New South Wales.



ANNO QUINTO GEORGII V REGIS.

Act No. 14, 1914.

An Act to extend the powers of the Commissioner appointed to make inquiries relating to the resumption of the Boorabil Leases, and to other matters, and to further provide for the procedure before such Commissioner, and for other purposes, and to further prescribe the duties and immunities of witnesses examined before such Commissioner, and to amend and extend the provisions of the Royal Commissioner's Evidence Act, 1901; and for purposes consequent thereon or incidental thereto. [Assented to, 23rd July, 1914.]

WHEREAS

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Preamble

WHEREAS by Letters Patent issued under the Great Seal, dated the ninth day of July, one thousand nine hundred and fourteen, the Honourable Mr. Justice Pring was authorised and appointed Sole Commissioner to make inquiry relating to the matter of the purchase by the Government of the Boorabil Estate and the adjoining improvement leases, and the administration of the Department of Lands in connection with the said purchase, and other matters connected therewith : And whereas it is desirable to extend the powers of the said Commissioner, and to make further provision for the procedure in such inquiry, and to further prescribe the duties and immunities of witnesses examined before such Commissioner, and to extend the Royal Commissioner's Evidence Act, 1901: Be it therefore enacted by the King'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 :--

Short title.

Powers of Commissioner. 1. This Act may be cited as the "Boorabil Commission Act, 1914."

2. The Commissioner shall for the purposes of the inquiry under the said Letters Patent, or any extension of the terms of the same, have in addition to the special powers hereinafter provided all such powers, rights, and privileges as are vested in the Supreme Court, or in any Judge thereof, on the occasion of any action or trial in respect of the following matters :—

- (a) The compelling the attendance of witnesses, and examining them on oath affirmation or declaration;
- (b) The compelling the production of books, documents, and writings;
- (c) The compelling witnesses to answer questions which the said Commissioner deems to be relevant to the inquiry;
- (d) The punishing persons guilty of contempt or of disobedience of any order or summons made or issued by the Commissioner;
- (e) The directing witnesses to be prosecuted for perjury. **3.**

3. A summons signed by the Commissioner may be Attendance issued for enforcing the attendance of witnesses or com- of witnesses. pelling the production of books documents and writings. If any person having been served with such summons fails to appear the Commissioner may issue a warrant authorising such person to be apprehended and brought before him.

4. Any person summoned to attend before the Com- Neglect to missioner who refuses or neglects or fails to attend in attend. pursuance of any summons shall notwithstanding the dissolution or other determination of the Commission be liable to punishment for contempt of the Supreme Court on the motion of the Attorney-General.

5. A warrant or order for the arrest, detention, or Dissolution of imprisonment of a person for contempt or for diso- Commission not to affect bedience of any order or summons made or issued by proceedings. the Commissioner shall notwithstanding the Commission is dissolved or otherwise determined be and remain as valid and effectual in all respects as if the Commission were not so dissolved or otherwise determined and upon such dissolution or determination all the powers rights and privileges of the Commissoner with respect to such warrant or order and with respect to a person arrested, detained or imprisoned or to be arrested, detained or imprisoned by virtue thereof shall devolve upon and be exercised by the Supreme Court or a Judge thereof.

6. Any counsel or solicitor appointed by the Crown Appearance to assist the Commissioner and any person who shows before Comto the satisfaction of the Commissioner that he is substantially and directly interested in any matter, the subject of the inquiry or that his conduct in relation to any such matter has been challenged to his detriment, and who is authorised in that behalf by the Commissioner may appear at the inquiry. Any person so authorised may with the consent of the Commissioner be represented by counsel or solicitor.

7. Any counsel or solicitor appointed as aforesaid Examination and any person authorised as aforesaid or his counsel or of witnesses. solicitor may with the leave of the Commissioner

examine

examine or cross-examine any witness on matters which the Commissioner deems relevant to the inquiry: Any witness so examined or cross-examined shall have the same protection and be subject to the same liabilities as if examined or cross-examined by the Commissioner.

