

*Magistrates' Indemnity.*

for the Governor, with the assent of the said aboriginal inhabitants, to be ascertained in manner herein provided, to grant such lands to any person or persons, whether of the Native or European race, or any body corporate or bodies corporate nominated by or on behalf of such aboriginal inhabitants, and such lands shall be held for the purpose of such special endowments with such powers as are hereby vested in Commissioners under this Act and subject to the provisions thereof: Provided always that nothing in this Act contained shall have the effect of removing any invalidity or curing any defect in any grant or other conveyance made or issued before the passing of this Act, under which any lands may have been granted or assured to any person or persons for religious charitable or educational purposes for the benefit of the aboriginal inhabitants: Provided also that nothing in this Act contained shall extend or be implied to extend to give validity to any appropriation or setting apart of any lands for such purposes as aforesaid, which have been heretofore so appropriated or set apart in contravention of any terms of purchase or contracts affecting such land.

17. The Governor shall appoint some competent person to ascertain the assent of the said aboriginal inhabitants, and such person shall proceed according to such rules as shall be prescribed in that behalf by the said Governor. And the report of such person, if adopted by the Governor, shall be final and conclusive as to such assent, and the publication of such report and the adoption thereof in the Government *Gazette* of the said Colony shall be evidence of such assent: Provided always that whenever such assent shall have been ascertained as aforesaid, the land to which the same shall relate shall be conveyed to Her Majesty, her heirs and successors, and shall then become subject to the provisions of this Act.

Assent of aboriginal inhabitants to be ascertained by some person appointed by the Governor.

18. Every act which is authorized or required to be done by the Governor under this Act shall be done only with the advice and consent of the Executive Council of the Colony.

Acts to be done with advice of Executive Council.

19. The term "Governor" shall mean the person for the time being administering the Government of New Zealand; and the term "Aboriginal Inhabitant" shall include Half-castes.

Interpretation of "Governor" &c.

20. This Act may be cited for all purposes as "*The New Zealand Native Reserves Act, 1856.*"

Short Title.

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## No. XI.

AN ACT to remove doubts respecting the Validity of the Appointment of certain Justices of the Peace.

MAGISTRATES' INDEMNITY.

[29th July, 1856.]

WHEREAS doubts have arisen respecting the validity of the appointments of certain persons to be Justices of the Peace, and it is expedient that such doubts be removed:

Preamble.

BE IT THEREFORE ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand as follows:—

1. All persons whose appointments as Justices of the Peace for the Colony or Islands of New Zealand, or for any Province of the said Colony, have at any time heretofore been notified in the New Zealand Government *Gazette*, by the direction of the Governor of the said

All persons heretofore gazetted as Justices to be deemed to have been duly appointed.

*Marriage Act Amendment.*

Colony, or of the Officer lawfully Administering the Government thereof, shall be deemed to have been duly appointed as such Justices, notwithstanding such persons may not have been appointed by Commission under the Public Seal of the Colony, and notwithstanding any other defect or informality in their appointments.

Short Title.

2. This Act shall be intituled and may be cited as "*The Magistrates' Indemnity Act, 1856.*"

## No. XII.

AN ACT to amend "*The Marriage Act, 1854.*"

[29th July, 1856.]

MARRIAGE ACT  
AMENDMENT.

Preamble.

WHEREAS by the seventeenth section of "*The Marriage Act, 1854,*" it is provided that in certain cases the consent of a Judge of the Supreme Court to the marriage of a person under age may be substituted for the consent of the father guardian or mother of such person: And whereas it is expedient that the said provision be amended:

BE IT THEREFORE ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand as follows:—

Repealing section 17  
of "*The Marriage  
Act, 1854.*"In certain cases Judge  
of Supreme Court  
may consent to  
marriage of infants.

1. The said seventeenth section of the Marriage Act is hereby repealed.

2. In case any father guardian or mother, whose consent is made necessary by the said Act to the marriage of a person under age, shall be *non compos mentis*, or in case any such guardian shall unreasonably or from undue motives refuse or withhold his consent to a proper marriage, then it shall be lawful for any person desirous of marrying in any of the above-mentioned cases, to apply by petition to a Judge of the Supreme Court in a summary way, and in case the marriage proposed shall, upon examination, appear to be proper, such Judge shall judicially declare the same to be so, and such judicial declaration shall be deemed and taken to be as good and effectual to all intents and purposes as if the father guardian or mother of the person so petitioning had consented to such marriage.

## No. XIII.

AN ACT for enabling the affairs of the Colonial Bank  
of Issue to be wound up. [29th July, 1856.]NEW ZEALAND  
COLONIAL BANK OF  
ISSUE WINDING-UP.

Preamble.

WHEREAS it is expedient to enable the Governor of the Colony to wind up and close the affairs of the Colonial Bank of Issue:

BE IT ENACTED by the General Assembly as follows:—

Governor to wind up  
the affairs of the  
Bank.

1. It shall be lawful for the Governor of the Colony, at such time and in such manner as may be deemed convenient after the passing of this Act, to wind up close and settle the affairs of the Colonial Bank of Issue, and for that purpose, when and as may be deemed expedient, to call in all outstanding notes of the said Bank and pay the same without