

SUPPLEMENTARY ORDER PAPER.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Wednesday, the 14th Day of September, 1898.

JURIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Hon. Mr. BOWEN, in Committee, to move to omit sub-clauses (1) to (5), clause 4, and substitute the following sub-clauses:—

- (1.) In every case where a bill of indictment might heretofore have been preferred before the Grand Jury it shall hereafter be preferred before the Supreme Court.
- (2.) Every bill of indictment which is preferred by the Attorney-General, or pursuant to a prior committal, shall be signed by the Attorney-General or such Crown counsel as is appointed by the Governor to act for the Crown either generally or specifically.
- (3.) Every bill of indictment which, under subsection (4) of section three hundred and eighty-three of "The Criminal Code Act, 1893," is preferred by any person with the written consent of a Judge of the Supreme Court, or of the Attorney-General, or by order of the Court, shall be signed by the person preferring it.
- (4.) In every case where a bill of indictment is duly signed and preferred as hereinbefore provided, it shall be as valid and effectual in all respects as a bill of indictment heretofore preferred before and found by a Grand Jury:
- (5.) The form of indictment given as No. 3 in the First Schedule to "The Criminal Code Act, 1893," is hereby amended by omitting therefrom all reference to jurors, and substituting in lieu thereof the name and official designation (if any) of the person by whom the indictment is signed and preferred.
- (6.) The form of certificate given as No. 4 in the same Schedule is hereby amended by substituting the words "duly preferred by [*Name and official designation (if any)*]" in lieu of the words "found by the Grand Jury."

Also to amend the heading of clause four by adding, after "JURIES," the words "AND AMENDMENT OF THE LAW AS TO INDICTABLE OFFENCES."

Also to insert the following new clauses:—

4A. In every case when any person is committed for trial in respect of any indictable offence he shall be indicted.

4B. The jurisdiction of Justices to deal, either summarily or by committal, with indictable offences is hereby abolished, and such jurisdiction shall hereafter be exercised only by a Stipendiary Magistrate, anything in "The Justices of the Peace Act, 1882," or any other Act to the contrary notwithstanding.