8. A witness before the Commissioner shall not be excused from answering any question put to him on the ground of any privilege, or on the ground that the answer thereto may criminate or tend to criminate him, or upon any other ground: Provided that no evidence taken before the Commissioner shall be admissible against any person in any civil or criminal proceeding except in the case of a person accused of having given false evidence before the Commissioner, or of having procured or caused or attempted or conspired to procure or cause the giving of such evidence.

9. (1) Any witness before the Commissioner who, in the opinion of the Commissioner, makes a full and true disclosure touching all matters in respect of which he is examined, may, in the discretion of the Commissioner, be granted a certificate signed by the Commissioner, stating that the witness has on his examination made a full and true disclosure as aforesaid.

(2) If any civil or criminal proceeding is at any time thereafter instituted against any such witness in respect of any matter touching which he has been so examined, the Court having cognizance of the case shall, on proof of the certificate, stay the proceedings, and may, in its discretion, award to the witness such costs as he may be put to in, or by reason of, the proceedings: Provided that nothing in this section shall apply to the case of a person accused of having given false evidence before the Commissioner or of having procured or caused or attempted or conspired to procure or cause the giving of such evidence.

10. Every person who wilfully gives false evidence before the Commissioner shall be guilty of perjury and shall be punishable accordingly: Provided that no prosecution for perjury charged to have been committed before the Commissioner shall be instituted without the direction

Witnesses compelled to answer.

Indemnity to witnesses.

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Perjury.

Act No. 14, 1914.

Boorabil Commission.

direction or leave of the Commissioner or if the Commission shall have been previously dissolved or otherwise determined without the leave of a Judge of the Supreme Court.

11. The Commissioner in conducting the inquiry Evidence. shall not be bound by the technical rules of evidence.

12. The following section shall be read as section Extension of eleven of the Royal Commissioner's Evidence Act, Royal 1901:-

sioner's Evidence

11. In any Letters Patent issued under the Great Act, 1901. Seal within two years after the passing of this Act appointing any Judge of the Supreme Court a Commissioner to make any inquiry, it shall be lawful for the Governor to declare that all or any specified sections of the Boorabil Commission Act, 1914, shall be applicable for the purposes of such inquiry, and the same shall thereupon be applied in the holding of the said inquiry.

13. The appointment of the Honorable Mr. Justice Pending Pring as such Commissioner as aforesaid is hereby proceedings. declared to be valid in all respects, and the pendency of any legal proceedings in any Court shall not debar the Commissioner from acting under the said Commission.

14. Nothing in this Act contained shall in any Saving clause. respect limit the powers, rights and privileges of the Commissioner under the Royal Commissioner's Evidence Act 1901.

By Authority :

WILLIAM APPLEGATE GULLICK, Government Printer, Sydney, 1914. [6d.]

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I certify that this PUBLIC BILL, which originated in the LEGIS-LATIVE ASSEMBLY, has finally passed the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL and the LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY of NEW SOUTH WALES.

> RICHD. A. ARNOLD, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

> > * * * *

Legislative Assembly Chamber, Sydney, 22 July, 1914.





ANNO QUINTO GEORGII V REGIS.

Act No. 14, 1914.

An Act to extend the powers of the Commissioner appointed to make inquiries relating to the resumption of the Boorabil Leases, and to other matters, and to further provide for the procedure before such Commissioner, and for other purposes, and to further prescribe the duties and immunities of witnesses examined before such Commissioner, and to amend and extend the provisions of the Royal Commissioner's Evidence Act, 1901; and for purposes consequent thereon or incidental thereto. [Assented to, 23rd July, 1914.] WHEREAS

I have examined this Bill, and find it to correspond in all respects with the Bill as finally passed by both Houses.

> G. A. BURGESS, Chairman of Committees of the Legislative Assembly.

Act No. 14, 1914.

Boorabil Commission.

Preamble.

