

Mr. Steward.

CORONERS ACT AMENDMENT.

ANALYSIS.

Title.
i. Short Title.

- 2. Publican not required to receive dead body in certain cases.
- 3. Deadhouse of hospital to be public morgue.

A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to amend "The Coroners Act, 1867."

Title.

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

5 **1.** The Short Title of this Act is "The Coroners Act Amendment Act, 1882."

Short Title.

10 **2.** Notwithstanding anything contained in "The Coroners Act, 1867," or in section one hundred and thirty-six of "The Licensing Act, 1881," no holder of a publican's license shall be required to receive any dead body for the purpose of an inquest being held thereon if there shall be a public hospital situated within two miles of his licensed house.

Publican not required to receive dead body in certain cases.

15 **3.** The deadhouse of every public hospital, in cases where there is no building specially set apart for a morgue, shall be taken and deemed to be a public morgue; and the officer in charge of such hospital shall, at the request of any Justice of the Peace, or officer or constable of police, receive into such deadhouse any dead body that may be brought thereto for the purpose of an inquest being held thereon, and for every dead body so received there shall be paid into
20 the funds of such hospital the sum of *one* pound out of any money which may be appropriated for such purpose; and if the officer in charge of such hospital shall refuse to receive such dead body for the purpose aforesaid he shall, on conviction thereof before any Justice of the Peace, forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding *five* pounds.

Deadhouse of hospital to be public morgue.

25 Provided always that, wherever practicable, the inquest on such dead body shall be held at the nearest courthouse, and shall in no case be held within the hospital buildings, except with the sanction of the House Surgeon or Medical Superintendent.