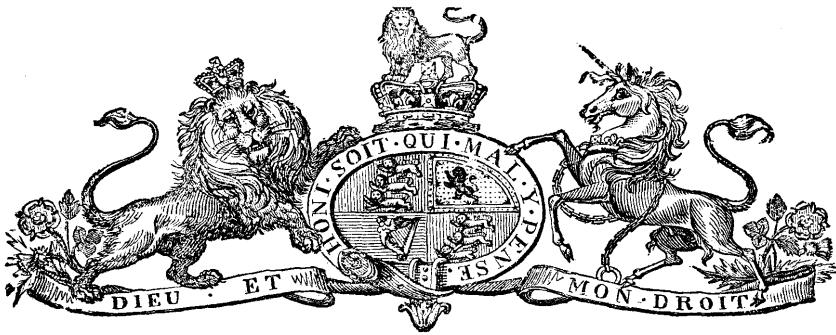


NEW ZEALAND.



ANNO VICESIMO PRIMO ET VICESIMO SECUNDO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

No. 7.

ANALYSIS :

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|---|---|
| 1. Appointment of Coroners.   | 9. Coroner not required to travel more than 20 miles.                                     |
| 2. Governor to appoint Coroners.                                    | 10. Justice of the Peace may hold inquests in certain cases.                              |
| 3. Persons now acting deemed to have been appointed under this Act. | 11. Fees payable.   |
| 4. Governor to define districts.                                    | 12. Coroner in certain cases to transmit copy of evidence to nearest Resident Magistrate. |
| 5. Oath to be taken by Coroners.                                    | 13. Ordinance Sess. VII, No. 5 repealed.  |
| 6. Their powers and duties.   | 14. Short title.  |
| 7. Coroners to hold inquests on Fires.                              |   |
| 8. To have same powers as on other inquests.                        | Schedule.   |

**AN ACT to regulate the Appointment and Duties of Coroners in the Colony of New Zealand.** Title.  
[28th May, 1858.]

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

I. After the passing of this Act Coroners in the Colony of New Zealand shall be appointed as provided by this Act, and not otherwise. Appointment of Coroners.

II. It shall be lawful for the Governor in the name and on behalf of Her Majesty, from time to time, by warrant under his hand to appoint fit persons to be Coroners of the several districts of the Colony, who shall hold their offices during pleasure. Governor to appoint Coroners.

*Coroners.*

Persons now acting deemed to have been appointed under this Act.

III. Every person now acting as Coroner shall be deemed to have been appointed under this Act.

Governor to define districts.

IV. It shall also be lawful for the Governor from time to time, to define the Districts within which the Coroners shall respectively have jurisdiction, and any such definition to revoke or annul, and the limits of such Districts to alter as occasion may require. Provided always that Districts already defined shall be deemed to have been defined under this Act.

Oath to be taken by Coroners.

V. Every Coroner hereafter to be appointed shall, before acting as such, take an oath well and faithfully to execute the duties of his office, which oath any Justice of the Peace is hereby authorised to administer.

Their powers and duties.

VI. Coroners within the Colony of New Zealand shall have all such powers and privileges, and be liable to all such duties and responsibilities, as Coroners by Law have, or are liable to in England.

Coroners to hold inquests on fires.

VII. With a view to the detection and punishment of incendiarism it shall be lawful for the Coroner of any District within which any damage shall have been done by Fire, under circumstances calculated to create a suspicion that the same was not accidental, to hold an Inquest for the purpose of enquiry into the origin of such Fire, and the Jury on such Inquest shall enquire and find whether such fire was accidental or otherwise.

To have same powers as on other inquests.

VIII. Coroners shall have similar powers in respect of Inquests on Fires as are hereby conferred in respect of other Inquests held by them.

Coroner not required to travel more than 20 miles.

IX. No Coroner shall be required to hold any Inquest at a greater distance than twenty miles from his residence.

Justice of the Peace may hold inquests in certain cases.

X. If it be fit that any Inquest should be held during a vacancy in the office of Coroner, or during the absence of any Coroner from his district, or at a greater distance than twenty miles from the residence of any Coroner having jurisdiction, and no Coroner shall be present within a reasonable time to hold such Inquest, it shall, in every such case, be lawful for any Justice of the Peace to hold such Inquest, with full authority in respect of the same to exercise all the powers vested in Coroners.

Fees payable.

XI. In respect of all Inquests there shall be paid the several fees specified in the Schedule hereunto annexed. Such fees shall be paid by the Colonial Treasurer, and the fees for each Inquest shall be charged against the Province within which such Inquest shall be held.

Coroner in certain cases to transmit copy of evidence to nearest resident Magistrate.

XII. Whenever upon the termination of any Inquest held under this Act, a verdict of wilful murder shall have been returned, and in all other cases when it shall appear to the Coroner or Justice of the Peace holding the Inquest that it would be proper that a further investigation into the circumstances

*Coroners.*

attending the matter giving occasion for such Inquest should take place, it shall be the duty of such Coroner or Justice of the Peace to cause a copy of the evidence taken on such Inquest to be forwarded forthwith to the nearest Resident Magistrate, who shall thereupon cause such an investigation as may appear to him to be proper or necessary to be forthwith made.

XIII. An Ordinance enacted by the Lieutenant-Governor and Legislative Council of New Zealand in the year 1846, intituled "An Ordinance to regulate the appointment and duties of Coroners in the Colony of New Zealand," is hereby repealed.

Ordinance Sess. VII,  
No. 5, repealed.

XIV. This Act may for all purposes be cited as "Coroners' Act, 1858."

Short Title.

## SCHEDULE.

	£	s.	d.
To the Coroner or Justice of the Peace holding any Inquest under this Act—for every such Inquest .....	2	2	0
Mileage for Inquests held at a distance exceeding one mile from the residence of the person holding the same, per mile (one way) .....	0	1	6
To the person employed to summon a Jury not being a paid servant of the Government, any sum not exceeding .....	0	12	0
To a medical witness for giving evidence .....	1	1	0
Ditto, for a <i>post-mortem</i> examination when required in writing, by the Coroner or Justice of the Peace holding such Inquest .....	2	2	0