This Public Bill originated in the Legislative Assembly, and, having this day passed, is now ready for presentation to the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber, Sydney, 21 July, 1876.

STEPHEN W. JONES, Clerk of Legislative Assembly.

New South Wales.



ANNO QUADRAGESIMO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

No.

An Act to empower Justices of the Peace to deal with Contempts before them.

HEREAS it is expedient to make general provision for the Preamble. punishment of persons guilty of contempts and misbehaviour in all cases before Justices of the Peace acting as such Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of New South Wales in Parliament assembled and by the authority of the same as follows:—
1. This Act may be cited as the "Contempts before Justices Title.

Punishment Act of 1876."

2. The word "Court" when used in this Act shall mean and Interpretation. include any one or more Justice or Justices of the Peace acting as such singly or together and either ministerially or judicially and

whether in open Court or otherwise or a majority of such Justices.

3. If any person shall in the opinion of the Court wilfully insult Justices may commit any Court or any Justice of any Court or be guilty of any other to gaol or fine persons contempt or misbehaviour whatsoever of or before any Court it shall

Contempts before Justices Punishment.

shall be lawful for such Court to commit such person for any offence aforesaid to gaol for any time not exceeding seven days or to impose upon such person a fine not exceeding two pounds for every such offence and in default of immediate payment thereof to 5 commit such person to gaol for any period not exceeding seven days unless the fine is sooner paid and in either of the cases aforesaid a warrant in the form contained in the Schedule hereof shall and may be used by any Court committing any person as aforesaid and shall be good and valid in law without any other order summons or adjudica-10 tion whatsoever and the constable or other police officer and gaoler to

whom the same shall be addressed shall obey the same.

4. Any person guilty of contempt or misbehaviour as aforesaid Procedure when whose name shall not be known to the Court and who on being unknown. requested shall not disclose the same may at once be ordered into 15 custody to await the decision of the Court which decision shall be

given and made known before the rising of the Court and such person may be mentioned in the warrant of commitment as "a person now in

custody whose name to the Court is unknown."

5. Any Court may commit any offender hereunder to the nearest Commitment to 20 watch-house or lockup in lieu of to a gaol under the Act sixteenth watch-house. Victoria number twenty-six for any period not exceeding seven days.

SCHEDULE.

To the constable (or as the case may be) and all other peace officers of the Colony of New South Wales and to the keeper of the Common Gaol (or the lockup or watchin the Colony aforesaid. house keeper) at

THESE are to command you the said and to convey him to the and to deliver him to the keeper thereof and you the said

into your custody keeper are hereby required to receive the said and him there safely to keep for the term of

30 in the said and him the fundess the sum of having to day here adjudged the said [unless the sum of shall be sooner paid] I (or we) the undersigned having to day here adjudged the said and in default of immediate payment thereof] to be imprisoned for the said term for that he the said term for that he the said

a court at in the Colony aforesaid [here state the offence as follows to suit the case] "did wilfully insult the said Court (or A.B. one of the Justices comprising the said Court) by "Or "was cuilty of contempt (or misbehaviour) of (or here). 35 a Court at contempt (or misbehaviour) of (or before) the said Court by

day of hand and seal this Given under aforesaid. 40 A.D.

CONTEMPTS BEFORE JUSTICES PUNISHMENTS BILL.

SCHEDULE of the Amendments referred to in Message of 10th August, 1876.

Page 1, Preamble, line 1. Omit "general"

" clause 1. Omit clause 1 insert new clause 1.

Page 2, ,, 2. Omit clause 2 insert new clause 2.

" 3. Omit clause 3 insert new clause 3.

, 4. Omit clause 4.

" " 5. Omit clause 5.

Page 3, Schedule. Omit Schedule.

This Public Bill originated in the Legislative Assembly, and, having this day passed, is now ready for presentation to the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber, Sydney, 21 July, 1876. }

STEPHEN W. JONES, Clerk of Legislative Assembly.

The LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL has this day agreed to this Bill with Amendments.

Legislative Council Chamber, Sydney, 10th August, 1876. JOHN J. CALVERT, Clerk of the Parliaments.

New South Wales.



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1. This Act may be cited as the "Contempts before Justices Pun Title.

ishment Act of 1876."

