

AMNESTY.

ANALYSIS.

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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to enable the Governor to proclaim an Amnesty.

Title.

WHEREAS on several occasions heretofore the aboriginal inhabitants of the Colony of New Zealand have been in insurrection against Her Majesty's authority: And whereas offences of various kinds, more or less of a political character, have during such insurrections, or consequent thereon, been committed by Maoris: And whereas disturbances of the public peace and breaches of the law of various kinds have recently taken place on the west coast of the North Island of the colony: And whereas the state of the colony is now such as to justify an amnesty being proclaimed for such offences as aforesaid, and it is expedient to do so:

Preamble.

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

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| 15 | 1. The Short Title of this Act is "The Amnesty Act, 1882." | Short Title. |
| | 2. The term "Maoris" means the aboriginal inhabitants of New Zealand, and includes half-castes and their descendants by Maoris. | Interpretation. |
| 20 | 3. It shall be lawful for the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, by Proclamation in the Government <i>Gazette</i> , to declare an amnesty for such offences as aforesaid. | Governor may proclaim an amnesty. |
| | 4. Such amnesty may be extended to all offences and to all Maoris, or certain offences and certain Maoris may be excepted from the operation thereof. | Exceptions may be made. |
| 25 | 5. The effect of such Proclamation shall be to exempt the Maoris not excepted from the operation thereof from all informations, indictments, prosecutions, and criminal proceedings whatsoever for or in relation to any such offences as aforesaid against the law committed during the continuance of any such insurrection or on the West Coast as aforesaid, or connected therewith or resulting therefrom. | Effect of Proclamation. |
| 30 | 6. In order to prevent any doubts as to the effect of any such Proclamation in any particular case, it shall be lawful for the Governor, by writing under his hand, to declare that any Maori or any offence is excepted from or included within the operation of any such Proclamation. | Provision in respect of doubts. |
| 35 | 7. All Courts, Judges, and Justices shall take judicial notice of any such Proclamation, and also of any such writing as aforesaid, on the production of a Government <i>Gazette</i> containing the same respectively. | Courts to take judicial notice of Proclamation. |
| 40 | 8. Nothing in this Act contained shall repeal or otherwise affect any of the provisions of "The West Coast Peace Preservation Act, 1882." | Act not to affect Peace Preservation Act, 1882. |