(Hon. Mr. Bowen.)

Stamp Act.

ANALYSIS.

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- 1. Short Title and commencement.
- 2. Repeal.
- 3. Former references to stamp duties to apply to this Act.
- 4. Interpretation of terms.5. Grant of duties in Schedules, which are to be read as part of this Act.

PART I.

MANAGEMENT.

- 6. Commissioner and officers to be appointed.
- Governor may make regulations.
 Commissioner's stamp.
- Adhesive and impressed stamps to be created only at Head Office.

 As to licenses to deal in stamps.

- 10. As to itemses to dear in stamps.
 11. As to the contents and effects of a license.
 12. Penalty for unauthorized dealing in stamps £20; and in the case of a forged stamp £40. Proviso.
 13. How license to be notified. Penalty £10.
- 14. Penalty on unauthorized persons holding them-selves out as dealers in stamps. Officers of Postal Department may sell.

- Postal Department may sell.

 15. Discount.

 16. Allowance for spoiled stamps.

 17. Criminal offences relating to stamps.

 18. Proceedings for the detection of forged dies.

 19. Further proceedings for the detection of forged stamps. Penalty for resisting obstructing or refusing to assist, £50.

 20. Mode of proceeding when stamps are seized.

 21. Proceedings for the detection of stamps stolen or obtained fraudulently.

 22. As to defacement of adhesive stamps.

 23. Penalty for frauds in relation to adhesive stamps or to any duty.

- or to any duty.

 24. Recovery of penalties.

 25. Affidavits and declarations, how to be made.
 Punishment for false oath.

 26. Colonial Treasurer to pay moneys.

PART II.

AS TO DUTIES ON INSTRUMENTS.

GENERAL PROVISIONS.

- 27. How instruments are to be written and stamped.
 28. Instruments to be separately charged with duty in certain cases.
- 29. As to the use of appropriated stamps.
 30. Facts and circumstances affecting duty to be set forth in instruments.
- 31. Money in foreign or colonial currency to be
- 32. Marketable securities to be valued.
 33. Effect of statement of value.
- 34. As to denoting stamp.

- 35. Terms upon which instruments may be stamped after execution. No fine within one month after execution. As to instruments executed abroad.
- 36. Terms upon which unstamped or insufficiently 36. Terms upon which unstamped or insufficiently stamped instruments may be received in evidence in any Court. The Officer of the Court to transmit instrument for stamping.
 37. Instrument not duly stamped inadmissible.
 38. Deeds executed out of New Zealand valid if stamped in accordance with law of country in which executed.
 39. The Deputy Commissioner to essess duty.

- 39. The Deputy Commissioner to assess duty.
 Mode and effect of proceeding.
 40. In case of doubt reference to be made to Com-
- missioner. 41. Person dissatisfied may appeal. Mode of pro-
- the Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner may call for and refuse to proceed without evidence. Proviso.
- 43. Effect of Commissioner's stamp.

- 43. Breet of Commissioner's stamp.
 44. Deficient duty may be recovered.
 45. Rolls, books, &c. to be open to inspection.
 Pensity for inspection, £10.
 46. Pensity for enrolling &c. any instrument not duly stamped.
- 47. How duties to be denoted.
- 48. General direction as to the cancellation of adhesive stamps. Penalty for neglect or refusal, £10.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS.

Affidavits.

49. Adhesive stamps may be used to denote duty on affidavits and declarations.

Appointments.

- 50. Definition of "annual salary" and "emoluments."
- ments.
 51. Appointments, how to be made.
 52. Instruments of appointment to be sent to
 Commissioner for assessment.
 53. Penalty for paying or receiving salary unless
- appointment stamped.

Agreements.

- 54. Duty on agreements under hand may be denoted by adhesive stamps.
- Bank Notes, Bills of Exchange, and Promissory Notes.
- 55. Definition of terms "banker," "bank," and " bank note.'
- 56. Bank notes to be exempt subject to annual composition.
- 57. Interpretation of term "bill of exchange."
 58. Interpretation of term "promissory note."
 59. The fixed duty may be denoted by adhesive stamp.

- 60. Ad valorem duties to be denoted in certain cases by adhesive stamps. Provisor protection of boná fide holders. Provisoes for the Not to
- relieve any other person.

 61. Bills and notes purporting to be drawn &c.
 abroad, to be deemed to have been so drawn &c.
- 62. Except as aforesaid, no bill or note may be
- stamped after execution.

 63. Penalty for issuing &c. any unstamped bill or note £50, and the bill or note to be unavailable.
- 64. Penalty for drawing &c. bills purporting to be in a set and not drawing the whole number.
 65. Bills &c. not to be noted or protested unless stamped. Penalty.

Bills of Lading.

66. Bills of lading not to be stamped after execution. Penalty.

Bonds, Debentures, &c.

67. Penalty for paying interest upon unstamped

Charter-parties.

- 68. Definition of "charter-party." 69. Adhesive stamp may be used.
- 70. As to charter-parties executed abroad.71. Terms upon which charter-parties may be stamped after execution.

Certificates of Title.

72. District Land Registrar to forward certificate to be stamped.

Conveyances on Sale.

- 73. Definition of term "conveyance on sale."
 74. How ad valorem duty to be calculated in respect of marketable securities.
- 75. How consideration consisting of periodical pay ments to be charged.
- 76. How conveyance in consideration of a debt, or subject to future payment &c., to be charged.
 77. How conveyance in certain cases to be charged.
- 78. As to the sale of an annuity or right not before in existence.

Duplicates and Counterparts.

79. As to duplicates or counterparts.

Exchange and Partition.

80. As to exchange and partition.

Incorporated Companies.

- 81. Incorporated Companies to take out yearly licenses.
- 82. Registrar of Joint Stock Companies not to
- issue any certificate until duty paid.

 83. Penalty on Company carrying on business without license.
- 84. Mutual Companies liable to annual duty as incorporated Companies.
 85. Commissioner's decision as to liability of Com-
- panies to be final.

Leases.

- 86. Definition of term "Lease."
- 87. Leases how to be charged in respect of produce
- 88. Directions as to duty in certain cases.

- Mortgages.
 89. Definition of term "Mortgage." 90. Security for future advances, how to be made.
- Security for repayment by periodical payments,
- how to be charged.
- 92. As to transfers and further charges.

93. As to mortgage with conveyance of equity of redemption

Notarial Acts.

- 94. Duty on notarial act may be denoted by adhesive stamp.
- Deeds &c. not to be notarially attested unless stamped. Proviso.

Sea Insurance.

- 96. Interpretation of "sea insurance" and "policy."

 97. Adhesive stamps may be used for policies.

 98. All sea insurance to be by policy.

 99. Time policies not to be for more than twelve

- months. 100. Policies not to be stamped after making except on certain conditions
- 101. Insurances for voyage and time to bear duties
- for both voyage and time.

 102. Penalty for not making out policy, or making &c. any policy not duly stamped, £20.

Receipts.

- 103. Meaning of term "receipt."
 104. Duty on receipts may be denoted by adhesive
- stamps. Penalty.

 105. Penalty for offences relating to receipts.

 106. Commissioner may stamp receipts upon certain terms.

Settlements.

- 107. As to settlement of policy or security.
- 108. Where several instruments one only to be charged with ad valorem duty.
- 109. Instrument in favour of object of power of appointment in certain cases not liable to duty.

Transfers of Runs. 110. Assessment of duty on transfers of runs.

Transfers of Shares.

- 111. Transfers of shares not to be registered unless duly stamped.
- 112. Instrument of sale or transfer to be void, if name of purchaser or transferree not inserted.
- Penalty for executing same, £20.

 113. Agent not entitled to fee if instrument not duly executed, stamped, &c.

PART III.

- AS TO DUTIES ON THE ESTATES OF DECEASED PERSONS.
- 114. Interpretation of terms.
- 114. Interpretation of terms.
 115. Duties payable on all property of deceased.
 116. Grant of administration to be sent by Registrar or Clerk of Court to the Commissioner.
 117. Statement of property to be forwarded to Commissioner.
- Commissioner.
- 118. Statement to be verified.
- 119. Duties to be a debt due to Her Majesty by deceased.
- 120. Duties to be paid within six months from grant of administration.
 121. Administration or in certain cases the state-
- ment to be stamped.
- 122. No duty payable on further administration being taken out.
 123. Power to administrator to deduct duty from
- devisees and legatees.

 124. Duty on life interest, how to be calculated.

 125. Provision in case too little duty has been paid.

- 126. Provision in case too much duty has been paid.127. Penalty for false statement.128. Penalty for dealing with estate prior to pay-
- ment of duty. Schedules.

A BILL INTITULED

An Act to impose Stamp Duties in lieu of Duties of Title. the same kind now payable under various Acts, and to consolidate and amend the provisions relating thereto.

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

1. This Act may be cited as "The Stamp Act, 1875," and shall Short Title and come into operation on the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six, which date is hereinafter referred to as the commencement of this Act.

2. "The Stamp Duties Act 1866," "The Stamp Duties Act Repeal. Amendment Act 1867," "The Stamp Duties Act Amendment Act 1869," "The Stamp Duties Act Amendment Act 1870," "The Stamp Duties Act Amendment Act 1871," and "The Stamp Duties Act

Amendment Act 1872," are hereby repealed: Provided that this repeal shall not affect the past operation of

any enactment hereby repealed, or the sufficiency or insufficiency of the stamp duty upon any instrument executed, or the validity or invalidity of anything done or suffered before the commencement of this Act. Nor shall this repeal interfere with the institution or prosecution of any proceeding in respect of any offence committed, or any penalty or forfeiture incurred against or under any enactment hereby

Provided further that every Deputy Commissioner and other officer appointed under the authority of the Acts hereby repealed, or any of them, and holding office at the date of the commencement of this Act, shall be deemed to be duly appointed under the authority of this Act.

3. Where, by any Act heretofore passed, reference is made to the Former references enactments relating to stamp duties in force before the commencement to stamp duties to of this Act such reference shall eften the commencement of this Act. of this Act, such reference shall after the commencement of this Act be read and construed as a reference to this Act, instead of to the said enactments.

4. In the construction and for the purposes of this Act, the Interpretation of following words have the meanings by this section assigned to them, terms unless it is otherwise provided or there be something in the context repugnant thereto:-

(1.) "The Commissioner" means such member of the Executive Council as shall be appointed to be Commissioner of Stamp

Duties under this Act.
(2.) "Stamp Office" means the office of the Commissioner appointed under this Act or of any Deputy Commissioner. (3.) "Head Office" means the office of the Commissioner.

