

1873.

NEW ZEALAND.

IMPORT DUTIES ON COLONIAL MANUFACTURES.

(Return to an Order of the House of Representatives, dated 21st August, 1873.)

"That the opinion of the Attorney-General be taken as to whether the Government of New Zealand has power under the Imperial Act passed May 2nd, 1873, entitled 'The Australian Duties Act,' to make laws with respect to the remission or imposition of duties upon the importation of any article the produce or manufacture of any of the Australian Colonies."—(*Mr. O'Neill.*)

OPINION of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

2nd September, 1873.

I SUPPOSE that by "Government" is meant Legislature. The Act mentioned does not purport to give to the Government or Legislature of New Zealand any such power; its language indicates that the Parliament of the United Kingdom was aware, as is the fact, that the General Assembly had already the power which this Act gives to the Australian Colonies, including Tasmania.

J. PRENDERGAST.

The Hon. the Prime Minister.

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