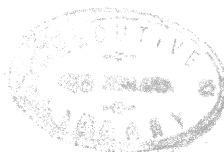


This PUBLIC BILL originated in the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES and having this day passed as now printed is transmitted to the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL for its concurrence.

*House of Representatives.
23rd October, 1877.*

Mr. Brandon.



Crown Grants Acts Amendment.

ANALYSIS.

Title.
Preamble.

1. Short Title.
2. Validity of title. Provisoes.

A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to amend and explain "The Crown Grants Act, 1866," and "The Crown Grants Act Amendment Act, 1867," and "The Deeds Registration Act, 1868." Title.

WHEREAS by "The Crown Grants Act, 1866," and "The Crown Grants Act 1866 Amendment Act, 1867," it is enacted that all deeds theretofore or thereafter to be executed by grantees of Crown lands, their heirs and assigns, after the dates at which they had or should become entitled respectively to Crown grants of the said lands, but before the dates of the Crown grants by which the same had been or should be subsequently granted, should for the purpose of completing the titles of parties to such deeds, but for no other purpose, be deemed to have the same force and effect as though the Crown grants respectively in which such lands are comprised had been executed immediately upon the grantees named therein having become or becoming entitled to receive such Crown grants respectively: And by "The Deeds Registration Act, 1868," it is enacted that instruments relating to the waste lands of the Crown purchased of or acquired from the Crown, the New Zealand Company, or the Canterbury Association for founding a colony in New Zealand might be registered notwithstanding the non-issue of a Crown grant or conveyance of such land: Provided that the position and boundaries of the land so dealt with should appear to be accurately laid down upon some map of the Crown Lands Office of the district in which such land is situate, and should be marked with the sectional number or other designation by which it is intended to describe it in the Crown grant or conveyance of the same, and that all instruments which had been or which thereafter should be registered, notwithstanding such non-issue as aforesaid, should have the same force and effect as between the parties to such instruments and all persons claiming by, from, through, under, or in trust for them, but no further, or otherwise, as if the Crown grants or conveyances last aforesaid had been duly issued prior to such registration: And whereas doubts are entertained as to the true construction of such enactments, and it is expedient that they should be explained, and that further rights and privileges should be given to persons entitled to Crown grants: Preamble.

BE IT THEREFORE ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

Short Title.

1. The Short Title of this Act shall be "The Crown Grants Acts Amendment Act, 1877."

Validity of title.

2. A purchaser of lands from the Crown, the New Zealand Company, or the Canterbury Association, and any Native claiming title to land under any contract or engagement made by or on behalf of Her Majesty, and who shall be entitled to a grant but for which land the grant shall not have been issued, and every person claiming through any such purchaser or Native, shall have and possess, and after the passing of this Act shall be deemed to have had and possessed, the same rights, privileges, and remedies for the enjoyment and protection of his land as if the grant had been issued to and the legal estate vested in him: Provided the position and boundaries of the land so purchased can be approximately ascertained, and any person occupying the same or disputing the title thereto cannot show or adduce a better right and title, legal or equitable, to the same land: Provided further that no person who may have been in adverse possession for twenty years and upwards of any such land shall be at liberty to set up the statute of limitations as a defence against the rightful claimants thereof, or any other defence founded on adverse possession: Provided also that this Act shall not refer to any land which shall not have been vested in Her Majesty.

Provisoos.