HEREAS by Letters Patent issued under the Great Seal, dated the ninth day of July, one thousand nine hundred and fourteen, the Honourable Mr. Justice Pring was authorised and appointed Sole Commissioner to make inquiry relating to the matter of the purchase by the Government of the Boorabil Estate and the adjoining improvement leases, and the administration of the Department of Lands in connection with the said purchase, and other matters connected therewith: And whereas it is desirable to extend the powers of the said Commissioner, and to make further provision for the procedure in such inquiry, and to further prescribe the duties and immunities of witnesses examined before such Commissioner, and to extend the Royal Commissioner's Evidence Act, 1901: Be it therefore enacted by the King'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 :-

Short title.

sioner.

Powers of Commis-

This Act may be cited as the "Boorabil Commission Act, 1914."
 The Commissioner shall for the purposes of the

inquiry under the said Letters Patent, or any extension of the terms of the same, have in addition to the special powers hereinafter provided all such powers, rights, and privileges as are vested in the Supreme Court, or in any Judge thereof, on the occasion of any action or trial in respect of the following matters :—

- (a) The compelling the attendance of witnesses, and examining them on oath affirmation or declaration;
- (b) The compelling the production of books, documents, and writings;
- (c) The compelling witnesses to answer questions which the said Commissioner deems to be relevant to the inquiry;
- (d) The punishing persons guilty of contempt or of disobedience of any order or summons made or issued by the Commissioner;
- (e) The directing witnesses to be prosecuted for perjury. **3.**

3. A summons signed by the Commissioner may be Attendance issued for enforcing the attendance of witnesses or com- of witnesses. pelling the production of books documents and writings. If any person having been served with such summons fails to appear the Commissioner may issue a warrant authorising such person to be apprehended and brought before him.

4. Any person summoned to attend before the Com- Neglect to missioner who refuses or neglects or fails to attend in attend. pursuance of any summons shall notwithstanding the dissolution or other determination of the Commission be liable to punishment for contempt of the Supreme Court on the motion of the Attorney-General.

5. A warrant or order for the arrest, detention, or Dissolution of imprisonment of a person for contempt or for diso- Commission not to affect bedience of any order or summons made or issued by proceedings. the Commissioner shall notwithstanding the Commission is dissolved or otherwise determined be and remain as valid and effectual in all respects as if the Commission were not so dissolved or otherwise determined and upon such dissolution or determination all the powers rights and privileges of the Commissoner with respect to such warrant or order and with respect to a person arrested, detained or imprisoned or to be arrested, detained or imprisoned by virtue thereof shall devolve upon and be exercised by the Supreme Court or a Judge thereof.

6. Any counsel or solicitor appointed by the Crown Appearance to assist the Commissioner and any person who shows before Comto the satisfaction of the Commissioner that he is substantially and directly interested in any matter, the subject of the inquiry or that his conduct in relation to any such matter has been challenged to his detriment, and who is authorised in that behalf by the Commissioner may appear at the inquiry. Any person so authorised may with the consent of the Commissioner be represented by counsel or solicitor.

7. Any counsel or solicitor appointed as aforesaid Examination and any person authorised as aforesaid or his counsel or of witnesses. solicitor may with the leave of the Commissioner

examine

examine or cross-examine any witness on matters which the Commissioner deems relevant to the inquiry: Any witness so examined or cross-examined shall have the same protection and be subject to the same liabilities as if examined or cross-examined by the Commissioner.

Witnesses compelled to answer. 8. A witness before the Commissioner shall not be excused from answering any question put to him on the ground of any privilege, or on the ground that the answer thereto may criminate or tend to criminate him, or upon any other ground: Provided that no evidence taken before the Commissioner shall be admissible against any person in any civil or criminal proceeding except in the case of a person accused of having given false evidence before the Commissioner, or of having procured or caused or attempted or conspired to procure or cause the giving of such evidence.

Indemnity to witnesses.

Perjury.

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9. (1) Any witness before the Commissioner who, in the opinion of the Commissioner, makes a full and true disclosure touching all matters in respect of which he is examined, may, in the discretion of the Commissioner, be granted a certificate signed by the Commissioner, stating that the witness has on his examination made a full and true disclosure as aforesaid.

