

Hon. Mr. Reid.

Slaughterhouses.

ANALYSIS.

<p>Title.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Short Title. 2. Repeals. 3. Present officers and by-laws to continue. 4. Existing slaughterhouses to come under Act. 5. Interpretation. <p style="text-align: center;">PROVISIONS RELATING TO COUNTIES AND BOROUGHES.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. No slaughtering permitted within two miles of any borough. 7. Public abattoirs may be established. 8. Expenses may be defrayed out of corporate funds. 9. Councils may receive rents and tolls therefrom. 10. Letting of tolls. 11. Power to erect abattoirs. 12. Tolls not to be demanded until abattoir completed. 13. Certificate that abattoir is completed. 14. Council not excepted from information for nuisance. 15. Penalty for slaughtering elsewhere than in an authorized abattoir. 16. By-laws relating to abattoirs. 17. County Councils may license private slaughterhouses. 18. By-laws relating to slaughterhouses. 19. By-laws to have same effect as if made under Acts relating to corporate districts. 	<p style="text-align: center;">GENERAL PROVISIONS.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 20. Penalty for slaughtering without license. 21. Application for licenses. Licenses may be for one class of cattle only. 22. Notice of intended application to be published. 23. Inspectors of abattoirs and slaughterhouses. 24. Duties of Inspectors. 25. Notice of intention to slaughter to be given to Inspectors. 26. Keeper of abattoir or slaughterhouse to keep record of cattle slaughtered. 27. Not to extend to slaughtering cattle for family use. 28. Inspectors or Justices may demand the skins of cattle slaughtered. 29. No person shall destroy the brands upon any skin. 30. Tanners not to purchase hides with defaced brands. 31. Penalty for having carcass of cattle not accounted for. 32. Justices may enter premises, on suspicion of stolen cattle slaughtered. 33. Obstructing officers. 34. Fee for inspection. 35. Recovery of fines, penalties, &c. 36. License forfeited for breach of by-laws. 37. Convictions not to be quashed for want of form. <p style="text-align: center;">Schedules.</p>
--	--

A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to regulate the Slaughtering of Cattle and the Supervision of Abattoirs and Slaughterhouses. Title.

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

1. The Short Title of this Act shall be "The Slaughterhouses Act, 1877," and it shall take effect on and after the first day of December, in the year one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven. Short Title.

2. The several enactments enumerated in the last Schedule annexed hereto are hereby repealed; but all offences against any of the said repealed enactments may be prosecuted, and all things done and proceedings taken or commenced by virtue of the said repealed enactments shall be valid and may be continued, and all rights accrued Repeals.

under the said repealed enactments may be enforced, as if such enactments were not repealed.

Present officers and by-laws to continue.

3. All officers appointed and in office, all rules by-laws and tables of fees in force, and all licenses issued and in force at the time of the coming into operation of this Act shall be deemed to have been appointed and made respectively under this Act, and shall continue in office or in force respectively until the same shall be determined under the provisions of this Act.

Existing slaughterhouses to come under Act.

4. All places wherein cattle are slaughtered, and in use for such purpose at the time of the coming into operation of this Act, shall come under the provisions of this Act, and shall be subject to the provisions of all by-laws and regulations duly made by the Council of any corporate district for the registration, inspection, and management thereof.

Interpretation.

5. In the construction of this Act the terms following within inverted commas shall have the meanings hereby assigned to them respectively, unless there be something in the context or subject-matter repugnant thereto:—

“Cattle” shall include large and small cattle.

“Large cattle” shall include any bull, ox, steer, cow, heifer, or calf.

“Small cattle” shall include ram, ewe, wether, lamb, goat, kid, or swine.

“Abattoir” shall include any public slaughterhouse or place for slaughtering cattle, with its appurtenances, provided by the Governor or by any Superintendent under the authority of any enactment hereby repealed, or by the Council of any corporate district as herein described under any authority enabling such Council in that behalf, or under this Act.

“Slaughterhouse” shall include all private slaughterhouses, with their appurtenances, or places in respect of which licenses have been issued and exist in force for the slaughtering of cattle, and all such places which may be so licensed under this Act.

“Borough” shall include every city, town, or borough incorporated under any enactment of the General Assembly or of any Provincial Council.

