

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,
21st August, 1894.*

[AS AMENDED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.]

Hon. Mr. J. McKenzie.

LAND FOR SETTLEMENTS.

ANALYSIS.

<p>Title.</p> <p>1. Short Title.</p> <p>2. Interpretation.</p> <p>3. Land Purchase Commissioners appointed.</p> <p>4. Minister may direct Board to acquire lands for settlement by purchase or exchange.</p> <p>5. Upon recommendation of Board Governor may acquire land.</p> <p>6. In event of owner refusing to sell, Governor may take land under Public Works Act.</p> <p>7. Limitations and conditions.</p> <p>8. Governor may prohibit sale of pastoral land in Nelson and Marlborough.</p> <p>9. Land acquired to be Crown land.</p> <p>10. Colonial Treasurer may borrow money for the purposes of this Act, within limits.</p> <p>11. And may issue debentures in security.</p> <p>12. Nature and currency of debentures.</p> <p>13. Debentures and interest to be charged on Consolidated Fund.</p> <p>14. Debentures not issued in one year may be issued at subsequent period.</p>	<p>15. Protection and security of debenture-holders.</p> <p>16. Debentures to be convertible into stock.</p> <p>17. Money received to be paid into separate account in Public Account.</p> <p>18. Rental and capital value.</p> <p>19. Colonial Treasurer may pay moneys payable under Act.</p> <p>20. Lands to be disposed of under Land Acts on lease in perpetuity or as small grazing-runs.</p> <p>21. Rent may be remitted in certain cases.</p> <p>22. Power to make reserves.</p> <p>23. No thirds to be paid to local authorities.</p> <p>24. Occupier of land liable for rates or taxes.</p> <p>25. Power to make regulations.</p> <p>26. Land Acts to apply to lessees under this Act.</p> <p>27. Annual accounts and reports to be furnished to the General Assembly.</p> <p>28. Repeal.</p> <p>29. Expiration of Act.</p>
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to repeal "The Land for Settlements Act, 1892," authorising the Acquisition of Private Lands for Purposes of Settlement, and to make other Provisions in lieu thereof. Title.

5 BE IT 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 Land for Settlements Act, 1894." Short Title.

10 2. In this Act, if not inconsistent with the context,— Interpretation
 "Board" means the Board of Land Purchase Commissioners appointed under this Act:

New paragraph.

15 "Block" means a block of land in one contiguous area, as defined by section one hundred and fourteen of "The Land Act, 1892":

"Capital value" means the value of ~~any allotment land~~ as defined by section ~~eighteen~~ *twenty-nine*:

20 "Land Act" means "The Land Act, 1892," and any Act amending the same:

New paragraphs.

- “First-class land” means agricultural land :
 “Second-class land” means mixed agricultural and pastoral land :
 “Third-class land” means land suitable only for pastoral purposes : 5
 “Minister” means the Minister of Lands :
 “Owner” means any person, company, or corporation owning private land in fee-simple, or *having any estate or interest therein*, and includes any trustee, executor, administrator, or mortgagee having a legal power of sale of private land : 10

New paragraph.

- “Prescribed maximum” means either one thousand acres of first-class land or two thousand acres of second-class land with a site for a homestead, or five thousand acres of third-class land with a site for a homestead, except in the case of land situate within five miles of any of the Cities of Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, or Dunedin, when “prescribed maximum” means five hundred acres of any class : 15
 “Private land” means any land alienated from the Crown. 20

New paragraph.

- “Site for a homestead” means any area not exceeding two hundred acres of first- or second-class land surrounding a homestead, but such area is included in the area of the prescribed maximum. 25

Land Purchase Commissioners appointed.

3. There shall be a Board, ~~of whom three shall form a quorum~~, to be called “The Board of Land Purchase Commissioners,” consisting of the Surveyor-General of the colony, who shall be Chairman of the Board, the Commissioner of Taxes, and the Commissioner of Crown Lands for the land district in which is situated any land proposed to be acquired, whose duties shall be to ascertain, by the valuation of a *one or more* competent valuers and by such other means as seem to them fit, the value of any lands which it may be proposed to acquire for the purposes of this Act, and to report to the Minister as to the *character of the land and its suitability for settlement, and the demand for land for settlement in the locality where it is proposed to purchase the same.* 30 35

Minister may direct Board to acquire lands for settlement by purchase or exchange.

