

New Zealand.

ANNO VICESIMO OCTAVO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

No. —

ANALYSIS.

Title.
Preamble.
1. Short title.

2. Superintendent authorised to stamp debentures.
3. Coupons so stamped valid.
4. Penalties for forging.

A BILL INTITLED

AN ACT to Authorise the Authentication of Provincial Coupons by means of Stamps.

WHEREAS by certain Acts passed by various Provincial Legislatures in the Colony of New Zealand the Superintendents of various Provinces have been authorized to raise money by loan upon the security of the Revenue of such Provinces and for the money so to be raised to issue Debentures with interest coupons attached in the forms prescribed by the said several Acts: And whereas the forms of such coupons purport to require the signature of the Superintendent to each of such coupons: And whereas it is inconvenient to require such signature and it is desirable to provide other means for authenticating such coupons and to secure the same against forgery:

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 Provincial Coupons Act 1864.”

II. It shall be lawful for the Superintendent of any Province who is or may hereafter be authorized by the Provincial Legislature of such Province to issue Debentures upon the security of the Provincial revenue of such Province or upon the security of any property or undertaking vested in him as such Superintendent to authenticate the coupons attached or to be attached to any such Debentures by stamping or causing the same to be stamped with his name or with a *fac simile* of his signature in lieu of signing such coupons with his own hand.

III. All coupons so authenticated whether issued before or after the passing of this Act shall be as valid and effectual as if the same had been signed by such Superintendent with his own hand.

IV. Whoever shall forge or counterfeit or shall utter knowing the same to be forged or counterfeited any coupon bearing any such stamp or impression or *fac simile* or any forged or counterfeited stamp or impression or *fac simile* made or apparently intended to resemble the stamp or impression or *fac simile* aforesaid or shall forge or utter knowing the same to be forged or uttered any document or instrument having any such stamp or impression or *fac simile* thereon or affixed thereto shall be guilty of felony and being convicted thereof shall be liable at the discretion of the Court to be kept in penal servitude for life or for any term not less than three years or to be imprisoned for any term not exceeding two years with or without hard labour and with or without solitary confinement.