DOMESTIC SERVANTS' HALF-HOLIDAY.

Title.

1. Short Title.

2. Interpretation. 3. Half-holiday shall be from three o'clock in

the afternoon.
The day upon which half-holiday shall be

5. Where more than one domestic servant is employed, employer shall regulate halfholiday amongst various servants.

6. Penalty.
7. Charge to be heard by Stipendiary Magistrate, or two or more Justices of the Peace.

A BILL INTITULED

An Acr to secure a Weekly Half-holiday for Domestic Servants. 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 is "The Domestic Servants' Short Title. Half-holiday Act, 1896," and it shall come into operation on the first day of *November*, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-six.

2. "Domestic servants" means and includes all women engaged Interpretation.

in domestic service, as enumerated in the Schedule hereto.

10 3. From and after the coming into operation of this Act, all Half-holiday shall domestic servants shall have a half-holiday from the hour of three of be from three of o'clock in the the clock in the afternoon of one working-day in each week, as herein- atternoon. after provided.

4. Within the limits of cities, boroughs, and town districts, the The day upon which half-holiday shall 15 half-holiday fixed under the provisions of "The Shops and Shopassistants Act, 1894," shall be the half-holiday required by this Act; and, in all places outside the above-mentioned limits, the half-holiday required by this Act shall be held in the afternoon of such day in each week as may be agreed upon.

5. Within the limits of cities, boroughs, and town districts, where where more than 20 more than one domestic servant is employed in any house, it shall be one domestic servant is employed, competent for the employer to fix the day upon which the half- employer shall holiday required by this Act shall be observed by the various domestic holiday amongst holiday amongst servants: Provided, however, that one domestic servant shall be various servants. 25 entitled to a half-holiday upon the day mentioned in section four of this Act.

6. If any domestic servant be employed in her ordinary employ- Penalty. ment contrary to the provisions of this Act, the employer shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding five pounds for each offence in respect of 30 each domestic servant so employed.

No. 31-1.

Charge to be heard by Stipendiary Magistrate, or two or more Justices of the Peace. 7. Where any person is charged with an offence against this Act, such charge shall be heard, and all penalties imposed by this Act shall be recovered, in a summary way before a Stipendiary Magistrate or two or more Justices of the Peace, in the manner provided by "The Justices of the Peace Act, 1882."

SCHEDULE.

Schedule.

H ousemaids, Parlourmaids, Kitchenmaids, Laundresses, Cooks, General servants, Waitresses, Nursegirls, House-assistants.

By Authority: John Mackay, Government Printer, Wellington.—1896.