
A BILL

To empower Coroners to hold Inquests concerning Fires.

WHEREAS it is expedient to empower the Coroners of this Colony Preamble.
to inquire into the cause and origin of Fires by which property
may be destroyed Be it enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty
by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and
5 Legislative Assembly of New South Wales in Parliament assembled and
by the authority of the same as follows :—

1. When any building coal mine or ship goods or merchandize or Coroners may hold
Inquests on Fires.
any corn grain or other agricultural produce whether growing or cut down
or stacked shall be destroyed or damaged by fire the Coroner having or
10 exercising jurisdiction at or in the place where such fire shall have
happened shall upon notice in writing from or at the instance of any
person requesting such inquiry and upon payment of a sum of five guineas
make an inquisition into the cause and origin of such fire.

2. If upon any such Inquisition the Coroner's Jury shall find that Coroner may commit
persons found guilty
of Arson.
15 any person has wilfully set on fire any such building or other property as
aforesaid it shall be lawful for the Coroner to exercise the like authority
in respect to his apprehension examination bail committal or otherwise as
in the case of persons found guilty of murder or manslaughter.

3. Inquests held by virtue of this Act shall have the like incidents Laws and incidents
of ordinary Inquests
to apply.
20 and consequences as Inquests in cases of death and all laws applicable to
inquests in cases of death and the incidents and consequences thereof shall
extend and apply to inquests held by virtue of this Act and the incidents
and consequences thereof.

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