(2) If any civil or criminal proceeding is at any time thereafter instituted against any such witness in respect of any matter touching which he has been so examined, the Court having cognizance of the case shall, on proof of the certificate, stay the proceedings, and may, in its discretion, award to the witness such costs as he may be put to in, or by reason of, the proceedings: Provided that nothing in this section shall apply to the case of a person accused of having given false evidence before the Commissioner or of having procured or caused or attempted or conspired to procure or cause the giving of such evidence.

10. Every person who wilfully gives false evidence before the Commissioner shall be guilty of perjury and shall be punishable accordingly: Provided that no prosecution for perjury charged to have been committed before the Commissioner shall be instituted without the

direction

direction or leave of the Commissioner or if the Commission shall have been previously dissolved or otherwise determined without the leave of a Judge of the Supreme Court.

11. The Commissioner in conducting the inquiry Evidence. shall not be bound by the technical rules of evidence.

12. The following section shall be read as section Extension of eleven of the Royal Commissioner's Evidence Act, Royal Commissioner's Evidence Science Science

11. In any Letters Patent issued under the Great Act, 1901. Seal within two years after the passing of this Act appointing any Judge of the Supreme Court a Commissioner to make any inquiry, it shall be lawful for the Governor to declare that all or any specified sections of the Boorabil Commission Act, 1914, shall be applicable for the purposes of such inquiry, and the same shall thereupon be applied in the holding of the said inquiry.

13. The appointment of the Honorable Mr. Justice Pending Pring as such Commissioner as aforesaid is hereby proceedings. declared to be valid in all respects, and the pendency of any legal proceedings in any Court shall not debar the Commissioner from acting under the said Commission.

14. Nothing in this Act contained shall in any Saving clause. respect limit the powers, rights and privileges of the Commissioner under the Royal Commissioner's Evidence Act 1901.

In the name and on behalf of His Majesty the King I assent to this Act.

G. STRICKLAND,

Governor.

State Government House, Sydney, 23rd July, 1914.



BOORABIL COMMISSION BILL.

SCHEDULE of the Amendments referred to in Message of 22nd July, 1914.

Page 5, clause 12, line 10. Omit "hereinafter". Page 5, clause 12, line 11. After "Seal" insert "within two years after the passing "of this Act."

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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.

> RICHD. A. ARNOLD, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Assembly Chamber, Sydney, 22 July, 1914.

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

W. L. S. COOPER, For the Clerk of the Parliaments.

Legislative Council Chamber, Sydney, 22nd July, 1914.



GEORGII V REGIS.

Act No. , 1914.

An Act to extend the powers of the Commissioner appointed to make inquiries relating to the resumption of the Boorabil Leases, and to other matters, and to further provide for the procedure before such Commissioner, and for other purposes, and to further prescribe the duties and immunities of witnesses examined before such Commissioner, and to amend and extend the provisions of the Royal Commissioner's Evidence Act, 1901; and for purposes consequent thereon or incidental thereto.

62-A

WHEREAS

Note.—The words to be omitted are ruled through ; those to be inserted are printed in black letter.

THEREAS by Letters Patent issued under the Great Preamble. Seal, dated the ninth day of July, one thousand nine hundred and fourteen, the Honourable Mr. Justice Pring was authorised and appointed Sole Commissioner 5 to make inquiry relating to the matter of the purchase by the Government of the Boorabil Estate and the adjoining improvement leases, and the administration of the Department of Lands in connection with the said purchase, and other matters connected therewith: And 10 whereas it is desirable to extend the powers of the said Commissioner, and to make further provision for the procedure in such inquiry, and to further prescribe the duties and immunities of witnesses examined before such Commissioner, and to extend the Royal Commis-15 sioner's Evidence Act, 1901: Be it therefore enacted by

the King'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 20 follows :-

1. This Act may be cited as the "Boorabil Com- Short title. mission Act, 1914.'

2. The Commissioner shall for the purposes of the Powers of inquiry under the said Letters Patent, or any extension Commis-25 of the terms of the same, have in addition to the special

powers hereinafter provided all such powers, rights, and privileges as are vested in the Supreme Court, or in any Judge thereof, on the occasion of any action or trial in respect of the following matters :--

