

A BILL

To provide that in certain cases orders may be made that a court shall be cleared and that certain evidence shall not be published ; and for other purposes.

BE it 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:—

1. This Act may be cited as the "Indecent Evidence Short title. Publication Act, 1912."

2. (1) The judge, magistrate, or justice of the peace presiding over the hearing of any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, in which any evidence may be given, the publication of which would, in his opinion, offend against public decency, may, at any time during such hearing,—

Orders to clear court and to prohibit publication of evidence.

(a) order that any person not directly interested in such proceedings shall leave the court or place of hearing ;

(b) forbid the publication of the evidence or any report or account of such evidence either as to the whole or any portion thereof.

(2) Any person disobeying any order made under paragraph (a) of this section may be removed from such court or place.

Any person disobeying any order made under paragraph (b) of this section shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding *one hundred* pounds and to a term of imprisonment not exceeding four months.

(3) Such penalties and punishment may, in a summary manner, be enforced by or recovered before any two justices of the peace.

3. The powers provided by this Act shall be in addition to and not in substitution for any similar powers provided by any other Act. Powers to be additional