(4.) "Duty" means the stamp duty for the time being chargeable by law.
(5.) "Material" means and includes every sort of material

upon which words or figures can be expressed.

(6.) "Write," "written," and "writing," include every mode in which words or figures can be expressed upon material. (7.) "Instrument" means and includes every written document. (8.) "Stamp" means either a stamp impressed by means of a die or an adhesive stamp.

"Stamped," with reference to instruments and material, applies as well to instruments and material impressed with stamps by means of a die as to instruments and material having adhesive stamps affixed thereto.

(10.) "Executed" and "execution," with reference to instru-

ments not under seal, mean signed and signature.

(11.) "Money" includes all sums expressed in British or in any foreign or colonial currency.

(12.) The term "Marketable Security" includes any stock funds shares bonds or debentures of any Government, municipal or other corporation, company or society.

(13.) "Property" means and includes real and personal pro-

perty.
"Person" includes company corporation and society.

(15.) "Die" means and includes any plate type tool or implement whatever used for expressing or denoting any duty or the fact that any duty or penalty has been paid or that an instrument is duly stamped or is not chargeable with any duty, and also any part of any such plate type tool or implement.

(16.) "Forge," "forged," mean and include counterfeit, coun-

terfeited.

5. (1.) From and after the commencement of this Act, there shall be charged for the use of Her Majesty, upon the several instruments specified in the Schedules to this Act, the several duties therein specified, and no other duties.

(2.) The said Schedules and everything therein contained are to be read and construed as part of this Act.

are to be read as part of Act.

Grant of duties in

Schedules, which

PART I.

AS TO MANAGEMENT.

Commissioner and officers to be appointed.

- 6. (1.) There shall be a Commissioner of Stamps, who shall be appointed by the Governor in Council, and who shall be charged with the administration of this Act and the chief control of all matters relating to the duties imposed by this Act: Provided that the person who at the time of the coming into operation of this Act holds office as Commissioner of Stamps shall be deemed to have been appointed under this Act.
- (2.) The Governor may appoint as many Deputy-Commissioners and other officers as may be found necessary to assist the Commissioner in the administration of this Act, who shall receive such salaries and allowances only as the General Assembly from time to time

directs.

Governor may make regulations.

7. The Governor may from time to time by Order in Council make Regulations not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act for the conduct of all persons concerned in the administration thereof, and generally for carrying this Act into effect.

8. There shall be a stamp called the Commissioner's stamp, which may be impressed on instruments at any Stamp Office, and shall denote that all duty to which such instrument is liable has been paid.

9. All adhesive stamps and all ad valorem impressed stamps shall be created only at the Head Office.

Commissioner's Stamp.

Adhesive and impressed stamps to be created only at Head Office.

545

10. The Commissioner may grant a license to any person to As to licenses to deal deal in stamps at any place in New Zealand named in such license in stamps. and may at any time revoke such license; and every person to whom any such license is granted shall enter into a bond to Her exchange, any stamps other than such as he has purchased or procured Majesty in such sum as the Commissioner thinks fit, with a condition that such licensed person does not sell or offer for sale or exchange, or keep or have in his possession for the purpose of sale or at a Stamp Office, or from some person duly licensed to deal in stamps, and the sum named in such bond shall in case of breach be recoverable as liquidated damages and not as a penalty: Provided that one license and one bond only shall be required for any number of persons in copartnership.

11. Every such license is to specify the proper Christian name As to the contents and surname and place of abode of the person to whom the same is and effects of a license. granted, and to contain a true description of every building at which he is by such license authorized to deal in stamps; and such person shall not be thereby entitled to deal in stamps at any place not

described in his license.

12. (1.) Every person who,

(a.) Not being duly licensed to deal in stamps, deals in any manner in stamps;

(b.) Being so duly licensed, deals in any manner in stamps at forged stamp £40.

any place not specified in his license;

shall for every such offence forfeit a sum not exceeding twenty pounds.

(2.) If in any proceeding for recovery of the said penalty it appears that any stamp which has been sold or exchanged or offered for sale or exchange, is forged, although the same may not have been so alleged in the information or pleading, the said penalty shall be doubled.

(3.) If on any such proceeding any issue is tried by a jury in which the selling or exchanging or offering for sale or exchange of any stamp is in question, the jury shall be required to say whether such stamp is forged or not.

(4.) Provided that nothing in this section contained shall exempt Proviso. any person from the legal consequences of selling uttering or having

in possession any forged stamp, knowing the same to be forged.

13. Every person licensed to deal in stamps shall cause to How license to be be painted at full length, in Roman capital letters one inch at least notified. in height and of a proportionate breadth, on some conspicuous place on the outside of the front of every building at which he is licensed to deal in stamps, and so that the same may be at all times distinctly visible and legible, his Christian name and surname together with the words "Licensed to sell Stamps," and shall continue such names and words so painted during all the time that he continues licensed as aforesaid, and for every neglect or omission in any of such matters Penalty £10. shall forfeit a sum not exceeding ten pounds.

14. (1.) If any person not being duly licensed to deal in stamps Penalty on permits to be or to continue written painted or marked upon any part unauthorized persons of his house or shop either in the inside or or the cutoff themselves of his house or shop, either in the inside or on the outside thereof, out as dealers in or upon any material whatever exposed to public view whether the stamps. same be affixed to his house or shop or not, any word or words signifying that he is a dealer in stamps, he shall forfeit a sum not exceeding ten pounds for every day on which such offence is committed or continued.

(2.) But it shall nevertheless be lawful for any person in the Officers of Postal service or employment of the Post Office to sell at any Post Office Department may stamps deposited with him by the Commissioner for sale.

15. Upon the sale of stamps such discount may be allowed to Discount.

the purchasers thereof as the Commissioner directs.

16. The Commissioner may, subject to any Regulations made Allowance for spoiled under this Act, make allowance for stamps inadvertently spoiled, stamps.

Penalty for unauthorized dealing in stamps £20; and in the case of a

Criminal offences relating to stamps. by giving in exchange other stamps of the same value, or by giving the owner thereof an order on the Treasury for the same amount.

17. Any person who is guilty of doing, or causing, or procuring to be done, or knowingly aiding abetting or assisting in doing, any of the acts following, that is to say,—

(1.) Forging a die or stamp

- (2.) Making an impression upon any material with a forged die
- (3.) Fraudulently removing from any material any stamp, with the intent that any use should be made of such stamp or of any part thereof

(4.) Fraudulently mutilating any stamp with intent that any

use should be made of any part of such stamp

(5.) Fraudulently fixing upon any material or upon any stamp, any stamp or part of a stamp which, whether fraudulently or not, has been removed from any other material or from any other stamp

(6.) Fraudulently erasing or otherwise either really or apparently removing from any stamped material any name sum date or other matter or thing whatsoever thereon written, with the intent that any use should be made of the stamp upon such material

(7.) Knowingly selling or exposing for sale or uttering or

using any forged stamp

(8.) Knowingly and without lawful excuse (the proof of which lawful excuse lies on the person accused) having in possession any forged die or stamp, or any stamp or part of a stamp which has been fraudulently removed from any material, or any stamp which has been fraudulently mutilated, or any stamped material out of which any name sum date or other matter or thing has been fraudulently erased or otherwise either really or apparently removed

is guilty of felony, and upon being convicted shall be liable to penal servitude for any term not less than seven years, or to be imprisoned with or without hard labour for any term not exceeding four years.

- 18. On information given before any Justice of the Peace upon oath that there is just cause to suspect any person of being guilty of any of the offences aforesaid, such Justice may, by a warrant under his hand, cause every dwelling-house room workshop outhouse or other building or place belonging to or occupied by the suspected person, or where he is suspected of being or having been in any way engaged or concerned in the commission of any such offence or of secreting any forged die or stamp or any machinery implement or utensils applicable to the commission of any such offence, to be searched; and if upon such search any of the said several matters and things are found, the same may be seized and carried away, in order that they may be produced in evidence against any offender, and shall afterwards, whether produced in evidence or not, by order of the Court or Judge before whom such offender is tried, or, in case there shall be no such trial, by order of some Justice of the Peace, be
- delivered over to the Commissioner to be defaced or destroyed.

 19. (1.) Upon information given to the Commissioner or a Deputy Commissioner that there is reasonable cause to suspect that any person being or having been licensed to deal in stamps has in his possession any forged stamps, the Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner may, by warrant under his hand, authorize any person to enter between the hours of nine in the morning and seven in the evening into any dwelling-house room shop warehouse outhouse or other building of or belonging to any such suspected person; and if

Proceedings for the detection of forged dies.

Further proceedings for the detection of forged stamps.

on demand of admittance and notice of such warrant the door of any such dwelling-house room shop warehouse outhouse or other building or any inner door thereof is not opened, then such authorized person may break open the same respectively, and search for and seize any stamps that may be found in any such place as aforesaid or elsewhere in the custody or possession of such suspected person.

(2.) All constables and other peace officers are hereby required, upon the request of any person acting under such warrant, to aid and

assist in the execution thereof.

(3.) Any person who—

- (a.) Refuses to permit any such search or seizure to be made as
- (b.) Assaults opposes molests or obstructs any person employed or acting in the execution or under the authority of any such warrant or aiding or assisting in the execution

and every constable or peace officer who upon any such request as Penalty for resisting aforesaid refuses or neglects to aid and assist in the execution of any obstructing or refusing to assist, £50. such warrant as aforesaid, shall forfeit a sum not exceeding fifty pounds.

20. (1.) The person who is intrusted with the execution of any Mode of proceeding such warrant as aforesaid shall, if required, give to the person in whose when stamps are seized. custody or possession any stamps are found and seized an acknowledgment of the number particulars and amount of the stamps so seized, and shall permit such last-mentioned person, or any person employed by him, to mark such stamps before the removal thereof.

(2.) The person in whose custody or possession any stamps are so found and seized shall be entitled to claim and receive in money the amount of such of the stamps so seized as may be found to be genuine (deducting therefrom the proper discount), or, if the Commissioner think fit, such of the stamps so seized as may be found to be genuine may be returned to the person from whose custody or posses-

sion the same have been taken.

21. (1.) Any Justice of the Peace may, upon reasonable suspicion Proceedings for the that any stamps have been stolen or fraudulently obtained, issue his detection of stamps stolen or obtained warrant for the seizure thereof, and for apprehending and bringing fraudulently. before himself or any other Justice the person in whose possession or custody such stamps may be found, to be dealt with according to law.

