

Post Office Acts Amendment.

A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to amend the New Zealand Post Office Acts. Title.

BE IT 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 shall be "The New Zealand Post Office Acts Amendment Act 1871." Short Title.

2. It shall be lawful for any Postmaster or other officer of the Post Office and he is hereby required to transmit to the office of the Postmaster-General without delay every foreign letter packet or newspaper addressed to any person in New Zealand containing or suspected to contain any article for the time being liable to duties of Customs and every foreign letter packet or newspaper addressed to any person at any place outside of New Zealand containing or suspected to contain any gold or other article for the time being liable to duty on the exportation thereof and every inland or foreign letter packet or newspaper posted or containing or suspected to contain any enclosure in fraud or violation of "The New Zealand Post Office Act 1858" or any Act or Acts amending the same or any regulations made thereunder. Letters containing articles liable to duties on import or export to be sent to office of Postmaster-General.

3. On receipt at the office of the Postmaster-General of any letter packet or newspaper hereinbefore required to be transmitted to such office such letter packet or newspaper if it contains or be suspected to contain any article for the time being liable to duties of Customs or any gold or other article for the time being liable to export duty or be suspected to have been posted or to contain any enclosure in fraud or violation of any Act relating to the Customs or of "The New Zealand Post Office Act 1858" or of any regulation or order made under the authority of the said Act may be opened in the said last-mentioned office in the manner hereinafter mentioned and every letter packet and newspaper which shall be opened under the provisions of this Act shall be opened by not less than two officers of the Post Office specially nominated for that purpose by the Postmaster-General and every such officer shall before he shall enter upon his duties in this respect make and subscribe before a Justice a declaration Such letters and enclosures how to be dealt with.

in the form set forth in the Schedule to this Act and if any such officer shall act contrary to such declaration he shall be guilty of a misdemeanour and punished accordingly and every letter and packet opened under the provisions of this Act and every enclosure therein if any shall be kept dealt with and disposed of in the manner and subject to the provisions contained in the third section of "The New Zealand Post Office Act Amendment Act 1866" and every newspaper so opened and every enclosure therein (if any) shall be kept dealt with and disposed of in the manner prescribed by the fourth section of the said last named Act.

5

10

SCHEDULE.

I A.B. do declare that I will be true and faithful in the execution of the trust committed to my charge and that I will not intentionally read the contents of any letter or packet which I may open under the provisions of any Act now or hereafter to be in force relating to the Post Office except so far as it may be necessary for the purpose of ascertaining the name and address of the writer or sender thereof and that I will not divulge to any person whatever except the Postmaster-General any of the contents of any such letter or packet.

Declared before me one of Her Majesty's Justices of
the Peace in and for the Colony of
New Zealand the day of

A.B.

18