

Half-caste Disability Removal.

No. XXXIII.

AN ACT to Legitimize in certain cases the Issue of Mixed Blood born before Marriage of Parents of the European and Maori Race respectively subsequently Married. [3rd November, 1860.]

HALF-CASTE
DISABILITY
REMOVAL.

WHEREAS there are within the Colony many persons the children before marriage of parents whereof one is of the European and the other of the Maori race, which parents have subsequently intermarried and such children are according to law illegitimate and incapable of inheriting property: And whereas it is expedient to legitimize such children as aforesaid: Preamble.

BE IT THEREFORE 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 Half-caste Disability Removal Act, 1860.*" Short Title.

2. In the interpretation of this Act the word "Maori" shall include Half-castes and all persons of mixed blood of the European and aboriginal races, unless there be something in the context repugnant to such construction. Interpretation.

3. In all cases in which children have been born out of wedlock of parents whereof one is of the European race and the other of the Maori race, and in which such parents have subsequently intermarried according to any law for the time being in force for regulating marriages, or shall within twelve months from the passing of this Act so intermarry, such children shall be deemed to be the lawful issue of such parents and shall be capable of inheriting property, and shall have to all intents and purposes such and the same rights as they would have had if such parents had been legally intermarried before the birth of such children: Provided always that this Act shall not affect the inheritance of any hereditaments which before the passing of this Act may have descended to any person to the exclusion of any child or children legitimized by this Act. Children of mixed blood born before wedlock of parents subsequently marrying legitimized.