4. The Minister may from time to time direct the Board to negotiate with any owner of private lands in any part of the colony for the purchase or exchange of any lands, at such price, or for so much equivalent land, as may be agreed upon between any owner or lessee and the Board, for the purpose,— 40

- (1.) Of providing land for settlement under the Land Acts ; or
- (2.) For the acquisition of sites for homesteads for neighbouring high-lying pastoral land ; or 45
- (3.) For acquiring low-lying land necessary for the working of neighbouring high pastoral land ; or
- (4.) For the exchanging high land suitable only for pastoral purposes for low-lying or agricultural land suitable for settlement. 50

Upon recommendation of Board Governor may acquire land.

5. Upon any *written* recommendation by the Board that any private land should be acquired, owing to its value, character, and suitability for settlement, the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, may conclude the purchase or exchange thereof, *at a price not exceeding that recommended by the Board,* and 55

may execute all deeds and instruments, and do or perform all things or acts necessary for the completion of any such purchase, exchange, or taking.

Struck Out.

5 6. In the event of the Governor in Council deciding to acquire any land which the Board has recommended should be acquired, and of any owner of such land as aforesaid refusing to sell or exchange, or on failure to come to an agreement with such owner in respect
10 of the sale or exchange of any land required for the aforesaid purposes, the Governor may take such land compulsorily, or so much thereof as he shall deem necessary, under "The Public Works Act, 1882," the provisions whereof shall apply to such taking as if it were a taking of land for a public work within the meaning of that Act; and the compensation to be paid for such taking shall be
15 assessed in manner provided by that Act:

Provided, however, that when a notice of intention to take such land is served on any owner or occupier in pursuance of section ten of the said Act, such owner or occupier shall, within *forty* days after the receipt of such notice, lodge in writing at the office of the
20 Minister of Lands, at Wellington, a statement of the price required by him for such land in the form or to the effect set forth in the Schedule to "The Public Works Acts Amendment Act, 1889," and such statement shall be the claim to be considered by the Compensation Court in case such land is taken under the said Act.

25 For all purposes of taking land as aforesaid under "The Public Works Act, 1882," the Minister of Lands shall be deemed to be the Minister for Public Works under the last-named Act, and may do, perform, and exercise all things, acts, and functions which are conferred upon the last-named Minister under that Act.

30 7. The last-preceding section shall be read subject to the limitations and conditions following, that is to say,—

(1.) No land shall be taken compulsorily under this Act from any person owning not more than one thousand acres of first-class land, or two thousand acres of second-class land,
35 or five thousand acres of pastoral land in one complete estate; and

(2.) Any person owning more than one thousand acres of first-class land, or two thousand acres of second-class land, or five thousand acres of pastoral land, shall have the right to retain any part of such land not exceeding the last-mentioned areas respectively in one block, with frontages and dimensions as provided in section one hundred and nine of "The Land Act, 1892," which shall be excepted from being taken compulsorily under this Act: Provided that such owner shall make his selection of the land to be excepted as aforesaid within three months from the date of the posting of a registered letter addressed to the said owner containing a notification from the Minister that the Governor intends to take the said owner's land, or part thereof, under the authority of this Act.

(3.) For the purposes of this section, first-class land shall be deemed to be land suitable for agriculture; second-

In event of owner refusing to sell, Governor may take land under Public Works Act.

Limitations and conditions.

class land shall be deemed to be mixed agricultural and pastoral land; and pastoral land shall be deemed to be land suitable for pastoral purposes only with a site for homestead.

(4.) Any owner of an area of land comprised within one continuous area, a portion whereof has been taken compulsorily, may, within forty days after he has been notified of the compulsory taking of such portion of land, give notice that he is desirous to sell the remainder of his land or estate left to him, and, on such notice being received, the said part so left shall be deemed to have been taken compulsorily, and he shall be allowed full compensation therefor.

(5.) Any owner of land taken compulsorily under this Act may, within one month after the gazetting of any Proclamation taking such land, give notice in writing to the Minister that he elects to remain in possession for a period to be named in such notice, not exceeding nine months from such date, and shall thereupon have a right to occupy such land for the period so stated, subject to the following conditions:—

(a.) No part of the purchase-money shall be payable until the expiration of the said period.

(b.) The Minister and any persons authorised by him, either generally or particularly, shall have full and free right of ingress, egress, and regress through, over, and upon any of the lands or premises so taken, for the purposes of survey, road-making, or inspection, in the same manner and to the same extent as if the said lands were Crown lands unoccupied.

Provided that in the case of land situated within five miles of the City of Auckland, the City of Wellington, the City of Christchurch, and the City of Dunedin, the limitation in this section shall be reduced to five hundred acres.