“Corporate district” shall include every county wherein a County Council is established, and every borough as herein defined.

“Council” shall include County Council, Municipal Council, and the Town Board or other governing body of any borough as herein described.

“Public notification,” “public notice,” “publicly to notify,” shall respectively mean the insertion of a notice in one or more newspapers having general circulation in the particular place affected by the matter contained in such notification or notice.

“Gazette” shall mean the *New Zealand Gazette*.

“Inspector” shall mean an Inspector of Abattoirs and Slaughterhouses.

PROVISIONS RELATING TO COUNTIES AND BOROUGHS.

6. From and after the coming into operation of this Act—

No slaughtering permitted within two miles of any borough.

(1.) No abattoir shall be erected and no license shall be issued in respect of any slaughterhouse situate within the limits of any borough, or within a distance of two miles from the outer boundary of any borough, unless such slaughterhouse was in use for that purpose during

six consecutive months immediately before the coming into operation of this Act:

- (2.) No abattoir or slaughterhouse which was in use in or within a distance of two miles from the outer boundary of any borough immediately before the coming into operation of this Act shall be hereafter enlarged.

7. The Council of any corporate district may erect and establish one or more public abattoirs; and every abattoir so established shall be deemed to be within the limits of the corporate district establishing the same, and shall be under the control and supervision of the Council of such district for the purposes of this Act.

Public abattoirs may be established.

The Council of any borough may establish any such abattoir outside of the limits of the borough.

8. The Council of any corporate district may defray any expense which may be incurred in the erection of any abattoirs and the appurtenances thereof, and in the management and maintenance of the same out of the County or Borough Fund, as may be the case, of such district.

Expenses may be defrayed out of corporate funds.

9. The Council of a corporate district may demand, receive, and have from every person who shall use any abattoir such sums of money as and for stallages, rents, and tolls as shall be appointed by special order of the Council in such behalf respectively, but not exceeding such amounts as shall from time to time be approved by the Governor.

Councils may receive rents and tolls therefrom.

10. The Council of a corporate district may demise or let to farm for any term not exceeding three years all or any of the stallages, rents, and tolls from time to time payable under this Act in respect of any abattoir provided hereunder.

Letting of tolls.

11. Where by this Act the Council of a corporate district shall be empowered to provide abattoirs, they may from time to time erect on any land provided by them under the provisions of any Act in force for the time being relating to boroughs or counties, as the case may be, any buildings, or set apart and improve any buildings belonging to them for the slaughtering of cattle; and so soon as the same shall be ready for public use, the Council shall give notice to that effect by the publication thereof in some newspaper circulating within the limits of the borough or county, and by printed handbills posted on some conspicuous place within the said limits.

Power to erect abattoirs.

12. The Council of a corporate district shall not demand or receive any stallage, rent, or toll until the abattoir in respect of the use of which the same shall be demanded shall be completed and fit for the use of the persons resorting thereunto.

Tolls not to be demanded until abattoir completed.

13. A certificate under the hand of any Resident Magistrate shall be conclusive evidence that any such abattoir is completed and fit for public use as aforesaid.

Certificate that abattoir is completed.

14. Nothing in this Act shall protect the Council of a corporate district from an information for nuisance, or from any other legal proceeding in respect of any such abattoir as aforesaid.

Council not exempted from information for nuisance.

15. After the expiration of ten days from the publication and posting of such notice in respect of an abattoir provided for a borough, no person shall slaughter any cattle or dress any carcass for sale in any place, within a distance of two miles from the outer limits of the borough, other than a duly licensed slaughterhouse which was in use as such within such limits during six consecutive months immediately before the coming into operation of this Act, and which has so continued ever since, or other than the abattoir so provided for the borough; and every person who shall after such notice as aforesaid slaughter any such cattle or dress for sale any such carcass within the limits of the borough to which such notice relates, or within the other

Penalty for slaughtering elsewhere than in an authorized abattoir.

aforesaid limits, in any place other than at such abattoir or at one of such slaughterhouses, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding *ten* pounds for every such offence.

By-laws relating to abattoirs.