(2.) If such person omits or refuses to account for the possession of such stamps, or is unable satisfactorily to account for the possession thereof, or if it does not appear that the same were purchased by him at a Stamp Office, or from some person duly licensed to deal in stamps, such stamps shall be forfeited to Her Majesty and shall be by such Justice delivered over to the Commissioner; and such stamps shall be kept by the Commissioner for the space of six months, and shall afterwards be cancelled and destroyed.

(3.) Provided that if at any time within such six months any person makes out to the satisfaction of the Commissioner that any such stamps were stolen or otherwise fraudulently obtained from him, and were purchased by him at a Stamp Office, or from some person duly licensed to deal in stamps, such stamps may be delivered

up to him.

22. Every person who by any writing in any manner defaces any As to defacement of adhesive stamp before it is used shall forfeit a sum not exceeding five adhesive stamps. pounds: Provided that any person may with the express sanction of the Commissioner, and in such manner as he prescribes, write upon an adhesive stamp before it is used for the purpose of identifying the same.

23. Any person who—

(1.) Fraudulently removes or causes to be removed from any Penalty for frauds in instrument any adhesive stamp, or affixes any adhesive stamps or to any

duty.

stamp which has been so removed to any other instrument with intent that such stamp may be used again;

(2.) Sells or offers for sale, or utters, any adhesive stamp which has been so removed, or utters any instrument having thereon any adhesive stamp which has to his knowledge been so removed as aforesaid;

(3.) Practises or is concerned in any fraudulent act contrivance or device not specially provided for, with intent to

defraud Her Majesty of any duty;

shall forfeit, over and above any other penalty to which he may be

liable, the sum of twenty pounds.

24. (1.) Penalties incurred under this Act may be recovered in a summary way, with costs, before any two Justices of the Peace, in the manner provided by "The Justices of the Peace Act, 1866."

(2.) The Governor may at his discretion mitigate or stay or compound proceedings for any penalty, and may reward any person who informs of any offence against this Act, or assists in the recovery

of any penalty.

25. (1.) Any oath affidavit or declaration to be taken or made in pursuance or for the purposes of this Act may be made before the Commissioner or any Deputy Commissioner, any Judge or Solicitor of the Supreme Court, or any Justice of the Peace or Notary Public in New Zealand, or at any place out of New Zealand before any person duly authorized to administer oaths thereat.

(2.) Any person who knowingly and wilfully makes a false oath or declaration concerning any matter in this Act contained shall be liable to the punishment imposed by law for wilful and corrupt perjury.

26. The Colonial Treasurer may issue and pay out of the Consolidated Fund any moneys which may become payable to any person under the provisions of this Act.

PART II.

AS TO DUTIES ON INSTRUMENTS.

General Provisions.

27. (1.) Every instrument written upon stamped material is to be written in such manner, and every instrument partly or wholly written before being stamped, is to be so stamped, that the stamp may appear on the face of the instrument, and cannot be used for or applied to any other instrument written upon the same piece of material.

(2.) If more than one instrument is written upon the same piece of material, every one of such instruments is to be separately and dis-

tinctly stamped with the duty with which it is chargeable.

28. Except where express provision to the contrary is made by this or any other Act,

- (1.) An instrument containing or relating to several distinct matters is to be separately and distinctly charged with duty in respect of each of such matters as if each matter were expressed in a separate instrument.
- (2.) An instrument made for more than one consideration is to be charged with duty in respect of each such consideration, according to the rate with which each is chargeable, as though each consideration were expressed in a separate instrument.
- 29. (1.) A stamp which by any word or words on the face of it is appropriated to any particular description of instrument, is not to be used or available for an instrument of any other description.

(2.) An instrument falling under the particular description to which any stamp is so appropriated as aforesaid is not to be deemed duly stamped unless it is stamped with the stamp so appropriated.

30. All the facts and circumstances affecting the liability of any instrument to ad valorem duty, or the amount of the ad valorem duty with which it is chargeable, are to be fully and truly set forth in such instrument; and every person who, with intent to defraud Her Majesty,

Recovery of penalties.

Governor may mitigate penalties.

Affidavits and declarations, how to be made.

Punishment for false oath.

Colonial Treasurer to pay moneys.

How instruments are to be written and stamped.

Instruments to be separately charged with duty in certain cases.

As to the use of appropriated stamps.

Facts and circum stances affecting duty to be set forth in instruments.

(1.) Executes any instrument in which all the said facts and circumstances are not fully and truly set forth

(2.) Being employed or concerned in or about the preparation of any instrument, neglects or omits fully and truly to set forth therein all the said facts and circumstances

shall forfeit the sum of fifty pounds.

31. Where an instrument is chargeable with ad valorem duty in Money in foreign or respect of any money in any foreign or colonial currency, such duty colonial currency to be valued. shall be calculated on the value of such money in British currency according to the current rate of exchange on the day of the date of the instrument.

32. Where an instrument is chargeable with ad valorem duty in Marketable securities respect of any marketable security, such duty shall be calculated on to be valued. the price of such security as quoted in any stock or share market in or out of the colony, or on the average value according to the best evidence which can be obtained of such security on the day of the date of the instrument.

33. (1.) Where an instrument contains a statement of current rate Effect of statement of exchange or average price, and is stamped in accordance with such $^{\mathrm{of}\,\mathrm{value}}$. statement, it is, so far as regards the subject-matter of such statement, to be deemed duly stamped.

(2.) Provided that if such statement is proved to be untrue, the deficient duty and fine may be recovered.

34. Where the duty with which an instrument is chargeable As to denoting depends in any manner upon the duty paid upon another instrument, stamp. the payment of such last-mentioned duty shall, if application be made for that purpose, and on production of both the instruments, be denoted in such manner as the Commissioner or a Deputy Commissioner thinks fit upon such first-mentioned instrument.

35. (1.) Except where express provision to the contrary is made Terms upon which by this or any other Act, any unstamped or insufficiently stamped instruments may be instrument may be stamped by the Commissioner or a Deputy execution. Commissioner after the execution thereof, on payment of the unpaid duty, and, if such instrument is presented to be stamped more than one No fine within one month and less than three months after execution, of a fine in addition month after to the duty at the rate of twenty pounds per centum on the value of the stamps to be affixed, and, if such instrument is presented to be stamped more than three months after execution, of a fine in addition to the duty at the rate of one hundred pounds per centum on the value of the stamps to be affixed; but in no case shall the lastmentioned fine be less than five pounds.

(2.) Provided that any unstamped or insufficiently stamped in- As to instruments strument, which has been first executed at any place out of New executed abroad. Zealand, may be stamped at any time within three months after it has been first received in New Zealand, on payment of the unpaid

36. (1.) Upon the production of an instrument chargeable with any Terms upon which duty as evidence in any Court of civil judicature, the officer whose unstamped or insufficiently stamped duty it is to read the instrument shall call the attention of the Judge instruments may be to any omission or insufficiency of the stamp thereon; and if the received in evidence in any Court. instrument is one which may legally be stamped after execution, it may, on payment to such officer of the amount of the unpaid duty, and the fine payable by law, be received in evidence, saving all just exceptions on other grounds.

(2) Such officer shall detain and immediately transmit to the The Officer of the Commissioner or a Deputy Commissioner the instrument, together instrument for with the duty and fine so paid thereon, and the payment thereof stamping. shall be denoted on such instrument accordingly.

37. Except as aforesaid, no instrument executed in New Zealand, Instrument not or relating, wheresoever executed, to any property situate or to any quy stamped inadmissible. matter or thing done, or to be done in any part of New Zealand, shall, except in criminal proceedings, be pleaded or given in evidence, or

admitted to be good useful or available in law or equity, unless it is duly stamped in accordance with the law in force at the time when it was first executed.

Deeds executed out of New Zealand valid if stamped in accordance with law of country in which executed. **38.** (1.) No instrument executed out of New Zealand, and which by the law of the country in which it was executed is inadmissible in evidence in such country by reason of not having been stamped, shall be for such reason inadmissible in evidence in New Zealand, unless it is proved that such instrument is by the statute law of such country expressly made void if made or executed without being stamped:

(2.) Provided that nothing herein contained shall be deemed to render valid in New Zealand any instrument executed out of New Zealand which is void by the law of the place in which the same was executed.

39. When any instrument is brought to a Stamp Office for assessment, the Deputy Commissioner shall state whether it is liable to duty; and if he is of opinion—

(a.) That it is not so liable, he shall impress thereon the Commissioner's stamp and a particular stamp denoting that it is not so liable.

(b.) That it is liable to duty or fine, he shall assess the duty or fine with which it is in his opinion chargeable, and on the payment of the amount so assessed shall stamp the instrument with the Commissioner's stamp and a stamp denoting the amount of duty or fine so paid.

40. If the Deputy Commissioner is in any doubt as to whether an instrument is liable to duty or as to the amount of duty or fine with which it is chargeable, or if the person presenting the instrument is dissatisfied with the assessment of the Deputy Commissioner thereon, the matter shall be referred to the Commissioner, whose decision thereon, except as beginning the provided shall be final

thereon, except as hereinafter provided, shall be final.

41. (1.) Any person who is dissatisfied with the assessment of the Commissioner made in pursuance of the last preceding section may within twenty-one days after the date of such assessment, and on payment of duty in conformity therewith, appeal against such assessment to the Supreme Court, and may for that purpose require the Commissioner to state and sign a case setting forth the question

him.

Mode of proceeding.

(2.) The Commissioner shall thereupon state and sign a case accordingly, and deliver the same to the person by whom it is required, and on his application such case may be set down for hearing in the proper Court.

upon which his opinion was required, and the assessment made by

(3.) Ûpon the hearing of such case (due notice of which is to be given to the Commissioner) the Court shall determine the question submitted, and, if the instrument in question is, in the opinion of the Court, chargeable with any duty, shall assess the duty with which

it is so chargeable.

(4.) If it is decided by the Court that the assessment of the Commissioner is erroneous, any excess of duty paid in conformity with such erroneous assessment, together with any fine or penalty paid in consequence thereof, shall be ordered by the Court to be repaid to the appellant, together with the costs incurred by him in relation to the appeal.

(5.) But if the assessment of the Commissioner is confirmed by the Court, the costs incurred by the Commissioner in relation to the appeal shall be ordered by the Court to be paid by the

appellant.

42. (1.) In any case of application to the Commissioner or a Deputy Commissioner with reference to any instrument, the Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner may require to be furnished with such evidence upon oath or otherwise as he may deem necessary, in

The Deputy Commissioner to assess duty.