New clauses.

Land may be taken compulsorily.

6. If the Governor in Council decides to acquire any land so recommended as aforesaid by the Board, and the owner refuses to sell or exchange, or if no agreement for sale or exchange can be come to, the Governor may take such land compulsorily in the manner and subject to the conditions hereinafter provided.

Less than prescribed area not to be taken.

7. No land shall be taken compulsorily from any person's block if such block do not exceed the prescribed maximum of either first- or second- or third-class land.

Owner may retain prescribed area.

8. If it be intended to take land compulsorily from any person owning in one block more than the prescribed maximum of any class of land, such person shall have the right to select and retain from such block any contiguous area not exceeding the prescribed maximum, with frontages and dimensions as mentioned in section one hundred and nine of the Land Act:

New Proviso.

Provided that such selection may be composed of first-class, second-class, and third-class land; and that the area selected shall be so determined that the acreage of each class shall not exceed proportionately the prescribed maximum.

Provided (a) that such right be asserted in his claim as herein-after mentioned, and (b) that such right be so exercised as not to affect the land intended to be taken, save to the extent necessary in order to make up the prescribed maximum out of the whole block.

5 9. If the land intended to be taken from any person be less than the whole of such person's block, he shall have the right to require that the whole of such block be taken: Provided that such right be asserted in his claim as hereinafter mentioned. Whole block to be taken if owner requires.

10 9A. Whenever it is intended to take land compulsorily under this Act the Minister shall cause notice of such intention to be gazetted, and in such notice shall specify the acreage and description of the land, its classification, and the name and address of its owner. Intention to take land to be gazetted.

15 10. (1.) Within *twenty-one* days after the gazetting of such notice the Minister shall serve a copy thereof (hereinafter called "the requisition") on the owner. Minister to serve requisition on owner.

(2.) Such requisition shall be accompanied by a plan and description, setting forth the acreage and the Minister's classification of the land to be taken, if it be the whole of a block, and its acreage, position and classification if it be part of a block.

20 11. Within *twenty-one* days after the service of the requisition, the owner shall serve on the Minister a claim in the prescribed form, setting forth, with all such plans, descriptions, and particulars as the circumstances may require,— Owner to furnish claim, &c., for land to be taken.

25 (1.) His classification of the whole block, if he objects to the Minister's classification thereof;

(2.) His objection (if any), under section *seven* hereof, to any land being taken;

30 (3.) His demand (if any), under section *eight* hereof, to select and retain the prescribed maximum, with the acreage, description, and position thereof, and the acreage and classification of the whole block;

(4.) His demand (if any), under section *nine* hereof, that the whole of his block be taken, with its acreage and classification;

35 (5.) The nature and particulars of his interest in the land to be taken, or in the block from which the land is to be taken, and of all incumbrances, liens, and interests affecting the same respectively;

40 (6.) Each matter on account of which he claims compensation, with full particulars of the nature and extent of the claim;

(7.) The amount claimed respectively for land to be taken and for land injuriously affected, giving the amount for each item separately;

(8.) The total amount claimed;

45 (9.) His full name and address for service;

(10.) Such further or other particulars as may be prescribed.

50 12. Such claim shall be deemed a claim for compensation within the meaning of "The Public Works Act, 1882," and all the provisions of that Act, save in so far as expressly modified by this Act, shall apply thereto for all purposes in like manner as if the land to be taken under this Act were land taken for a Government work under that Act. Provisions of "Public Works Act, 1882," to apply to claim.

55 13. On the hearing of the claim the Compensation Court shall, if necessary, determine in the first place all questions of disputed classification. Classification to be settled by Court.

Owner and Minister may amend claim and requisition.

14. So soon as the classification is determined as aforesaid, the owner and the Minister may, on application to the Court in that behalf, and within such time not exceeding twenty-one days as the Court may fix, amend their respective claim and requisition by serving and filing notices of such amendment in the prescribed manner: Provided that no departure be made from the classification as fixed by the Court. 5

Amended claim and requisition subject to order of Court.

15. The claim and requisition, with amendments, as the case may be, and all matters connected therewith, shall then be determined by the Court, and for that purpose the Court shall by order declare,— 10

- (1.) What land (if any) the Minister is entitled to take;
- (2.) What land (if any) the owner is entitled to retain, *as provided by section eight*;
- (3.) What sum is to be paid by way of compensation, and to whom;
- (4.) Whatever else may be necessary for the purpose of adjusting the rights of all parties interested in or affected by the proceedings. 15

Court may make supplementary order.