16. The Council of a corporate district may from time to time make, alter, or amend by by-law such regulations as to it shall seem meet for regulating and for the inspection of any abattoirs erected and established for the said district under this Act or any other law for the time being in force, and for keeping the same in a cleanly and proper state, and for removing filth and refuse at least once in every twenty-four hours, and for requiring that they be provided with a sufficient supply of water, and preventing the exercise of cruelty therein, and for the good government of all parties using the same, and may fix by by-law from time to time the rates of slaughtering fees or dues for the use of such abattoirs and the appurtenances by parties slaughtering or causing to be slaughtered live stock therein.

County Councils may license private slaughterhouses.

17. In addition to the power hereinbefore given to provide abattoirs, the Council of every county may and alone shall, within and for such county, issue licenses for slaughterhouses in such county.

By-laws relating to slaughterhouses.

18. The Council of every county may from time to time make and alter and may repeal by-laws and regulations, not being inconsistent with the provisions of this Act or of any other law for the time being in force for determining the sum to be paid to the County Fund in respect of every such license, and the conditions on which such license shall be granted, for providing for the inspection, cleanliness, and good management of slaughterhouses so licensed, and for fixing the penalty to be paid to the County Fund for the breach of any such by-law or regulation; but no such by-law or regulation shall have any force or effect until the same shall have been approved by the Governor, and shall have been publicly notified.

By-laws to have same effect as if made under Acts relating to corporate districts.

19. All by-laws relating to abattoirs and slaughterhouses made by the Council of any corporate district shall be made in the same manner, and have the like force and effect, and be subject to the like provisions as by-laws made by the Council under the authority of any Acts for regulating boroughs or counties (as the case may be) in force at the time of the making of such by-laws.

GENERAL PROVISIONS.

Penalty for slaughtering without license.

20. If any person, without being duly licensed, shall keep a slaughterhouse or place for slaughtering cattle intended for sale or barter or for shipping, and not being an abattoir lawfully erected or provided, or a slaughterhouse licensed by the Council of any corporate district, or if any person shall slaughter or cause to be slaughtered, contrary to the provisions of this Act, any cattle in any house or place, not being an abattoir and not being a slaughterhouse duly licensed under this Act, such person shall forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding *ten* pounds for each and every head of cattle so slaughtered.

Application for licenses.

21. Any person who may be desirous of obtaining a license for a slaughterhouse shall make application for the same in manner following:—

- (1.) If such slaughterhouse be within a distance of two miles from the outer limits of any borough, and be a slaughterhouse which was in use as such during six consecutive months immediately before the coming into operation of this Act, and thence continuously until the date of such application, he shall apply to the Council of such borough.
- (2.) If such slaughterhouse be within any county, except as aforesaid, he shall apply to the Council of such county.

And if such Council is satisfied that such applicant is of unexceptionable character, and that the situation of such slaughterhouse or place is not objectionable, and if such applicant shall pay the license fee that may be appointed by any by-law or regulation duly made, to the clerk of such Council, such Council may issue and deliver to the applicant a license under the seal of the borough or county, as the case may be, in the form set forth in the *First* Schedule hereto, and such license shall remain in force until the thirty-first day of December in the year for which such license shall be granted.

Any such license may be granted in respect of large cattle only, or small cattle only, or of both, at the discretion of the authority granting the same; and such license shall entitle the person named therein, or his servants, to slaughter only the description of cattle named in the license at the place in respect of which such license is granted.

Licenses may be for one class of cattle only.

22. No license shall be issued to any person to keep a slaughterhouse, unless public notice shall have been given by the applicant for the same for one month immediately preceding the time when such application is to be heard. Every license shall be subject to immediate cancellation in any case of breach of any of the provisions of this Act, or of any by-laws or regulations made hereunder, and all fees or moneys paid in respect of any such license shall on such cancellation be absolutely forfeited.

Notice of intended application to be published.

23. Certain persons, to be called "Inspectors of Abattoirs and Slaughterhouses, and of Cattle intended for Slaughter," may be appointed for each corporate district by the Council thereof, and a public notification of every such appointment shall be made without any delay.

Inspectors of abattoirs and slaughterhouses.