Mode and effect o proceeding.

Person dissatisfied may appeal.

In case of doubt, reference to be made

to Commissioner.

The Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner may call for and refuse to proceed without swidence.

order to show to his satisfaction whether all the facts and circumstances affecting the liability of the instrument to duty, or the amount of the duty chargeable thereon, are fully and truly set forth therein, and may refuse to proceed upon any such application until such evidence

has been furnished accordingly:

(2.) Provided that no oath affidavit or statutory declaration made in Proviso. pursuance of this section shall be used against any person making the same in any proceeding whatever, except in an inquiry as to the duty with which the instrument to which it relates is chargeable; and every person by whom any such oath affidavit or declaration is made shall, on payment of the full duty with which the instrument to which it relates is chargeable, be relieved from any penalty forfeiture or disability he may have incurred by reason of the omission to state truly in such instrument any of the facts or circumstances aforesaid.

43. Any instrument which is stamped with the Commissioner's Effect of Commisstamp shall be deemed to be duly stamped for all purposes whatever.

44. If it appears that the Deputy Commissioner has stamped an Deficient duty may instrument having assessed an insufficient amount of duty or fine be recovered. thereon, the Commissioner may, at any time within six months after the date of stamping such instrument, call upon the person by whom the instrument was presented for assessment to pay the additional duty or fine with which in his opinion such instrument was chargeable at the time of stamping the same; and the amount of such additional duty or fine shall be a debt due to the Crown, and may be recovered from such person accordingly: Provided—

(a.) That such person may appeal against the decision of the Commissioner to the Supreme Court as hereinbefore pro-

(b.) That the instrument so stamped shall be as good and available for all purposes as though full duty had been paid thereon.

45. (1.) All public officers having in their custody any rolls Rolls, books, &c., to books records papers documents or proceedings, the inspection be open to inspection. whereof may tend to secure any duty, or to the proof or discovery of any fraud or omission in relation to any duty, shall at all seasonable times permit any person thereunto authorized by the Commissioner or a Deputy Commissioner to inspect all such rolls books records papers documents and proceedings, and to take such notes and extracts as he may deem necessary, without fee or reward.

(2.) Every person who refuses to permit such inspection shall for Penalty for refusing inspection, £10.

every such refusal forfeit a sum not exceeding ten pounds.

46. If any person whose office it is to enrol register or enter in or Penalty for enrolling upon any rolls books or records any instrument chargeable with any account instrument chargeable with a superior chargeable with a s duty, enrols registers or enters any such instrument not being duly stamped, he shall forfeit a sum not exceeding ten pounds.

47. (1.) Except where express provision is made to the contrary, How duties to be

all duties are to be denoted by impressed stamps only.

(2.) Provided that where any instrument is stamped at a Stamp Office, the Commissioner or a Deputy Commissioner may use adhesive stamps to denote the duty or fine paid thereon, but shall forthwith

obliterate every stamp so used.

48. (1.) An instrument, the duty upon which is required or General direction as permitted by law to be denoted by an adhesive stamp, is not to adhesive stamps. be deemed duly stamped with an adhesive stamp unless the person required by law to cancel such adhesive stamp cancels the same by writing on or across the stamp his name or initials, or the name or initials of his firm, together with the true date of his so writing, so that the stamp may be effectually cancelled and rendered incapable of being used for any other instrument, or unless it is otherwise proved that the stamp appearing on the instrument was affixed thereto at the proper time.

sioner's stamp.

Penalty for neglect or refusal. £10.

(2.) Every person who, being required by law to cancel an adhesive stamp, wilfully neglects or refuses duly and effectually to do so in manner aforesaid, shall forfeit the sum of ten pounds.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS.

As to Affidavits and Declarations.

Duty on affidavits and declarations may be denoted by adhesive stamp.

49. The duty upon an affidavit or declaration may be denoted by an adhesive stamp, which is to be cancelled by the person using the

As to Appointments to and Grants of Offices or Employments.

Definition of "annual salary" and "emoluments."

50. "Annual Salary" means the amount payable for a year's service, whether calculated by the day week month or year.

"Emoluments" mean the average annual amount of the fees or other emoluments received in virtue of any office during the three years preceding the appointment thereto.

Appointments, how be made.

51. (1.) No person shall be appointed to any office under the General or any Provincial Government, or under any Municipal Corporation, the annual salary or emoluments of which office exceed one hundred and fifty pounds, except in virtue of an instrument setting forth the annual salary and emoluments of such office; and no person holding any office under the General or any Provincial Government or under any Municipal Corporation shall be re-appointed to or promoted in the same, or appointed to any other office under the same Government or Corporation whereby his annual salary and emoluments are increased by fifty pounds or upwards, except in virtue of an instrument setting forth the amount of such increase.

(2.) Duty shall be paid on any such increase at the same rate as that which would be payable on the total of such salary or emoluments in the case of a first appointment.

(3.) Any person holding any such office as aforesaid, of which the annual salary and emoluments do not amount to one hundred and fifty pounds, and obtaining such increase thereof as that his annual salary or emoluments exceed one hundred and fifty pounds, must upon such increase be appointed and pay duty as above provided.

52. Every such instrument shall before execution be sent to the Head Office for assessment, and shall, upon the payment of the proper duty, be stamped with the Commissioner's stamp, and with a stamp

denoting the amount of such duty.

53. If any person executes any instrument of appointment liable to duty under this Act and not made and stamped as hereby required, or acts in any manner thereunder, or pays any salary or receives any salary fees or other emoluments in respect thereof, he shall for every offence in any such matter forfeit the sum of ten pounds.

Penalty for paying or receiving salary unless appointment stamped.

sent to Commissioner for assessment.

Instruments of appointment to be

As to Agreements.

Duty on agreements under hand may be denoted by adhesive stamps.

54. The duty of one shilling upon an agreement under hand may be denoted by an adhesive stamp, which is to be cancelled by the person by whom the agreement is first executed.

Definition of terms "banker" "bank" and "bank note."

As to Bank Notes, Bills of Exchange, and Promissory Notes.

55. The terms "banker," "bank," include any corporation society partnership or person carrying on the business of banking in New Zealand.

The term "bank note" means any note issued in New Zealand by any bank promising the payment of any sum of money not exceeding one hundred pounds to the bearer on demand.

56. All bank notes, except as provided by the First Schedule hereto, shall be exempt from duty, and may be re-issued as often as is thought fit.

Bank notes to be exempt subject to annual composition.

57. (1.) The term "bill of exchange" includes also draft order Interpretation of term "bill of cheque and letter of credit, and any document or writing (except a term to blink hote) entitling or purporting to entitle any person, whether named therein or not, to payment by any other person of, or to draw upon any other person for, any sum of money therein mentioned.

(2.) An order for the payment of any sum of money by a bill of exchange or promissory note, or for the delivery of any bill of exchange or promissory note in satisfaction of any sum of money, or for the payment of any sum of money out of any particular fund which may or may not be available, or upon any condition or contingency which may or may not be performed or happen, is to be deemed a bill of exchange for the payment of money on demand.

(3.) An order for the payment of any sum of money weekly, monthly, or at any other stated periods, and also any order for the payment by any person at any time after the date thereof of any sum of money, and sent or delivered by the person making the same to the person by whom the payment is to be made, and not to the person or to any person on his behalf to whom the payment is to be made, is to be deemed a bill of exchange for the payment of money on demand.

58. (1.) The term "promissory note" includes any document or Interpretation of writing (except a bank note) containing a promise to pay any sum of term "promissory note."

money.

(2.) A note promising the payment of any sum of money out of any particular fund which may or may not be available, or upon any condition or contingency which may or may not be performed or happen, is to be deemed a promissory note for the said sum of money.

59. (1.) The duty of one penny on a bill of exchange for the pay- The fixed duty may ment of money on demand may be denoted by an adhesive stamp, be denoted by ablesive stamp, adhesive stamp, adhesive stamp. which is to be cancelled by the person by whom the bill is signed

before he delivers it out of his possession or power.

(2.) Provided that if any bill of exchange for the payment of Proviso. money on demand, liable only to the duty of one penny, is presented for payment unstamped, the person to whom it is so presented may affix thereto a proper adhesive stamp, and cancel the same, as if he had been the drawer of the bill, and such bill shall thereupon be deemed to be duly stamped.

(3.) But the foregoing proviso is not to relieve any person from

any penalty he may have incurred in relation to such bill.

60. (1.) The ad valorem duties upon bills of exchange and Ad valorem duties to promissory notes drawn or made out of New Zealand are to be denoted be denoted be denoted by deno

by adhesive stamps.

(2.) Every person into whose hands any such bill or note comes in New Zealand before it is stamped, shall, before he presents for payment, or indorses transfers or in any manner negotiates or pays such bill or note, affix thereto a proper adhesive stamp denoting the duty payable on the amount named therein, whether such bill be single or drawn as one of a set, and shall cancel every stamp so affixed.

(3.) Provided as follows:-

(a.) If at the time when any such bill or note comes into the protection of bond hands of any bond fide holder thereof, there is affixed fide holders. thereto an adhesive stamp appearing to be duly cancelled, such stamp shall, so far as relates to such holder, be deemed to be duly affixed and cancelled.

(b.) If at the time when any such bill or note comes into the hands of any bona fide holder thereof, there is affixed thereto an adhesive stamp not duly cancelled, it shall be competent for such holder to cancel such stamp, and such bill or note shall thereupon be as valid and available as if the stamp had been duly cancelled by the person by whom it was affixed.

cases by adhesive stamps.

Provisoes for the

Not to relieve any other person. (4.) But neither of the foregoing provisoes is to relieve any person from any penalty incurred by him for not cancelling any adhesive stamp.

Bills and notes purporting to be drawn &c. abroad, to be deemed to have been so drawn &c. 61. A bill of exchange or promissory note purporting to be drawn or made out of New Zealand is for the purposes of this Act, to be deemed to have been so drawn or made, although it may in fact have been drawn or made within New Zealand.

Except as aforesaid, no bill or note may be stamped after execution.

62. Except as aforesaid, no bill of exchange or promissory note shall be stamped after the execution thereof.

execution.

Penalty for issuing &c. any unstamped bill or note £50, and the bill or note to be unavailable.

63. Every person who issues indorses transfers negotiates presents for payment or pays any bill of exchange or promissory note liable to duty and not being duly stamped, shall forfeit the sum of fifty pounds, and the person who takes or receives from any other person any such bill or note not being duly stamped either in payment or as a security, or by purchase or otherwise, shall not be entitled to recover thereon, or to make the same available for any purpose whatever.

