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Hon. Mr. Rolleston.

AUCKLAND MUSEUM ENDOWMENT.

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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to provide an Endowment in Land for the Museum at Auckland established by the Auckland Institute. Title.

WHEREAS the society known as the Auckland Institute, incorporated as a branch society with the New Zealand Institute under the provisions of "The New Zealand Institute Act, 1867," has established a public museum in the City of Auckland, and it is desirable to promote the study and cultivation of the various departments of science and art by providing an endowment for the said museum: 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 is "The Auckland Museum Endowment Act, 1881." Short Title.

2. The Minister of Lands may, from the waste lands of the Crown situate within the Auckland Land District, from time to time select land, not exceeding ten thousand acres in area in the whole, and not exceeding the value of ten thousand pounds, as estimated by the said Minister, as an endowment for the said Auckland Museum. Minister of Lands may select certain lands as an endowment for the Auckland Museum.

3. Such selection or selections shall be notified by a notice or notices in the Gazette, under the hand of the Minister of Lands, declaring that such lands have been so selected. Notice of such selection to be gazetted.

4. Immediately upon the publication of each of the said notices, such land so selected shall vest in the School Commissioners for the Auckland Provincial District appointed under "The Education Reserves Act, 1877;" and the Governor may also issue a Crown grant or grants for the same to the said School Commissioners upon trust for the purposes of this Act. Upon publication of notice, land to vest in, and Crown grants to issue to, School Commissioners.

Power to School Commissioners to lease lands.

5. The School Commissioners may lease for any period not exceeding twenty-one years any lands vested in them under this Act, at such rents and on such terms as they may think fit, but without conferring any right of renewal by any such lease, and so that no premium or foregift shall be taken for the granting of the same, and so that every such lease shall be sold by public auction or public tender, of which at least one month's public notice, by advertisement in one or more newspapers circulating in the Provincial District of Auckland, shall be given. 5

Power to School Commissioners to set aside school sites.

6. The School Commissioners may from time to time appropriate 10 or set apart, by notice under their hand published in the *Gazette*, any of the lands vested in them by this Act, or any portion or portions thereof, as a site or sites for public schools; and from the date of such notice the land so set apart shall vest in the Education Board of the district wherein they are situate without any conveyance or transfer; 15 but the School Commissioners are nevertheless hereby empowered to convey or transfer the same to such Board if they shall think fit.

Revenues to be derived from reserves to be devoted to maintaining the Auckland Museum.

7. All revenues derived by the School Commissioners from the reserves so vested in them shall, after the deduction therefrom of the expenses of the management and administration thereof, be by them 20 paid over to the Council of the said Auckland Institute, and shall by such Council be devoted to the purpose of adding to, improving, or maintaining the said Auckland Museum, or otherwise for its benefit, and for no other purpose.

Accounts to be kept.

8. The School Commissioners shall keep full and true accounts of 25 all their receipts and expenditure under this Act, and shall submit such accounts to the same audit and inspection as may be required under "The Education Reserves Act, 1877," with respect to their ordinary accounts, and shall furnish such reports, as to the administration of this Act, as the Governor may require of them. 30

Yearly statement of receipts and expenditure to be sent to the Minister of Education.

9. The Council of the said Auckland Institute shall send to the Minister of Education, before the *thirty-first* day of March in every year, a duly certified statement of its receipts and expenditure during the year ending the *thirty-first* day of December next before the date of such report. 35