(a) The compelling the attendance of witnesses, 30 and examining them on oath affirmation or declaration :

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- (b) The compelling the production of books, documents, and writings;
- (c) The compelling witnesses to answer questions which the said Commissioner deems to be relevant to the inquiry;
 - (d) The punishing persons guilty of contempt or of disobedience of any order or summons made or issued by the Commissioner;
 - (e) The directing witnesses to be prosecuted for perjury. 3.

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3. A summons signed by the Commissioner may be Attendance issued for enforcing the attendance of witnesses or com- of witnesses. pelling the production of books documents and writings.

If any person having been served with such summons 5 fails to appear the Commissioner may issue a warrant authorising such person to be apprehended and brought before him.

4. Any person summoned to attend before the Com- Neglect to missioner who refuses or neglects or fails to attend in attend.

10 pursuance of any summons shall notwithstanding the dissolution or other determination of the Commission be liable to punishment for contempt of the Supreme Court on the motion of the Attorney-General.

5, A warrant or order for the arrest, detention, or Dissolution of 15 imprisonment of a person for contempt or for diso- Commission not to affect bedience of any order or summons made or issued by proceedings. the Commissioner shall notwithstanding the Commission is dissolved or otherwise determined be and remain as valid and effectual in all respects as if the

20 Commission were not so dissolved or otherwise determined and upon such dissolution or determination all the powers rights and privileges of the Commissoner with respect to such warrant or order and with respect to a person arrested, detained or imprisoned or to be

25 arrested, detained or imprisoned by virtue thereof shall devolve upon and be exercised by the Supreme Court or a Judge thereof.

6. Any counsel or solicitor appointed by the Crown Appearance to assist the Commissioner and any person who shows before Com-30 to the satisfaction of the Commissioner that he is sub-

stantially and directly interested in any matter, the subject of the inquiry or that his conduct in relation to any such matter has been challenged to his detriment, and who is authorised in that behalf by the Commissioner

35 may appear at the inquiry. Any person so authorised may with the consent of the Commissioner be represented by counsel or solicitor.

7. Any counsel or solicitor appointed as aforesaid Examination and any person authorised as aforesaid or his counsel or of witnesses. 40 solicitor may with the leave of the Commissioner

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Boorabil Commission.

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8. A witness before the Commissioner shall not be Witnesses excused from answering any question put to him on the compelled to ground of any privilege, or on the ground that the answer thereto may criminate or tend to criminate him,

- 10 or upon any other ground: Provided that no evidence taken before the Commissioner shall be admissible against any person in any civil or criminal proceeding except in the case of a person accused of having given false evidence before the Commissioner, or of having
- 15 procured or caused or attempted or conspired to procure or cause the giving of such evidence.

9. (1) Any witness before the Commissioner who, in Indemnity to the opinion of the Commissioner, makes a full and true witnesses. disclosure touching all matters in respect of which he is

20 examined, may, in the discretion of the Commissioner, be granted a certificate signed by the Commissioner, stating that the witness has on his examination made a full and true disclosure as aforesaid.

(2) If any civil or criminal proceeding is at any
25 time thereafter instituted against any such witness in respect of any matter touching which he has been so examined, the Court having cognizance of the case shall, on proof of the certificate, stay the proceedings, and may, in its discretion, award to the witness such costs as he
30 may be put to in, or by reason of, the proceedings: Provided that nothing in this section shall apply to the case of a person accused of having given false evidence before the Commissioner or of having procured or caused or attempted or conspired to procure or cause the giving 35 of such evidence.

10. Every person who wilfully gives false evidence Perjury. before the Commissioner shall be guilty of perjury and shall be punishable accordingly: Provided that no prosecution for perjury charged to have been committed
40 before the Commissioner shall be instituted without the

direction

direction or leave of the Commissioner or if the Commission shall have been previously dissolved or otherwise determined without the leave of a Judge of the Supreme Court.