Penalty for drawing &c. bills purporting to be in a set and not drawing the whole number.

64. Any person who draws and issues any bill purporting to be drawn as one of a set, and does not draw and issue on material duly stamped the whole number of bills of the set, or who transfers or negotiates any such bill drawn within the colony, and purporting to be one of a set, and does not at the same time transfer or deliver on material duly stamped the whole number of bills of the set, shall forfeit the sum of fifty pounds.

Bills &c. not to be noted or protested unless stamped. 65. Any notary-public or other person who knowingly and wilfully notes or protests otherwise than for non-acceptance any bill of exchange or promissory note liable to duty not appearing to be duly stamped, shall forfeit the sum of twenty pounds.

Penalty.

As to Bills of Lading.

Bills of lading not to be stamped after execution. **66.** (1.) A bill of lading includes also any receipt from the master mate owner or agent of any vessel, and is not to be stamped after the execution thereof.

Penalty.

(2.) Every person who makes or executes any bill of lading not duly stamped shall forfeit a sum not exceeding fifty pounds.

As to Bonds Debentures &c.

Penalty for paying interest upon unstamped bonds. 67. Any person who makes issues delivers assigns transfers or negotiates in the colony any bond debenture or other security chargeable with stamp duty, or pays any principal money interest or dividend accrued due in respect of any such instrument before the same is duly stamped, shall forfeit the sum of twenty pounds.

As to Charter-Parties.

Definition of "charter-party."

68. The term "charter-party" includes any agreement or contract for the charter of any vessel, or any memorandum letter or other writing between the captain master owner or agent of any vessel, and any other person, for or relating to the freight or conveyance of any money goods or effects on board of such vessel.

Adhesive stamp may be used.

69. The duty upon a charter-party may be denoted by an adhesive stamp, which is to be affixed and cancelled by the person by whom the instrument is first executed.

As to charter parties executed abroad.

70. Where a charter-party not being duly stamped is first executed out of New Zealand, any party thereto may within seven days after it has been first received, and before it has been executed by any person in New Zealand, affix thereto an adhesive stamp denoting the duty chargeable thereon, and at the same time cancel such adhesive stamp, and the instrument shall thereupon be deemed duly stamped.

71. A charter-party may be stamped after execution only by Terms upon which the Commissioner or a Deputy Commissioner, and then only upon the charter-parties may be stamped after following terms, that is to say,-

execution.

(1.) Within seven days after the first execution thereof, on payment of the duty and a fine of ten shillings.

(2.) After seven days but within one month after the first execution thereof, on payment of the duty and a fine of ten pounds.

As to Certificates of Title under "The Land Transfer Act, 1870."

72. Every District Land Registrar shall, before issuing any District Land certificate of title, transmit such certificate to the Deputy Commissioner for the District, who shall assess the duty payable thereon, and stamped. upon the payment of such duty (if any) shall stamp the certificate and return it to the District Land Registrar, but such assessment shall be subject to revision on appeal by the Commissioner or by the Supreme Court as hereinbefore provided.

As to Conveyances on Sale.

73. The term "conveyance on sale" includes every instrument, Definition of term and every decree or order of any Court or of any Commissioners, whereby any property upon the sale thereof is legally or equitably transferred to or vested in the purchaser, or any other person on his behalf or by his direction.

74. (1.) Where the consideration, or any part of the considera- How ad valorem tion, for a conveyance on sale consists of any marketable security, duty to be calculated in respect of market such conveyance is to be charged with ad valorem duty in respect able securities. of the value of such security.

(2.) Where the consideration, or any part of the consideration, for a conveyance on sale consists of any security not being a marketable security, such conveyance is to be charged with advalorem duty in respect of the amount due on the day of the date thereof for principal and interest.

75. (1.) Where the consideration, or any part of the considera- How consideration tion, for a conveyance on sale consists of money payable periodically consisting of periodical pay for a definite period, so that the total amount to be paid can be to be charged previously ascertained, such conveyance is to be charged in respect of such conveyance in the consideration with advantaged previously ascertained, such conveyance is to be charged in respect of such consideration with ad valorem duty on such total amount.

(2.) Where the consideration, or any part of the consideration, for a conveyance on sale consists of money payable periodically in perpetuity or for any indefinite period not terminable with life, such conveyance is to be charged in respect of such consideration with ad valorem duty on the total amount which will or may, according to the terms of sale, be payable during the period of twenty years next after the day of the date of such instrument.

(3.) Where the consideration, or any part of the consideration, for a conveyance on sale consists of money payable periodically during any life or lives, such conveyance is to be charged in respect of such consideration with ad valorem duty on the amount which will or may, according to the terms of sale, be payable during the period of twelve years next after the day of the date of such instrument.

(4.) Provided that no conveyance on sale chargeable with ad valorem duty in respect of periodical payments, and containing also provision for securing such periodical payments, is to be charged with any duty whatsoever in respect of such provision, and no separate instrument made in any such case for securing such periodical payments is to be charged with any higher duty than ten shillings.

76. Where any property is conveyed to any person in considera- How conveyance in tion wholly or in part of any debt due to him, or subject either cer- consideration of a

tainly or contingently to the payment or transfer of any money or

marketable security, whether being or constituting a charge or en-

debt, or subject to future payment &c. to be charged.

cumbrance upon the property or not, such debt money or marketable security is to be deemed the whole or part, as the case may be, of the consideration in respect whereof the conveyance is chargeable with advalorem duty.

How conveyance in certain cases to be charged.

77. (1.) Where any property has been contracted to be sold for one consideration for the whole, and is conveyed to the purchaser in separate parts or parcels by different instruments, the consideration is to be apportioned in such manner as the parties think fit, so that a distinct consideration for each separate part or parcel is set forth in the conveyance relating thereto, and such conveyance is to be charged with ad valorem duty in respect of such distinct consideration.

(2.) Where property contracted to be purchased for one consideration for the whole by two or more persons jointly, or by any person for himself and others, or wholly for others, is conveyed in parts or parcels by separate instruments to the persons by or for whom the same was purchased for distinct parts of the consideration, the conveyance of each separate part or parcel is to be charged with advalorem duty in respect of the distinct part of the consideration

therein specified.

(3.) Where a person having contracted for the purchase of any property but not having obtained a conveyance thereof, contracts to sell the same to any other person, and the property is in consequence conveyed immediately to the sub-purchaser, the conveyance is to be charged with ad valorem duty in respect of the consideration for the

sale by the original purchaser to the sub-purchaser.

(4.) Where a person having contracted for the purchase of any property, but not having obtained a conveyance, contracts to sell the whole, or any part or parts thereof, to any other person or persons, and the property is in consequence conveyed by the original seller to different persons in parts or parcels, the conveyance of each part or parcel is to be charged with ad valorem duty in respect only of the consideration moving from the sub-purchaser thereof, without regard to the amount or value of the original consideration.

(5.) Where a sub-purchaser takes an actual conveyance of the interest of the person immediately selling to him, which is chargeable with ad valorem duty in respect of the consideration moving from him, and is duly stamped accordingly, any conveyance to be afterwards made to him of the same property by the original seller, shall be exempt from the said ad valorem duty, and chargeable only with

the duty of ten shillings.

As to the sale of an annuity or right not before in existence.

78. Where upon the sale of any annuity or other right not before in existence, such annuity or other right is not created by actual grant or conveyance, but is only secured by bond warrant of attorney covenant contract or otherwise, the bond or other instrument, or some one of such instruments if there be more than one, is to be charged with the same duty as a conveyance on sale.

As to Duplicates or Counterparts.

As to duplicates or counterparts.

79. The duplicate or counterpart of an instrument chargeable with duty is not to be stamped as such unless the full and proper duty has been paid upon the original instrument of which it is the duplicate or counterpart.

As to Exchange and Partition or Division.

As to exchange and partition. 80. Where upon the exchange of any real property for any other real property, or upon the partition or division of any real property, any consideration exceeding in amount or value one hundred pounds is paid or given, or agreed to be paid or given, for equality,

the principal or only instrument whereby such exchange or partition or division is effected is to be charged with the same ad valorem duty as a conveyance on sale for such consideration, and with such duty only.

As to Incorporated Companies.

81. (1.) Every incorporated company carrying on business in the Incorporated Comcolony, whether incorporated in New Zealand or elsewhere, shall panies to take out yearly licenses. procure from the Commissioner every year a license in the form or to the effect in the Third Schedule hereto. And the Commissioner is hereby authorized to issue such license on the payment to him of

the duty specified in the First Schedule hereto:
(2.) Such license shall be issuable on the first day of January in every year: Provided that the first license issued to any company may be issued at any time during the year, but shall continue in force for the remaining part of such year only, and the duty payable in such case shall be a proportionate part of the duty hereby payable on an annual license.

82. No Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, or other officer Registrar of Joint acting in that behalf, shall issue any certificate of incorporation to to issue any certificate of incorporation. any company until the full amount of duty payable by this Act in cate until duty paid. respect thereof is paid.

83. If any incorporated company required by this Act to obtain Penalty on company an annual license, shall at any time carry on business or operations in without license. New Zealand without having obtained such annual license or if on the expiration of such license any such company neglects to renew the same within one calendar month after the expiration thereof, such company and every director secretary or other person acting in the management thereof, shall be liable to a penalty of twenty pounds for every month during which the Company remains unlicensed.

84. Any mutual or co-operative company or association consisting Mutual Companies of more than twenty persons, carrying on Life Insurance business in a liable to annual duty as incorporated com-New Zealand, whether in partnership or not, and whether for profit or panies. not, but in such a manner as that the same have not or do not appear to have any nominal capital in respect of which duty may be assessed, shall be deemed to be an incorporated company, and shall pay the maximum duty of two hundred pounds.

85. If any question is raised whether the purposes or objects commissioner's for which any company or association is formed fall within the exemp- decision as to liability tions mentioned in the First Schedule hereto or not, the decision of the final Commissioner shall be final.

As to Leases.

86. The term "lease" includes any agreement for the letting of Definition of term

any lands tenements or hereditaments.

87. Where the consideration, or any part of the consideration, Leases how to be for which any lease is granted, does not consist of money, but of any charged in respect produce or other goods, the duty is to be calculated on the value of such produce or goods at the average market price thereof on the day of the date of the instrument.

