

A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to provide for the Settlement of ^{Title.}
certain Land Claims in the Provinces
of Canterbury, Otago, and Southland.

WHEREAS George Green of Dunedin in the Province of Otago ^{Preamble.}
shipbuilder shipwright and whaler did in the present Session of
Parliament present petitions to the Legislative Council and House
of Representatives respectively stating (1) That in the year 1838 he
5 purchased certain tracts of land in New Zealand from Towaku the
acknowledged superior chief of the Middle Island the title deeds to
which land are signed by Towaku and all the minor chiefs (2) That
his purchase was made at the time New Zealand was an independent
Sovereign State (3) That King William IV. did in the year 1832
10 make a solemn declaration that New Zealand was a "substantive and
independent State" (4) That after the Treaty of Waitangi the
petitioner in conformity with proclamation issued by Sir George
Gipps Governor of New South Wales to the effect that purchasers of
land from Natives of New Zealand were to send in their claims was
15 the first purchaser to comply (5) That some time after he complied
with the order contained in the before mentioned proclamation he
received notice from the Governor of New South Wales that his
claims would have to be forwarded to New Zealand as there would be
a commission appointed their to investigate them and subsequently
20 he received further notice that as his lands were situated in the
southern parts of the Middle Island of New Zealand the claim could
not be investigated for some time but that at any time there was a

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Commissioner down South he (the Commissioner) could investigate them (6) That he paid the then full value of the lands which has been admitted by the Natives the Government and Commissioners (7) That it was stated in the instructions to Captain Hobson before the Treaty of Waitangi "You will however at the same time take care to dispel any apprehensions which may be created in the minds of the settlers that it is intended to dispossess the owners of any property which has been acquired on equitable conditions" (8) That the Commissioners Messieurs Bell Cutten and Domett after fully investigating his claims have admitted that his lands were acquired on fair and equitable terms (9) That at the time he purchased the Natives were most anxious for him to settle among them for the purpose of carrying on his business of ship and boat builder and considered it necessary to obtain large tracts of land to preserve the timber for carrying on his trade (10) That at the time he purchased his lands few men could be found who would bring a family to reside among the Natives in consequence of their being still in a state of cannibalism (11) That valuable grants of land in New South Wales were made in early times for the encouragement of persons to carry on their trade (12) That the amount paid by him to the original owners of the lands is scarcely a tithe of the cost of allaying the Native title and prosecuting his claims to the same (13) That by the first cost expenses interest and compound interest he is at present at a loss of £20,000 And lastly that he has always been ready and willing to come to a satisfactory and equitable settlement of his claims but has been unable to do so and praying that his claims may be enquired into.

AND WHEREAS it is expedient that provision should be made for the final settlement of the claims of the said George Green in manner hereinafter mentioned.

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.

I. The Short Title of this Act shall be "The George Green's Land Claims Settlement Act 1867."

Governor empowered to issue Land Order to George Green for purchase of land to amount of £ acceptance of Land Order to be settlement of claims.

II. If within sixty days after the passing of this Act the said George Green shall by a notice in writing signed by him and attested by two witnesses signify to the Colonial Secretary that he is willing to accept such settlement of his claims against the Crown set forth in the said Petition as the Governor is by this Act empowered to make it shall be lawful for the Governor to issue to the said George Green three Land Orders in the Forms respectively 1 and 2 in the Schedule hereto which shall respectively authorise the said George Green to purchase to the amount of pounds any of the Waste Lands in the Province of Canterbury to the amount of pounds any of the Waste Lands of the Crown in the Province of Otago and to the amount of pounds any of the Waste Lands of the Crown in the Province of Southland of such of the Crown Lands in the said Provinces respectively as may be open for sale or selection without payment of cash at auction or by selection without auction or otherwise but subject in every respect to the law in force for the time being regulating the sale and disposal of the Waste Lands of the Crown in the Province in which the land to be selected or purchased by virtue of each such Land Order shall be selected or purchased and the prices at which such lands respectively shall be sold except only so far as

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*Amendments of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL in "The George Green's
Land Claims Settlements Bill."*

In the preamble erase from "stating" in line 3 to "do so and" in line 39 inclusive.

In clause 2 line 9 erase "£1200 (twelve hundred pounds)" and insert "£520 (five hundred and twenty pounds)" instead thereof
Line 10 erase "£600 (six hundred pounds) and insert "£187 (one hundred and eighty-seven pounds)" instead thereof.

*Legislative Council,
1st October, 1867.*