5 11. The Commissioner in conducting the inquiry Evidence. shall not be bound by the technical rules of evidence.

12. The following section shall be read as section Extension of eleven of the Royal Commissioner's Evidence Act, Commissioner's 1901:-

- 10 11. In any Letters Patent hereinafter issued Act, 1901.
 under the Great Seal within two years after the passing of this Act appointing any Judge of the Supreme Court a Commissioner to make any inquiry, it shall be lawful for the Governor to declare that all or any specified sections of the Boorabil Com
 - all or any specified sections of the Boorabil Commission Act, 1914, shall be applicable for the purposes of such inquiry, and the same shall thereupon be applied in the holding of the said inquiry.

13. The appointment of the Honorable Mr. Justice Pending
20 Pring as such Commissioner as aforesaid is hereby proceedings. declared to be valid in all respects, and the pendency of any legal proceedings in any Court shall not debar the Commissioner from acting under the said Commission.

14. Nothing in this Act contained shall in any Saving clause.
25 respect limit the powers, rights and privileges of the Commissioner under the Royal Commissioner's Evidence Act 1901.

[6d.]

Sydney : William Applegate Gullick, Government Printer .- 1914.

62-B



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.

> RICHD. A. ARNOLD, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Assembly Chamber, Sydney, 22 July, 1914.

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

> W. L. S. COOPER, For the Clerk of the Parliaments.

Legislative Council Chamber, Sydney, 22nd July, 1914.



New South Wales.

ANNO QUINTO GEORGII V REGIS.

Act No. , 1914.

An Act to extend the powers of the Commissioner appointed to make inquiries relating to the resumption of the Boorabil Leases, and to other matters, and to further provide for the procedure before such Commissioner, and for other purposes, and to further prescribe the duties and immunities of witnesses examined before such Commissioner, and to amend and extend the provisions of the Royal Commissioner's Evidence Act, 1901; and for purposes consequent thereon or incidental thereto.

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62-A

WHEREAS

Note.—The words to be omitted are ruled through ; those to be inserted are printed in black letter.

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Boorabil Commission.

WHEREAS by Letters Patent issued under the Great Preamble. Seal, dated the ninth day of July, one thousand nine hundred and fourteen, the Honourable Mr. Justice Pring was authorised and appointed Sole Commissioner to make inquiry relating to the matter of the purchase by the Government of the Boorabil Estate and the adjoining improvement leases, and the administration of the Department of Lands in connection with the said purchase, and other matters connected therewith: And 10 whereas it is desirable to extend the powers of the said Commissioner, and to make further provision for the procedure in such inquiry, and to further prescribe the duties and immunities of witnesses examined before such Commissioner, and to extend the Royal Commis-

15 sioner's Evidence Act, 1901: Be it therefore enacted by the King'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
20 follows:—

1. This Act may be cited as the "Boorabil Com- short title. mission Act, 1914."

2. The Commissioner shall for the purposes of the Powers of inquiry under the said Letters Patent, or any extension Commissioner.

- 25 of the terms of the same, have in addition to the special powers hereinafter provided all such powers, rights, and privileges as are vested in the Supreme Court, or in any Judge thereof, on the occasion of any action or trial in respect of the following matters :--
 - (a) The compelling the attendance of witnesses, and examining them on oath affirmation or declaration;
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 - (c) The compelling witnesses to answer questions which the said Commissioner deems to be relevant to the inquiry;
 - (d) The punishing persons guilty of contempt or of disobedience of any order or summons made or issued by the Commissioner;
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Boorabil Commission.

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- (2) If any civil or criminal proceeding is at any 25 time thereafter instituted against any such witness in respect of any matter touching which he has been so examined, the Court having cognizance of the case shall. on proof of the certificate, stay the proceedings, and may, in its discretion, award to the witness such costs as he

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direction or leave of the Commissioner or if the Commission shall have been previously dissolved or otherwise determined without the leave of a Judge of the Supreme Court.