88. (1.) A lease is not to be charged with duty in respect of Directions as to duty any penal rent, or increased rent in the nature of a penal rent, thereby in certain cases. reserved, or by reason of being made in consideration of the surrender or abandonment of any existing lease or relating to the same subjectmatter.

(2.) No lease made for any consideration in respect whereof it is chargeable with ad valorem duty, and in further consideration either of a covenant by the lessee to make, or of his having previously made, any substantial improvement of or any addition to the property demised to him, or of any covenant relating to the matter of the lease, is to be charged with any duty in respect of such further consideration.

As to Mortgages, &c.

Definition of term mortgage.

89. The term "mortgage" means a security by way of mortgage for the payment of any definite and certain sum of money advanced or lent at the time, or previously due and owing or forborne to be paid, being payable or for the repayment of money to be thereafter lent advanced or paid, or which may become due upon an account current, together with or without any sum already advanced or due, as the case may be; and includes-

Further charge upon or disposition of property by way of mortgage, and any conveyance of property whatsoever in trust, to be sold or otherwise converted into money, intended only as a security, and redeemable before the sale or other disposal thereof, either by express stipulation or otherwise, except where such conveyance is made for the benefit of creditors generally, or for the benefit of creditors specified, who accept the provision made for payment of their debts in full satisfaction thereof, or who exceed five in number:

Also any defeasance declaration or other deed or writing for defeating or making redeemable or explaining or qualifying any conveyance or disposition of any property whatsoever apparently absolute but intended only as a security:

Also any agreement to give a mortgage of any property, and any contract or bond for making a mortgage or any such other security or conveyance as aforesaid of any property or for pledging or charging the same as a security:

And any lien or security given under any Act authorizing the giving or making of any such lien or security.

90. (1.) A security for the payment or repayment of money to be lent advanced or paid, or which may become due upon an account current, either with or without money previously due, is to be charged, where the total amount secured or to be ultimately recoverable is in any way limited, with the same duty as a security for the amount so limited.

(2.) Where such total amount is unlimited, the security is to be available for such an amount only as the ad valorem duty impressed

thereon extends to cover.

- (3.) Provided that no money to be advanced for the insurance of any property comprised in any such security against damage by fire, or for keeping up any policy of life insurance comprised in such security, or for effecting in lieu thereof any new policy, or for the renewal of any grant or lease of any property comprised in such security upon the dropping of any life whereon such property is held, shall be reckoned as forming part of the amount in respect whereof the security is chargeable with ad valorem duty.
- 91. A security for the payment of any rent charge annuity or periodical payments by way of repayment, or in satisfaction or discharge of any loan advance or payment intended to be so repaid satisfied or discharged, is to be charged with the same duty as a similar security for the payment of the sum of money so lent advanced or paid.
- 92. No transfer of a duly stamped security, and no security by way of further charge, is to be charged with any duty by reason

advances, how to be

Security for future

Security for repayment by periodical payments, how to be charged.

As to transfers and further charges.

of containing any further or additional security for the money previously secured, or the interest thereof, or any new covenant proviso power stipulation or agreement in relation thereto, or any further assurance of the property comprised in the transferred or previous security.

93. An instrument chargeable with ad valorem duty as a mort. As to mortgage with gage is not to be charged with any other duty by reason of the equity of redemption. of redemption in the mortgaged property being thereby conveyed or limited in any other manner than to, or in trust for or according to the direction of, a purchaser.

As to Notarial Acts.

94. The duty upon a notarial act, and upon the protest by a Duty on notarial act may be denoted by notary-public of a bill of exchange or promissory note, may be de-adhesive stamp. noted by an adhesive stamp, which is to be cancelled by the notary.

95. Any notary-public who shall knowingly and wilfully by Deeds &c. not to be any notarial act attest or certify the due execution of any instrument unless stamped. liable to duty and not appearing to be duly stamped, shall forfeit the sum of twenty pounds: Provided always that nothing in this Proviso. Act shall extend to render any notary-public liable to a penalty by reason of his attesting the execution of any instrument merely as a witness, and without attaching annexing or subscribing any notarial act.

As to Policies of Sea Insurance.

96. The term "sea insurance" means any insurance (including Interpretation of re-assurance) made upon any vessel, or upon the machinery tackle and "policy." or furniture of any vessel, or upon any goods merchandise or property of any description whatever on board of any vessel, or upon the freight of or any other interest which may be lawfully insured in or relating to any vessel; and the word "policy" in respect of sea insurance means any instrument whereby a contract or agreement for any sea insurance is made or entered into.

97. The duty upon a policy may be denoted by an adhesive Adhesive stamps may stamp, which is to be affixed and cancelled by the person by whom the be used for policies. instrument is first executed.

98. No contract or agreement for sea insurance shall be valid All sea insurance to unless the same is expressed in a policy, and every policy shall specify the particular risk or adventure, the names of the subscribers or underwriters, and the sum or sums insured; and if any of the above-mentioned particulars are omitted in any policy, such policy shall be null and void to all intents and purposes.

99. No policy shall be made for any time exceeding twelve befor more than months; and every policy which shall be made for any time exceeding twelve months.

twelve months shall be null and void to all intents and purposes. 100. A policy may be stamped after it is signed or underwritten stamped aftermaking, by any person only by the Commissioner or a Deputy Commissioner, except on certain conditions.

and then only upon the terms following, that is to say, (1.) Within fourteen days after the same bears date, and

was executed by the person first executing the same, upon payment of the duty without any fine.

(2.) After the expiration of the said fourteen days and within thirty days after the same bears date, and was first executed as aforesaid, upon payment of the duty and a fine of ten pounds.

(3.) If such policy is first executed at any place out of the colony, then within sixty days from the time when the same is received in the colony, upon payment of the duty without any fine: Provided that proof shall be first made Insurances for voyage and time to bear duties for both voyage and time.

to the satisfaction of the Commissioner or a Deputy Commissioner of the facts aforesaid.

101. (1.) Where any sea insurance is made for a voyage and also for time, or to extend to or cover any time beyond twenty-four hours after the ship arrives at her destination, and is there moored at anchor in good safety, the policy shall be chargeable with duty as a policy for a voyage and also with duty as a policy for time.

(2.) Where the separate and distinct interests of two or more persons are insured by one policy for a voyage or for time, such policy shall be liable to duty as a separate policy for each of such

interests.

Penalty for not making out policy, or making &c. any policy not duly stamped, £20. 102. Every person who—

(1.) Receives or takes credit for any premium or consideration for any contract of insurance, and does not, within thirty days after receiving or taking credit for such premium or consideration, make out and execute a duly stamped policy of such insurance;

(2.) Makes executes or delivers out, or pays or allows in account, or agrees to pay or allow in account, any money upon or in respect of any policy not stamped as hereinbefore

provided;

shall forfeit a sum not exceeding twenty pounds.

As to Receipts.

Meaning of term "receipt."

103. The term "receipt" means and includes any note memorandum or writing whatsoever, whereby any money amounting to two pounds or upwards, or any bill of exchange or promissory note for money, amounting to two pounds or upwards, is acknowledged or expressed to have been received or deposited, or paid, or whereby any debt or demand, or any part of any debt or demand, of the amount of two pounds or upwards, is acknowledged to have been settled satisfied or discharged, or which signifies or imports any such acknowledgment and whether the same is or is not signed with the name of any person.

104. (1.) The duty upon a receipt may be denoted by an adhesive stamp, which is to be affixed and cancelled by the person by whom the

receipt is given before he delivers it out of his hands.

(2.) Every person who writes or signs, or causes to be written or signed, any receipt liable to duty, without the same being first duly

stamped, shall forfeit a sum not exceeding ten pounds.

105. Any person who in any case where a receipt would be liable to duty refuses to give a receipt duly stamped, or upon payment to the amount of two pounds or upwards gives a receipt for a sum not amounting to two pounds, or separates or divides the amount paid, with intent to evade the duty, shall forfeit the sum of ten pounds.

106. A receipt may be stamped after being given, only by the Commissioner or a Deputy Commissioner, and then only upon the

terms following, that is to say,-

(1.) Within one month after such receipt has been given, upon payment of the duty and a fine of five pounds.

(2.) After the expiration of one month from the giving of such receipt, on payment of the duty and a fine of ten pounds.

As to Settlements.

As to settlement of policy or security.

107. Where any money which may become due or payable upon any policy of life insurance, or upon any security not being a marketable security, is settled or agreed to be settled, the instrument whereby such settlement is made or agreed to be made is to be charged with ad valorem duty in respect of such money, and in the case of a marketable

Duty on receipts may denoted by ad-

hesive stamps.

Penalty.

Penalty for offences relating to receipts.

Commissioner &c. may stamp receipts upon certain terms.

security is to be charged with the ad valorem duty on the value of such security.

Provided as follows:-

(1.) Where in the case of a policy of life insurance no provision is made for keeping up the policy, the ad valorem duty is to be charged

only on the value of the policy at the date of the instrument.

(2.) If in any such case the instrument of settlement contains a statement of such value, and is stamped in accordance with such statement, it is, so far as regards such policy, to be deemed duly stamped: Provided that if such statement is proved to be untrue, the deficient duty and fine may be recovered.

108. (1.) Where several instruments are executed for effecting Where several instruthe settlement of the same property, and the ad valorem duty charge- ments, one only to be able in respect of such settlement exceeds ten shillings, one only of valorem duty.

such instruments is to be charged with the ad valorem duty.

(2.) Where a settlement is made in pursuance of any previous agreement or articles upon which any ad valorem settlement duty exceeding ten shillings has been paid in respect of the same property, such settlement is not to be charged with any ad valorem settlement duty.

(3.) In each of the aforesaid cases the instruments not chargeable with ad valorem duty are to be charged with the duty of ten shillings.

109. Where any person is specially named or described as the Instrument in favour object of a power of appointment in a settlement on which ad valorem of object of power of appointment in certain cases not liable probate duty under the Acts hereby repealed, or duty under the Third Part of this Act, has been paid, an instrument of appointment in the duty. in favour of such person in respect of such property is not liable to duty.

charged with ad

As to Transfers of Runs.

110. Where any person sells or disposes of any run or interest Assessment of duty therein held under a license or lease, or promise of a license or lease, on transfers of runs. or in any other manner, from the Crown, together with the stock thereon, or the station or any improvement thereon, the duty named in the First Schedule hereto shall be assessed on the whole consideration agreed to be paid for the interest in the run station improvements and stock thereon.

As to Transfers of Shares.

