
A BILL

To amend the Law of Trial by Jury in Criminal Cases.

[MR. BUCHANAN;—3 April, 1889.]

IT being desirable to amend the law of trial by jury in Criminal Preamble.
cases. 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,
5 and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. On and after the passing of this Bill it shall be lawful for Three-fourths
juries in Criminal causes, with the exception of those in which a con- majority taken as
viction may be followed by the punishment of death, if not less than verdict except where
nine of their number agree to a verdict, to deliver such verdict, conviction followed
10 whether it be that of guilty or not guilty, and such verdict shall be by punishment of
deemed to be the verdict of the whole jury and be recorded as such, death.
and judgement shall be entered thereon accordingly.

2. It shall not be lawful for the jury on returning their verdict Jury not to state how
to state how they are divided, but if nine or more of the jury agree divided.
15 to a verdict, be it guilty or not guilty, they shall return such verdict
as the verdict of the entire jury.

3. This Bill may be cited as the "Criminal Jury Trial Amend- Short title.
ment Bill."

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