

(Mr. Gillies.)

Auckland Mineral Leases.

ANALYSIS.

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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to authorize the Granting of Leases of Land in the Province of Auckland for Mining Purposes. Title.

WHEREAS it is expedient to enable the Superintendent of the Province of Auckland to grant leases of Waste Lands of the Crown for Mining purposes: 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 Auckland Mineral Leases Act 1871." Short Title.

2. Throughout this Act the following words shall have the meaning hereby respectively assigned to them:— Interpretation.

"Superintendent" shall mean Superintendent of the Province of Auckland and "land" shall mean Waste Lands of the Crown in the Province of Auckland.

3. It shall be lawful for the Superintendent to grant leases of land for the purposes of mining and working the minerals therein subject to the following terms and conditions:— Leases may be granted on certain terms and conditions.

(1.) Every such lease shall comprise so much land as shall be necessary in the opinion of the Superintendent for the efficient working of the minerals not being less than twenty acres or more than eighty acres in respect of all minerals other than coal and in respect of coal any number of acres not being less than one hundred and sixty acres or more than six hundred and forty acres.

(2.) The term to be granted in each lease shall be any number of years at the option of the lessee not exceeding twenty-one.

(3.) There shall be reserved such royalties or rents as the Superintendent shall think fit not exceeding one-fifteenth in the case of metalliferous minerals and in the case of coal not exceeding one shilling per ton and in the case of all other minerals such rent or royalty as the Superintendent may think fit.

(4.) Every lease shall contain clauses in the usual form introduced into mining leases—

(a.) For securing the payment of the rent or royalty.

(b.) For enabling some person on the part of the lessor from time to time to enter and examine the mine.

(c.) For securing the regular proper and efficient mining and working of the minerals. 5

(d.) For making void the lease on breach of the stipulations on the part of the lessee therein contained.

(e.) For delivering up the demised premises in good tenantable repair.

(f.) To enable the lessee to abandon the working of the minerals whenever he shall find the same unprofitable to work and surrender the lease. 10

Superintendent may make regulations.

4. It shall be lawful for the Superintendent to make such regulations as he may think fit as to the form time and manner of making applications for leases and all such other regulations as he may think fit in order to facilitate and effectually carry out the objects of this Act. 15

Act not to apply to gold.

5. Nothing in this Act shall apply to gold or authorize the lessee to mine or dig for gold on any land demised under the powers hereinbefore contained and it shall be lawful for the Governor of New Zealand and for any delegate appointed by him in exercise of the powers given by the Gold Fields Acts for the time being in force and by such delegation respectively to constitute any of the land comprised in any such lease as may not be required by the lessee for efficiently and satisfactorily carrying on mining operations on the demised land to be a Gold Field under the said Acts: Provided that provision shall be at the same time made for compensating and indemnifying the lessee from any loss or damage to be hereby occasioned. 20 25