



Newspaper Libel and Registration Act 1881

1881 CHAPTER 60 44 and 45 Vict

4 Inquiry by court of summary jurisdiction as to libel being for public benefit or being true.

A court of summary jurisdiction^{F1} in Northern Ireland], upon the hearing of a charge against a proprietor, publisher, or editor, or any person responsible for the publication of a newspaper, for a^{F2} blasphemous] libel published therein, may receive evidence^{F3} ... as to any matter which under this or any other Act, or otherwise, might be given in evidence by way of defence by the person charged on his trial on indictment, and the court, if of opinion after hearing such evidence that there is a strong or probable presumption that the jury on the trial would acquit the person charged, may dismiss the case.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 4 inserted (12.1.2010) by Coroners and Justice Act 2009 (c. 25), s. 182(2)(c), **Sch. 21 para. 67(a)** (with s. 180)
- F2** Word in s. 4 inserted (12.1.2010) by Coroners and Justice Act 2009 (c. 25), s. 182(2)(c), **Sch. 21 para. 67(b)** (with s. 180)
- F3** Words in s. 4 repealed (12.1.2010) by Coroners and Justice Act 2009 (c. 25), s. 182(2)(c), (e)(i), (e)(iii), (e)(ix), (e)(v), (e)(vi), (e)(vii), (e)(viii), (e)(x), (e)(xi), (5), Sch. 21 para. 67(c) **Sch. 23 Pt. 2** (with s. 180)

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Newspaper Libel and Registration Act 1881, Section 4.