this Act. No trial to be delayed longer than six months.