111. No transfer of any share or shares of or in the stock or funds Transfers of shares of any corporation company or society whatever in New Zealand not to be registered shall be registered recorded or entered in the books of such corporation unless duly stamped. company or society until such transfer is duly stamped.

112. No instrument of sale or transfer of any share or shares Instrument of sale or shall be valid, either at law or in equity, unless the name of the transfer to be void, if purchaser or transferree is inserted therein at the time of or before transferree not inthe execution of the instrument of sale or transfer; and if any serted. person executes a blank sale-note transfer contract-note or other instrument of sale or transfer, in any manner or for any purpose whatsoever, he shall forfeit a sum of not less than twenty pounds or Penalty for executing more than one hundred pounds; and if any such instrument is so same, £20. made or signed, it shall be wholly and absolutely void and inoperative, and shall in no case be made available by the insertion of a name or of any other particulars afterwards; and the person selling or transferring such share shall not be divested of his interest therein, but shall remain liable thereon as if he had never sold or disposed of the same. And if such person is a licensed sharebroker, his license shall, on any conviction under this section, be absolutely forfeited, and he shall not thereafter be qualified to act as a broker, or to have a fresh license issued to him.

name of purchaser or

Agent not entitled to fee if instrument not duly executed, stamped, &c. 113. No sharebroker auctioneer commission agent or any other person shall be entitled to any brokerage commission or any other fee or reward in respect of the sale or transfer of any such share, unless the instrument of sale or transfer is filled up with all necessary particulars to make it a complete instrument, and is duly stamped.

PART III.

AS TO DUTIES ON THE ESTATES OF DECEASED PERSONS.

Interpretation of terms.

114. In this Part of this Act and the Second Schedule hereto, the following terms are to have the following meaning:—

(1.) The term "administration" includes probate letters of administration, with or without a will annexed, and any rule or order of any Court whereby any person becomes entitled at law to administer the property of a deceased person.

(2.) "Administrator" includes executor administrator and also any person succeeding to real estate by the operation of law and not under a will.

(3.) "Descends" means and includes every manner, whether by settlement will or by operation of law, by which any person acquires the possession or enjoyment of any property of a deceased person, whether directly or as the object of a trust for his benefit.

Duties payable on all property of deceased.

Grant of administra-

115. The duties mentioned in the Second Schedule to this Act are payable upon the death of any person in respect of all the property of or to which such person is possessed seized or entitled at the time of his death.

116. Every administration shall immediately upon the grant thereof be sent by the Registrar or Clerk of the Court to the Commissioner, who shall issue the same to the person entitled to receive it upon payment of the duty payable on the property to which the same relates and not otherwise.

tion to be sent by Registrar or Clerk of Court to the Commissioner.

Statement of property to be forwarded to 117. In order to ascertain the amount of duty so payable, every administrator shall, within six months from the grant of administration, file with the Commissioner a statement in writing in respect of the property to which such administration relates, specifying—

(a.) The particulars of all the personal property of or to which the deceased was possessed or entitled at the time of his death, and of the value thereof.

(b.) All the debts due by the deceased payable thereout.

- (c.) The balance of such personal property after deducting such debts.
- (d.) The situation extent and value of all the real property of or to which the deceased was seized or entitled at the time of his death.
- (e.) The particulars of all mortgages and other debts secured thereon.

(f.) The balance of the value of such real property after deducting such debts.

Provided that the Commissioner may, upon the application of the administrator within the six months aforesaid, extend the time within which such statement must be filed to any period not exceeding twelve months.

Statement to be verified.

118. The said statement shall contain such particulars of property and of debts and liabilities, and shall be in such form and be verified in such manner and by the oaths of such persons as the Commissioner requires, and may be altered by his permission or as he directs, and when finally approved by him shall be certified by his

23

signature, and such certificate shall be conclusive as to the amount and value of property included in such statement, and the Commissioner shall assess the duty payable thereon: Provided that the administrator may appeal to the Supreme Court against such assessment in the manner provided by the forty-first section of this Act.

119. The said duties shall be deemed to be a debt due to Her Duties to be a debt Majesty by the deceased, and shall be paid to the Commissioner due to Her Majesty by deceased. by the administrator of such property after the payment of the testamentary and funeral expenses, and in priority to all debts of the deceased; and if the personal estate of the deceased be insufficient to pay such duty, the Administrator or any person interested may apply to the Supreme Court, which may order that a sufficient part of the real estate of the deceased may be sold and the proceeds applied in payment of the said duties, and of the costs of such order and sale

consequent thereon.

120. The said duties shall be paid within six months from the grant Duties to be paid of administration, or within such further time not exceeding twelve months from such grant as the Commissioner may upon application. tion made within such six months allow; and if not paid within such time or further time, the Supreme Court, or a Judge thereof, may upon the application of the Commissioner in a summary way order a sufficient part of the property of the deceased to be sold, and the proceeds applied in payment of the said duties, and of the costs of the order and the sale consequent thereon.

121. Before issuing administration the Commissioner shall stamp Administration or the same with the Commissioner's stamp and with stamps denoting in certain cases the statement to be the duty paid; and in the case of property descending by operation stamped. of law without administration, he shall place such stamps on the statement hereby required to be filed.

122. Where upon the decease of any person the statement has No duty payable on been filed and the full duty paid required by this Act in respect of any further administration being taken out. property of such person, no further statement shall be required or duty become payable in respect of the same property upon the grant

of any further administration consequent upon the same decease.

123. Every administrator shall deduct from each and every devise Power to administrabequest and legacy coming to any person an amount equal to the duty thereon, calculated at the same rate as is payable on the estate legatees. under this Act, unless a different disposition as to the payment of the said duty has been made by the deceased by will.

124. On the death of any person having a life interest by will or Duty on life interest, settlement in any property the duty is to be calculated according to how to be calculated. the consanguinity to the testator or settlor of the person to whom the

property descends on the determination of such life interest.

125. If after any duty has been paid under this Act it is dis-Provision in case too covered that too little duty has been paid, the administrator shall paid. forthwith amend his statement accordingly, and shall pay such additional duty as may be assessed thereon, and the amount so payable shall be a debt due by such administrator to Her Majesty, and may be recovered accordingly.

126. If after any duty has been paid under this Act it is discovered Provision in case too that too much duty has been paid in consequence of debts of the much duty has been paid. deceased being ascertained which were not included in the statement, the administrator shall amend such statement accordingly, and the Commissioner, upon being satisfied, after due examination of the parties, of the existence of such debts, may order the amount overpaid to be returned to the person entitled to receive the same.

127. Any person making or assisting to make any statement Penalty for false required by this Act, in which any particular is wilfully omitted or statement. falsely stated, with intent to evade the payment or lessen the amount

of duty payable under this Act, shall forfeit a sum not exceeding one hundred pounds.

Penalty for dealing with estate prior to payment of duty. 128. Every administrator or other person who takes possession of or exercises any right over, or receives or pays any moneys belonging to or accruing from, the property of any deceased person, not having first filed with the Commissioner the statement and paid the duties required by this Act, shall forfeit a sum not exceeding five hundred pounds.

Provided that the Commissioner may by writing under his hand authorize any person to whom administration has been granted to collect, before the issue of administration, so much of the debts due to the deceased or of the rents or other proceeds accruing from the property to which such administration relates as may enable him to pay the duties payable in respect of such property, and the administrator shall immediately pay all moneys so collected to the Commissioner on account of such duties, and to no other person whatsoever. And any receipts given by the administrator for moneys received under such authority shall be a good and valid discharge to the person to whom the same are given.

Schedules.

SCHEDULES.

FIRST SCHEDULE.

s. d. AFFIDAVIT OF DECLARATION made under any Statute 2 Every affidavit or declaration— (1.) Filed read or used in any Court or before any Judge, Registrar, Clerk or officer of any Court. (2.) Required by the Commissioner.(3.) Required by "The Bankers Returns Act, 1858," or by any Insurance Company, or in proof of death or identity. (4.) Required under any Act or regulation for the time being in force for the management of the Customs, of the Post Office, or of the Post Office or other Savings Banks, or of the Government Insurance Office. (5.) Required to be made before any Registrar of Marriages, or any Registrar of Births Deaths and Marriages. (6.) Required to be made by any officer of the General Government or of any Provincial Government in respect of any matters relating to the duties of his office. AGREEMENT OF MEMORANDUM OF AN AGREEMENT under hand only-(1.) Where the matter thereof is of the value of £20 or upwards, whether the same is only evidence of a contract, or obligatory on the parties from its being a written instrument, including every schedule receipt or other matter put or indorsed thereon 1 0 or annexed thereto (2.) Where divers letters are offered in evidence to prove any

Annual License to be taken out by-

(1.) Any Chartered Incorporated or Joint Stock Company carrying on business in New Zealand, whether incorporated in this colony or elsewhere.

agreement between the writers thereof, on any one of such

0 2 6

(1s. per cent. on nominal capital but not to exceed a maximum of £200 in respect of any one license.

All Companies or Associations formed for any of the following

purposes:—
(1.) Owning and working Manufactories, Ironworks, Implement and Machine Works, Flour, Threshing, or Saw Mills, or Works for the cultivation preparation or dressing of *Phormium tenax*.