24. Every person so appointed shall have free access at all times to any abattoirs and slaughterhouses, and may inspect the same, and all appurtenances thereto belonging, and may examine any cattle intended to be slaughtered in any of such places, and shall enter or cause to be entered in a book to be kept by him for that purpose a description of all cattle slaughtered within his district, with the colour, marks, brands, sex, and apparent age, the name of the owner thereof, and of the time or place of slaughter; and such Inspector, whenever he shall be required so to do, shall produce such book for examination before any annual, quarterly, or special meeting of the Bench of Magistrates nearest to his said district, or for the information of any person.

Duties of Inspectors.

25. Every person intending to slaughter any cattle in any district for which an Inspector shall be appointed as aforesaid, shall, prior to the slaughter of such cattle, send or give notice in writing to the Inspector of the cattle intended to be so slaughtered, under a penalty of any sum not exceeding *five* pounds for each and every head of cattle which shall be so slaughtered without such notice having been sent or given thereof, unless it shall be made to appear to the Justices before whom such fine shall be sought to be recovered that such notice could not have been sent or given.

Notice of intention to slaughter to be given to Inspectors.

26. Every keeper of an abattoir and licensed slaughterhouse in New Zealand shall keep a book, in which he shall enter a description of all cattle slaughtered in such abattoir or slaughterhouse, specifying the colour, marks, brands, sex, and apparent age of such cattle, and, if purchased, containing the name of the person from whom the same shall have been so purchased, and the date of slaughter; and a report in writing for the week ending each Saturday of all cattle slaughtered, with the particulars above stated, shall be transmitted weekly and before the end of the week succeeding that to which the report refers, by and under the

Keeper of abattoir or slaughterhouse to keep record of cattle slaughtered.

hand of such keeper of every such abattoir and slaughterhouse, to the nearest Resident Magistrate's Court or Bench of Magistrates, and also to the Inspector of the corporate district in which such abattoir or slaughterhouse is situate; and if any such keeper of an abattoir or of a licensed slaughterhouse shall neglect to keep such book, or shall omit to make any such entry therein, or shall make a false entry therein, or shall fail or refuse to make such weekly report within the time and containing the particulars aforesaid to the nearest Resident Magistrate's Court or Bench of Magistrates, and to the Inspector as aforesaid, or to produce such book when so required by the Inspector or by any Justice, he for every such offence shall forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding *twenty* pounds.

Not to extend to slaughtering cattle for family use.

27. Nothing in this Act contained shall extend to any person (not carrying on the trade of a slaughterman or butcher) slaughtering or permitting to be slaughtered at or upon his own residence, run, or farm, cattle which he shall be able to show are *bond fide* his own property: Provided that any person slaughtering more than one head of cattle in any one week who sells any part thereof shall keep a book, in which he shall enter the particulars of all cattle slaughtered at or upon his residence, run, or farm, and if any such person shall neglect to keep such book, or shall omit to make any such entry therein, or shall make a false entry therein, or shall refuse to permit such book to be inspected, or, upon requisition from any Inspector, to make or transmit to the Inspector a copy of or an extract from such book within a reasonable time and containing the particulars aforesaid, or to produce such book when so required by the Inspector or by any Justice, he shall for every such offence forfeit a sum not exceeding *twenty* pounds.

Inspectors or Justices may demand the skins of cattle slaughtered.

28. An Inspector or any Justice may demand the skins of any cattle whatsoever that may have been, or that may appear from the report mentioned in either of the two last preceding sections to have been, slaughtered within one month previously to the date of such demand, or a full and satisfactory account showing to whom any such skin has been sold or in what manner disposed of; and any person who upon such demand shall refuse or neglect to produce such skin, or, in case the same cannot be produced, to give a full and satisfactory account of how and in what manner the same has been disposed of, shall, on conviction of every such offence, forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding *ten* pounds.

No person shall destroy the brands upon any skin.

29. If any person shall destroy the skin of any cattle, or shall cut out, burn, or otherwise destroy or deface any brand which shall have been upon any such skin, or if any person shall be in the possession of any such skin from which the brand shall have been cut or burnt, or otherwise destroyed or defaced, without being able to give a satisfactory account thereof, every such person shall, upon conviction of every such offence, forfeit and pay a fine not exceeding *twenty* pounds.

Tanners not to purchase hides with defaced brands.

30. Every tanner or other person purchasing a raw hide or skin from which any brand shall have been cut or burnt out or destroyed or otherwise defaced shall, upon conviction of any such offence, forfeit and pay a fine not exceeding *twenty* pounds.