1. Whenever two or more Justices shall be sitting and jointly Justices may fine acting as such whether in Petty Sessions or otherwise and whether so for contempt. acting judicially or ministerially only if any person shall wilfully by language or gesture insult such Justices or any of them—or shall by intoxication or turbulent or indecent language or behaviour obstruct 15 the due conduct of business before them—or shall wilfully refuse to obey any lawful order openly made by such Justices—or shall prevari-

Contempts before Justices Punishment.

cate in any evidence given by him-such Justices or the majority of them may then and there summarily adjudge such person to be guilty of a contempt and thereupon may impose a fine upon the offender not exceeding five pounds and in default of immediate payment may cause 5 him to be kept in custody or committed to the nearest gaol or watchhouse until payment shall have been made-such detention or commitment nevertheless not to exceed seven days where the fine is three pounds or upwards or three days where the fine is under that sum.

2. The world "Court" when used in this Alct shall mean and Interpretation. 10 include any one or more Justice or Justices of the Peace acting as such singly or together and either ministerially or judicially and whether in open Court or otherwise or a majority of such Justices.

2. It shall be sufficient in every such case of adjudication and Form of fine for the adjudicating Justices to sign in duplicate a memorandum adjudication &c. 15 thereof before their adjournment for the day stating therein the fact of such adjudication and the ground or grounds thereof together with the amount of the fine imposed and their direction as to the detention or commitment of the offender And one of such duplicates shall be a sufficient record—and the other thereof being delivered to some con-20 stable and by him to the keeper of the nearest gaol or watch-house

shall be a sufficient authority for the offender's apprehension and

detention in accordance with the terms of the memorandum. 3. If any plerson shall in the opinion of the Clourt wilfully insult Justices may commit any Court or any Justice of any Court or be guilty of any other to gaol or fine persons to make the contempt or mis behaviour whatsoever of or before any Court it tempt &c.

25 contempt or mis behaviour whatsoever of or before any Court it tempt &c.

shall be lawful for such Court to commit such person for any offence aforesaid to gaol for any time not exceeding seven days or to impose upon such person a fine not exceeding two pounds for every such offence and in default of immediate playment thereof to 30 commit such person to gaol for any period not exceeding seven days unless the fine is sooner paid and in either of the cases aforesaid a warrant in the form contained in the Schedule her eof shall and may be used by any Court committing any person as aforesaid and shall be good and valid in law without any other order summons or adjudication whatsoever and the constable or other police officer and gaoler to where the same shall be addressed shall shey the same

whom the same shall be addressed shall obey the same.

3. In respect of every such adjudication an appeal shall be Appeal allowed. allowed in the manner now provided by law.

4. Any person guilty of contempt or misbehaviour as aforesaid Procedure when 40 whose name shall not be known to the Court and who on being person's name is requested shall not disclose the same may at once be ordered into custody to await the decision of the Court which decision shall be given and made known before the rising of the Court and such person may be mentioned in the warrant of commitment as "a person now in 45 custody whose name to the Court is unknown."

5. Any Court may commit any offender hereunder to the nearest Commitment to watch-house or lockup in lieu of to a gaol under the Act sixteenth watch house. Victoria number twenty-six for any period not excleeding seven days.

Contempts before Justices Punishment.

SCHEDULE.

To the constable (or as	the case may be) and all other peace officers of the Colony of New to the keeper of the Common Gaol (or the lockup or watch-
house keeper) at	in the Colony a foresaid.
5 THESE are to command	
	of and to convey him to the
said	and to deliver him to the keeper thereof and you the said
	red to receive the said into your custody
in the said	and him there safely to keep for the term of
10 [unless the sum of	shall be sooner paid] I (or we) the undersigned
having to day here adju	dged the said [to pay a fine of
	diate payment thereof] to be imprisoned for the said term for
that he the said	has this day during my (or our) acting as
a Court at	in the Colony a foresaid [here state the
15 offence as follows to suit	the case] "did wilfully insult the said Court (or A.B. one of the
Justices comprising the	said Court) by " or "was guilty of
	our) of (or before) the said Court by
Given under	hand and seal this day of
A.D.	at aforesaid.