

Mr. Heke.

NATIVE RIGHTS.

ANALYSIS.

Title.	1. Short Title.	
Preamble.		2. Maori Constitution.
		3. Maori laws.

A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to empower the Aboriginal Natives of New Zealand to enact Laws for the Government of themselves and their Lands and other Property. Title.

5 WHEREAS the legislation heretofore in force relating to Native lands and the powers of Native Lands Courts, and relative to property and rights of the aboriginal inhabitants of New Zealand, have been found to be and are inadequate and unjust, whereby the progress of a great part of the colony has been retarded, and the said aboriginal natives have been subject to great wrongs and grievances for which they have now no remedy: And whereas, by reason of the matters aforesaid, the said aboriginal natives have suffered much loss in lands and moneys and otherwise: And whereas it is to the benefit of both the European and aboriginal inhabitants of New Zealand that the said aboriginal natives and their lands and other property should be governed by laws enacted by themselves: Preamble.

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

20 1. The Short Title of this Act is “The Native Rights Act, 1896.” Short Title.

2. A Constitution shall be granted to all the persons of the Maori race, and to all persons born of either father or mother of the Maori race who are or shall be resident in New Zealand, providing for the enactment of laws by a Parliament elected by such persons. Maori Constitution.

25 3. Such laws shall relate to and exclusively deal with the personal rights and with the lands and all other property of the aboriginal native inhabitants of New Zealand. Maori laws.