Penalty for having carcass of cattle not accounted for.

31. If the carcass or any part of the carcass of any cattle shall be found in the possession of any person or on the premises of any person with his knowledge, and such person being summoned before two Justices shall not satisfy the Justices that he came lawfully by such carcass or part of carcass, he shall, on conviction by the Justices, be liable to imprisonment with hard labour for any term not exceeding six calendar months.

Justices may enter premises, on suspicion of stolen cattle slaughtered.

32. Any Justice, Inspector, or constable may enter any abattoir or slaughterhouse, and any other house, place, or premises whatsoever,

at any time of the day or night, where there shall be good cause to suspect that stolen cattle have been slaughtered or are intended to be slaughtered, and may make such search and inquiry therein as shall be necessary for the discovery of the offence and of the offender.

33. If any person shall obstruct or hinder any Justice, Inspector, or constable, so as to prevent him from entering any abattoir or slaughterhouse, or any other house, place, or premises whatsoever, for the purpose of examining any cattle or skins of cattle, the person so offending shall be liable to forfeit and pay a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds.

Obstructing officers.

34. Any such Inspector may ask, demand, and receive the sum of one halfpenny for each and every ram, ewe, wether, or lamb, and the sum of threepence for each and every head of other cattle, slaughtered at any abattoir or licensed slaughterhouse, and every such skin inspected by him, under the authority of this Act, and such sums licensed shall be paid by the keeper of such abattoir and slaughterhouse and may be recovered before any Justice.

Fee for inspection.

35. All fees, dues, fines, penalties, and forfeitures imposed by this Act shall be recoverable in a summary manner before any two Justices of the Peace, and shall be paid to the County or Borough Fund respectively of the corporate district wherein the same accrued.

Recovery of fines, penalties, &c.

36. If any person convicted under this Act shall hold a license under this or any other Act, or under any by-law or regulation, such license may, if the Justices think fit, be declared to be, and the same shall thereupon be, null and void from and after the date of such conviction.

License forfeited for breach of by-laws.

37. No conviction before any Justice for any offence under this Act, nor any adjudication made on appeal therefrom, shall be quashed for want of form, or be removed by writ of certiorari or otherwise into the Supreme Court; and no warrant of commitment shall be held void by reason of any defect therein, provided that it be therein alleged that the party has been convicted, and that there be a good and valid conviction to sustain the same.

Convictions not to be quashed for want of form.

SCHEDULES.

Schedules.

FIRST SCHEDULE.
(Form of License.)

LICENSE FOR SLAUGHTERING.

of is hereby licensed to slaughter cattle in his , situated and being in
This license shall remain in force from the now next until the thirty-first day of December, one thousand eight hundred and
Given under our hands [or as the case may be] at , this day of , 18 .

Registered by—
A. B.,
Clerk of Council of County [or Borough].

LAST SCHEDULE.

SCHEDULE OF ACTS AND ORDINANCES REPEALED.

- (1.) Ordinance of the Governor and Legislative Council of New Zealand. Sess. VIII., 1847, No. 5.—An Ordinance for regulating the Slaughtering of Cattle in certain Places.
- (2.) Act of the Province of Auckland. Sess. XIX., No. 5.—The Slaughter House Act, 1866.
- (3.) Ordinance of the Province of Taranaki. Sess. XV., No. 6.—The Slaughtering of Cattle Ordinance, 1867.

(4.) Acts of the Province of Hawke's Bay.

Sess. XII, 1867, No. 5.—An Act to alter and extend the Provisions of the Slaughter House Ordinance, Sess. VIII., No. 5.
Sess. XVIII., No. 12.—The Slaughter House Act Amendment Act, 1871.
Sess. XX., No. 3.—The Slaughter House Act Amendment Act, 1873.

(5.) Act of the Province of Wellington.

Sess. IX., No. 12.—The Slaughter House Act, 1862.

(6.) Act of the Province of Nelson.

Sess. XVIII., No. 2.—The Cattle Slaughtering Act, 1868.

(7.) Ordinance of the Province of Canterbury.

Sess. IX., 1858, No. 4.—The Slaughter House Amendment Ordinance, Sess. IX., No. 4.

By Authority: GEORGE DIDSBURY, Government Printer, Wellington.