16. Within *twenty-one* days after the making of such order the owner, the Minister, or any such person as aforesaid, may by notice in the prescribed manner apply to the Court for a supplementary order, or the Court of its own motion may make a supplementary order for the purpose of remedying any defect, or of giving fuller effect to the original order. 20 25

Governor shall proclaim lands to be taken.

17. Upon the expiration of the last-mentioned period of *twenty-one* days the Governor shall, by Proclamation, declare that the lands specified in that behalf in such order or supplementary order are compulsorily taken under this Act; and from the date of the gazetting of such Proclamation the lands therein specified as aforesaid shall become absolutely vested in Her Majesty for the purposes of this Act, discharged from all claims, estates, incumbrances, liens, and interests whatsoever. 30

Owner may elect to retain possession for a specified period.

18. The owner may, at any time before the gazetting of the said Proclamation, give notice in writing to the Minister that he elects to remain in possession of the land therein specified for a period to be named in such notice, not exceeding nine months from the date on which the Proclamation is gazetted, and shall thereupon have a right to occupy such land for the period so stated, subject to the following conditions:— 40

- (a.) No part of the purchase-money shall be payable until the expiration of the said period:
- (b.) The Minister and any persons authorised by him, either generally or particularly, shall have full and free right of ingress, egress, and regress through, over, and upon any of the lands so taken, for the purposes of survey, road-making, or inspection, in the same manner and to the same extent as if the said lands were Crown lands unoccupied: 45

Governor may prohibit sale of pastoral land in Nelson and Marlborough.

§ 19. Notwithstanding any right accrued or reserved to any lessee or licensee of pastoral land under "The Nelson Crown Lands Leasing Act, 1867," or "The Marlborough Waste Lands Act, 1867," to purchase such land or any part thereof, the Governor, on the recommendation of the Board as aforesaid, by notification in the *Gazette*, 50

may declare any such land to be required for any of the purposes mentioned in section four of this Act; and after the publication of any such notification no sale of any land described therein shall be made by any Commissioner of Crown Lands until notice has been given to the Minister of such intended sale, who, if he think fit, may at any time within twelve months after the receipt of such notice acquire for Her Majesty, under the provisions of this Act, such land or any part thereof.

Subject, nevertheless, that the lessee shall be entitled to compensation for any loss he may sustain by reason of such acquisition, and that such compensation shall be ascertained by agreement or in the manner provided by "The Public Works Act, 1882."

9 20. All land acquired under the provisions of this Act may be paid for wholly or partly either by money borrowed or, with the assent of the seller, by debentures issued under this Act, and shall, as soon as the purchase acquisition thereof is concluded as aforesaid, be proclaimed as Crown land subject to the provisions of this Act.

Land acquired to be Crown land.

10 21. For the purpose of providing funds out of which may be made all payments authorised by this Act, the Colonial Treasurer, as often as occasion requires, may in each financial year borrow money from the balances in any of the accounts mentioned in Part VIII. of "The Public Revenues Act, 1891," or the Public Works Funds, or wholly or partly from one or other of such balances, or wholly or partly from any bank or monetary institution, or from any person or persons, not exceeding two hundred and fifty thousand pounds in the aggregate in any one such year:

Colonial Treasurer may borrow money for the purposes of this Act, within limits.

New proviso.

30 Provided that no contract for the acquisition of land under the provisions of this Act shall be entered into in any one year to a greater amount than the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand pounds, together with the amount of any balances available for that year under the provisions of section *twenty-five* of this Act.

35 This Act shall be sufficient authority to the persons having control of any of the aforesaid funds, or the Colonial Treasurer, to lend any of the funds under their control respectively, not exceeding the amount specified in this section and in section ~~fourteen~~ *twenty-five* of this Act.

40 22. As security for any money borrowed as aforesaid, or in payment for any land acquired under this Act, in case the owner thereof is willing to accept them in lieu of cash, the Colonial Treasurer may create and issue debentures for any amount not exceeding two hundred and fifty thousand pounds in any one year, except as provided in section ~~fourteen~~ *twenty-five*.

And may issue debentures in security.

45 23. Debentures shall—

(1.) Be in such form as shall be prescribed by the Colonial Treasurer, be signed by the Colonial Treasurer and by the Controller and Auditor-General, and be for not less than one hundred pounds, payable to bearer, and bear interest at a rate not exceeding four pounds per centum per annum; and shall have a currency of not longer than forty years, but may be sooner paid off and may be re-issued; and

Nature and currency of debentures.