	£	s. d.
(2.) Carrying on Whaling or Sealing.		
(3.) Carriage of Passengers or Goods by land or water.(4.) Towing Vessels or Barges or landing Cargo or Pas-		
sengers. (5.) Working Mines or Quarries, and selling Coal, Stone		
or Lime. (6.) Owning and letting or conducting Halls or Buildings for Public Meetings or Entertainments, or for con-		
ducting or managing Grounds Buildings or other places of Public Recreation or Amusement.		
(7.) Owning or working Slips or Docks for building or repairing Ships.		
(8.) Preserving Meat, or boiling down Carcases of Animals for Tallow or otherwise.		
(9.) The introduction and settlement of Immigrants. (10.) Carrying on the business of Friendly Societies.		
APPOINTMENT in execution of a power over any property, or of any use share or interest therein, by any instrument not being a will	0 1	0 0
APPOINTMENT OF NEW TRUSTEES.—For every appointment of a new Trustee or new Trustees, except the Public Trustee, whether		
by any instrument other than a will, or by order of the Supreme Court or a Judge thereof	0 1	0 0
Appointment to any office place or employment under the General or any Provincial Government or in any Municipal Corporation in New Zealand—		
Where the whole Salary or Emoluments receivable during the year		
Exceed £150 and do not exceed £200 \dots Exceed £200 and do not exceed £500 \dots	£1\$	
Exceed £500	£3 \$\psi\$	
Assignment or Transfer of Miners' property, or letter or instrument	20 9	conv.
authorizing the transfer or assignment of miners' property,		
where the letter or instrument is the only act required on the		
part of the vendor or assignor.		
Where the purchase or consideration money or the value of the		
$egin{array}{lll} ext{property} \ ext{Does not exceed $\pounds 20} & \dots & \dots & \dots \end{array}$	0	1 0
Exceeds £20 and does not exceed £50	ŏ	
For every additional £50 or part of £50 BILLS OF EXCHANGE AND PROMISSORY NOTES.	0 :	2 6
BILL OF EXCHANGE— (1.) Payable on demand	0 (0 1
(2.) Payable otherwise than on demand— If drawn singly—		
For any sum not exceeding £50		1 0
For every additional £50 or part of £50		1 0
	Such sur each Bill	
	set as to 1 the same	
	if a sing	
	were dra the amou	
PROMISSORY NOTE-	the amou	
Payable either on demand or otherwise than on demand—		
For any sum not exceeding £25 Exceeding £25 and not exceeding £50		6
For every additional £50 or part of £50	0 1	L 0 L 0
BANK Notes issued by any Bank in New Zealand— Upon the average quarterly amount in circulation, as certified		
under "The Bankers' Returns Act, 1858" BILL OF LADING for any goods merchandise or effects to be carried to	10s. 🍄 (cent.
any place beyond the boundaries of the Colony-	0 1	l 0
For every such Bill of Lading or copy thereof CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION.—For every Certificate of Incorporation of any Joint Stock Company registered under "The Laint Stock Companies Act 1860" and Act approximately	, v	. 0
Joint Stock Companies Act, 1860," or any Acts amending the same, on the registration thereof	5 (0 (
CHARTER-PARTY	0 10	
CONVEYANCE ON SALE—		
For every £50, or part of £50, of the amount of the value or consideration for the sale	0 5	6 0
Exemptions— (1.) Any Grant from the Crown of Crown Lands in New Zealand.		
7		

	(2.)	Any instrument dedicating a free and perpetual right of way to the use of the public, and not containing any pro-	£	s.	d.
	<i>(</i> 3)	vision by which such instrument could otherwise become liable to duty. Any conveyance of property to or in trust for any corpo-			
	(0.)	ration or body of persons associated for religious, charitable or educational purposes; and any instrument for declaring or defining the trust, or for appointing new			
DEED of	any	trustees, in respect of the property so conveyed. T or DUPLICATE of Lease or of Agreement by Deed kind whatever not otherwise charged in this Schedule	0		6
EXCHANG	(1.)		on a Co on sale.	on v e	yance
Land Ti	RANS	In any other case		10	
	(1.)	Certificate of Title	I'he san on the ance o estate f	Co f a or s	nvey- like like
	(2.)	Memorandum of Transfer in Schedule D— Where the transfer is on a sale or exchange of the pro-	consider The sam on a Co on sale.		
		Where the transfer is not on a sale or exchange of the property therein	0	10	0
	(3.)	Memorandum of Lease in Schedule E, and every transfer or surrender thereof	on a Lea	ase.	_
		Memorandum of Morigage in Schedule 1 \ 8	The sa as on a I The san	Mort	gage.
	(5.)	money in Schedule G (c	n sale.	•	
	(6.)	(0	Phe sam on a Co on sale.	_	
	(7.)	Transfer of Mortgage in Schedule H ? c	l'he sam on a Tr Mortgas	ansf	er of
Exe	<i>mptie</i> Dup	plicate of any instrument retained by any District Land			
LEASE OF	tena	Registrar to form records of the Land Registry Office. REEMENT FOR A LEASE, or any written document for the uncy or occupancy of any lands tenements or hereditaments— Without any consideration by way of premium— In respect of the yearly rent, where such rent Does not exceed £50	0	2	6
	(2.)	And for every additional £50 or part of £50 \(\) In consideration of a sum of money by way of premium \(\)	0	2	6
	(3.)	In consideration of a sum of money by way of premium, and also of a yearly rent—			
		On the entruit of anomicus	The sam on a Co on sale.		
		And on the yearly rent when amounting to £20 or § 1	The sam on a Lea		ty as
Exe	mptic Lea	se or License granted by the Crown of any Waste Lands under the provisions of any Waste Lands Act or any Act			
	"Th	providing for the administration of Gold Fields. For every Memorial authorized to be registered under ne Deeds Registration Act, 1868" m—Memorandum of the commencement of proceedings	0 :	10	0
	regi: 1866	stered under the provisions of "The Crown Debts Act			
	conf	fess and enter up judgment— Being the only or principal or primary security for—			
	(~-)	The payment or repayment of money not exceeding £50	0	1	0
	(2.)	Being a collateral, or auxiliary, or additional, or substituted security, or by way of further assurance for the above-mentioned purpose, where the principal or primary security is duly stamped—			

	~~~~							
	For every £100,	and also fo	r anv frac	tional nar	t of	£	s.	d.
	£100 of the			pai		0	0	6
	(3.) Transfer, Assignment bond, debenture, or c							
	secured by any such	instrument,	or by any	y warran				
	attorney to enter up j For every £100,				t of			
		e amount to						
	disposed	•••	•••	•••		0 The s		6 luty as
	And also where money alrea		money is	added to	the )	a prii	acipa	l secu- ch fur-
	(4.) RECONVEYANCE, REL	_		DDENDED	(	ther r		
	RENUNCIATION of any							
	the benefit thereof, or For every £100,							
	£100, of the	total amoun						
Nomani	at any time : L Act—	secured	•••	•••	•••	0	0	6
MOTABLE	(1.) For every Maritime I							
	any vessel or cargo v	vhether note	d only or	extended	in.	0	9	e
	(2.) For every other Note	rial Act				0		6 0
PARTITI								
	(1.) For any Instrument tenements or hered	effecting a	partition	of any la	inds (	Che sa	me d	uty as
	exceeding £100 paid l	by way of eq	nality	···	(	n sale		Juneo
Darran	(2.) In any other case	•••		•••	•••	0	10	0
Policy-	- (1.) Upon every Policy of	Sea Insurar	ice on any	voyage-				
	For every £100 insured	and every	part of £	100 ther	eby	0	1	0
	(2.) Upon every Policy of				•••	٠	1	Ū
	For every £100 insured-		part of £	100 ther	eby			
	Where the	nsurance is		ıny time	not		_	
	exceedir For any tim	ig six months e exceeding		hs and	 not	0	1	0
		g twelve mo				0	2	0
Power of	F ATTORNEY.—Upon every Attorney whether executed				o <b>f</b> 	0	10	0
RECEIPT	or DISCHARGE given for the	payment of	money of	the amo	unt			
	of two pounds or upwards, in any Bank or in the hand				rest	0	0	1
Exe	nptions—				,			
	(1.) Receipt indorsed upounder this Act acknowledge							
	sideration money there							
	(2.) For money deposited (3.) For money paid int	any Land	, Building	, Provide	ent,			
	Friendly, Industrial, I any Post Office or o	fire or Life	Insurance	Society,	or			
	pursuance to any Act				щ			
	NT, DEED OF—							
(1.)	Any Instrument whether valuable consideration other	er than a box	or upon a <i>nå fide</i> pec	ny good uniary c	or on-			
	sideration whereby any pr settled in any manner what	operty is se						
	Upon the amount or value		ertv					
	For every £100 and ev			•••	•••	0	5	0
	except by way of mortgag		,					
	(1.) Of any run or station  promise of lease or li							
	interest therein—				·V	_		
	For every £100 an (2.) Upon the sale of any				nd	0 :	10	O
	funds of any corporati							
	New Zealand— Where the purcha	se or conside	ration mon	ey—				
	Does not exce		•••		•••	0	1	0

Exceeds £20 and does not exceed £50 ... 0 2 6For every additional £50 or part of £50 ... 0 2 6

### GENERAL EXEMPTIONS FROM STAMP DUTY.

Every instrument for effecting the payment or transmission of money, or for acknowledging any such payment or receipt by to or on behalf of Her Majesty or the General or any Provincial Government in the colony.

Every instrument for the conveyance of any property or any interest therein to Her Majesty, or to the General or any Provincial Government, or to any person in her or their behalf.

Every instrument whereby any contract is made with Her Majesty, or with the General or any Provincial Government, or with any person on her or their behalf.

All Bonds to Her Majesty.

Letters of Registration and Letters Patent granted under "The Patents Act, 1870," and all instruments issued under the Seal of the Colony other than those specifically charged under this Act.

### SECOND SCHEDULE.

In respect of all personal property left after the payment of all debts payable thereout, and in respect of the value of all real property left after deducting the amount of all mortgages and other debts secured thereon:—

Upon so much of such property as descends to any person, being—  Exceeding	£ 100 1,000	£ 1,000 5,000	£ 5,000 10,000	£ 10,000 20,000	£ 20,000
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
<ul> <li>(a) Lineal issue, or lineal ancestor of the deceased</li> <li>(b.) Brother or sister of the deceased,</li> </ul>	2	2	2	2	2
or lineal issue of such brother or sister (c.) Brother or sister of the father or	3	31/2	4	$4\frac{1}{2}$	5
mother of the deceased, or lineal issue of such brother or sister	4	$4\frac{1}{2}$	5	5½	6
(d.) Brother or sister of the grand- father or grandmother of the deceased, or lineal issue of such					
brother or sister	5	$5\frac{1}{2}$	6	$6\frac{1}{2}$	7
(e.) Of any other degree of collateral consanguinity to deceased  (f.) A stranger in blood to the de-	6	$6\frac{1}{2}$	7	$7\frac{1}{2}$	8
ceased	10	10	10	10	10

Exemptions.—1. So much of such property as descends to the husband or wife of the deceased.

2. Any property held by the deceased as a trustee, and in which he has no beneficial interest.

## THIRD SCHEDULE.

FORM OF ANNUAL LICENSE TO BE ISSUED TO COMPANIES.

This is to certify that "The Company, Limited, [or as the case may be,] being a Company duly incorporated under the provisions of "The Joint Companies Act, 1860" [or, incorporated under Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, dated the day of , 18, or incorporated by an Act of the General Assembly of New Zealand intituled (State short title of the Act incorporating Company), as the case may be], have this day paid to me the annual license fee required to be paid by incorporated companies pursuant to "The Stamp Duties Act, 1875."

This License is to remain in force only till the thirty-first day of December next.

Dated at Wellington, this day of , 187 .

Commissioner.