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12. The following section shall be read as section Extension of eleven of the Royal Commissioner's Evidence Act, ^{Royal} 1901:— Sioner's Evidence

- 10 11. In any Letters Patent hereinafter issued Act, 1901. under the Great Seal within two years after the passing of this Act appointing any Judge of the Supreme Court a Commissioner to make any inquiry, it shall be lawful for the Governor to declare that all or any specified sections of the Boorabil Com
 - all or any specified sections of the Boorabil Commission Act, 1914, shall be applicable for the purposes of such inquiry, and the same shall thereupon be applied in the holding of the said inquiry.

13. The appointment of the Honorable Mr. Justice Pending 20 Pring as such Commissioner as aforesaid is hereby proceedings. declared to be valid in all respects, and the pendency of any legal proceedings in any Court shall not debar the Commissioner from acting under the said Commission.

14. Nothing in this Act contained shall in any Saving clause.
25 respect limit the powers, rights and privileges of the Commissioner under the Royal Commissioner's Evidence Act 1901.

[6d.]

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Sydney : William Applegate Gullick, Government Printer.-1914.

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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.

> RICHD. A. ARNOLD, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Assembly Chamber, Sydney, 22 July, 1914.



ANNO QUINTO GEORGII V REGIS.

Act No. , 1914.

An Act to extend the powers of the Commissioner appointed to make inquiries relating to the resumption of the Boorabil Leases, and to other matters, and to further provide for the procedure before such Commissioner, and for other purposes, and to further prescribe the duties and immunities of witnesses examined before such Commissioner, and to amend and extend the provisions of the Royal Commissioner's Evidence Act, 1901; and for purposes consequent thereon or incidental thereto.

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WHEREAS

7 HEREAS by Letters Patent issued under the Great Preamble. Seal, dated the ninth day of July, one thousand nine hundred and fourteen, the Honourable Mr. Justice Pring was authorised and appointed Sole Commissioner 5 to make inquiry relating to the matter of the purchase by the Government of the Boorabil Estate and the adjoining improvement leases, and the administration of the Department of Lands in connection with the said purchase, and other matters connected therewith: And 10 whereas it is desirable to extend the powers of the said Commissioner, and to make further provision for the procedure in such inquiry, and to further prescribe the duties and immunities of witnesses examined before such Commissioner, and to extend the Royal Commis-15 sioner's Evidence Act, 1901: Be it therefore enacted by the King'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 20 follows :-

1. This Act may be cited as the "Boorabil Com-short title. mission Act, 1914."

2. The Commissioner shall for the purposes of the Powers of inquiry under the said Letters Patent, or any extension Commissioner.

25 of the terms of the same, have in addition to the special powers hereinafter provided all such powers, rights, and privileges as are vested in the Supreme Court, or in any Judge thereof, on the occasion of any action or trial in respect of the following matters :--

- 30 (a) The compelling the attendance of witnesses, and examining them on oath affirmation or declaration;
 - (b) The compelling the production of books, documents, and writings;
 - (c) The compelling witnesses to answer questions which the said Commissioner deems to be relevant to the inquiry;
 - (d) The punishing persons guilty of contempt or of disobedience of any order or summons made or issued by the Commissioner;
 - (e) The directing witnesses to be prosecuted for perjury. **3.**

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3. A summons signed by the Commissioner may be Attendance issued for enforcing the attendance of witnesses or com- of witnesses. pelling the production of books documents and writings. If any person having been served with such summons

5 fails to appear the Commissioner may issue a warrant authorising such person to be apprehended and brought before him.

4. Any person summoned to attend before the Com- Neglect to missioner who refuses or neglects or fails to attend in attend.

- 10 pursuance of any summons shall notwithstanding the dissolution or other determination of the Commission be liable to punishment for contempt of the Supreme Court on the motion of the Attorney-General.
- 5. A warrant or order for the arrest, detention, or Dissolution of 15 imprisonment of a person for contempt or for diso- Commission not to affect bedience of any order or summons made or issued by proceedings. the Commissioner shall notwithstanding the Commission is dissolved or otherwise determined be and remain as valid and effectual in all respects as if the
- 20 Commission were not so dissolved or otherwise determined and upon such dissolution or determination all the powers rights and privileges of the Commissoner with respect to such warrant or order and with respect to a person arrested, detained or imprisoned or to be
- 25 arrested, detained or imprisoned by virtue thereof shall devolve upon and be exercised by the Supreme Court or a Judge thereof.
- 6. Any counsel or solicitor appointed by the Crown Appearance to assist the Commissioner and any person who shows before Com-30 to the satisfaction of the Commissioner that he is substantially and directly interested in any matter, the subject of the inquiry or that his conduct in relation to any such matter has been challenged to his detriment, and who is authorised in that behalf by the Commissioner 35 may appear at the inquiry. Any person so authorised may with the consent of the Commissioner be represented by counsel or solicitor.
- 7. Any counsel or solicitor appointed as aforesaid Examination and any person authorised as aforesaid or his counsel or of witnesses. 40 solicitor may with the leave of the Commissioner

examine

examine or cross-examine any witness on matters which the Commissioner deems relevant to the inquiry: Any witness so examined or cross-examined shall have the same protection and be subject to the same liabilities as 5 if examined or cross-examined by the Commissioner.

8. A witness before the Commissioner shall not be Witnesses excused from answering any question put to him on the compelled to ground of any privilege, or on the ground that the answer thereto may criminate or tend to criminate him,

10 or upon any other ground: Provided that no evidence taken before the Commissioner shall be admissible against any person in any civil or criminal proceeding except in the case of a person accused of having given false evidence before the Commissioner, or of having

15 procured or caused or attempted or conspired to procure or cause the giving of such evidence.

9. (1) Any witness before the Commissioner who, in Indemnity to the opinion of the Commissioner, makes a full and true witnesses. disclosure touching all matters in respect of which he is

20 examined, may, in the discretion of the Commissioner, be granted a certificate signed by the Commissioner, stating that the witness has on his examination made a full and true disclosure as aforesaid.

(2) If any civil or criminal proceeding is at any 25 time thereafter instituted against any such witness in respect of any matter touching which he has been so examined, the Court having cognizance of the case shall, on proof of the certificate, stay the proceedings, and may, in its discretion, award to the witness such costs as he

30 may be put to in, or by reason of, the proceedings: Provided that nothing in this section shall apply to the case of a person accused of having given false evidence before the Commissioner or of having procured or caused or attempted or conspired to procure or cause the giving 35 of such evidence.

10. Every person who wilfully gives false evidence Perjury. before the Commissioner shall be guilty of perjury and shall be punishable accordingly: Provided that no prosecution for perjury charged to have been committed 40 before the Commissioner shall be instituted without the

direction

direction or leave of the Commissioner or if the Commission shall have been previously dissolved or otherwise determined without the leave of a Judge of the Supreme Court.

5 **11.** The Commissioner in conducting the inquiry Evidence. shall not be bound by the technical rules of evidence.

12. The following section shall be read as section Extension of eleven of the Royal Commissioner's Evidence Act, Royal 1901:sioner's

Evidence

11. In any Letters Patent hereinafter issued Act, 1901. under the Great Seal appointing any Judge of the Supreme Court a Commissioner to make any inquiry, it shall be lawful for the Governor to declare that all or any specified sections of the Boorabil Com-

mission Act, 1914, shall be applicable for the purposes of such inquiry, and the same shall thereupon be applied in the holding of the said inquiry.

13. The appointment of the Honorable Mr. Justice Pending Pring as such Commissioner as aforesaid is hereby proceedings. 20 declared to be valid in all respects, and the pendency of any legal proceedings in any Court shall not debar the Commissioner from acting under the said Commission.

14. Nothing in this Act contained shall in any Saving clause. respect limit the powers, rights and privileges of the 25 Commissioner under the Royal Commissioner's Evidence Act 1901.

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