50 (2.) Be payable, both as to principal and interest, at such place or places as the Colonial Treasurer shall prescribe, and as shall be named in the debenture;

	(3.) Be numbered consecutively in series of debentures of the same value, so that no two debentures of the same value shall at any time bear the same number.	
Debentures and interest to be charged on Consolidated Fund.	13 24. The sum of money named in any debenture issued under the authority of this Act, and all interest thereon, shall be a charge upon and paid out of the Consolidated Fund.	5
Debentures not issued in one year may be issued at subsequent period.	14 25. Where the total amount of debentures issued in any one year do not amount to two hundred and fifty thousand pounds, the Colonial Treasurer may at any subsequent period create and issue debentures for the balance of such last-mentioned amount, in addition to the amount of debentures authorised to be issued during such subsequent period.	10
Protection and security of debenture-holder.	15 26. Every debenture which shall on the face thereof purport to have been issued under the authority of this Act shall, for every purpose necessary for the protection and security of the holder thereof, be deemed to have been duly issued under such authority. And no holder of any such debenture shall be concerned to see or inquire whether or to what extent the power of issue given by this Act has previously been or is intended to be exercised.	15
Debentures to be convertible into stock.	16 27. The Governor in Council may from time to time declare all or any of the debentures issued under this Act to be convertible into stock created or issued under "The New Zealand Consolidated Stock Act, 1877," and "The Consolidated Stock Act, 1884."	20
Money received to be paid into separate account in Public Account.	17 28. All moneys borrowed or received under this Act shall be paid into the Public Account, and be credited by the Treasury to a separate account, to be called "The Land for Settlements Account," and shall be applied for paying all expenses incident to the administration of this Act, whether for purchase-money, or for cost of survey or division of land, or for laying off and making roads, or for recouping the Consolidated Fund any sum for interest charged thereon under this Act, and shall not be applicable to any other purpose.	25 30
Rental and capital value.	18 29. The rental of land acquired <i>and disposed of</i> under this Act shall be at the rate of five per centum for interest on the capital value of the land, and such capital value shall be fixed at a rate sufficient to cover the cost of original acquisition of the land, together with a sufficient sum added thereto to cover the cost of survey, roading, and subdivision, the price of so much of the land as shall be absorbed by roads and reserves on subdivision, and the estimated cost of administration.	35
Colonial Treasurer may pay moneys payable under Act.	Such rental shall be paid into the separate account aforesaid. 19 30. The Colonial Treasurer may, without further appropriation, pay out of any moneys at credit of the aforesaid separate account all such sums from time to time as shall become payable under this Act.	40
Lands to be disposed of under Land Acts on lease in perpetuity or as small grazing-runs.	<i>Struck out.</i> 20. Lands acquired under this Act, whether the same be classed as rural, suburban, or town lands, shall be disposed of under the lease-in-perpetuity system of the Land Acts, or if pastoral land shall be disposed of as small grazing-runs under Part V. of "The Land Act, 1892," subject to regulations made under this Act. No person shall be capable of becoming the holder of any land under this Act exceeding the limits made by such regulations.	45 50

New clause.

31. Lands acquired under "The Land for Settlements Act, 1892," or this Act, whether the same be classed as rural, suburban, or town lands, shall, subject to regulations made under this Act, be disposed of under the lease-in-perpetuity system, or, if pastoral, under the small-grazing-run system of Part V. of the Land Act. Lands taken, how to be dealt with.
- 24 32. In the event of any lessee of land acquired under this Act being unable at any time, through any natural disaster, or other sufficient cause, to pay the rent due under his lease, it shall be competent for the Minister, on the recommendation of the Land Board of the district, and being satisfied of the necessity to afford relief to such lessee by remitting a year's rent, or such portion of a year's rent as may be deemed necessary, subject that the amount shall first be voted by Parliament. Any such sum shall be placed to the credit of the "Land for Settlement Account," in liquidation of the rent aforesaid: Provided also that this section shall not apply to any lessee who is over twelve months in arrear with his rent. Rent may be remitted in certain cases.
- 22 33. The Governor shall have the power to make all necessary reserves for public purposes; but no land acquired under this Act shall be appropriated for endowments. Power to make reserves.
- 23 34. The provision of the Land Acts as to the payment of thirds or fourths to local authorities shall not apply to lands acquired or disposed of under this Act. No thirds to be paid to local authorities.
- 24 35. Every lessee or selector of land acquired and disposed of under this Act shall be deemed to be an occupier of Crown land under the Land Acts within the meaning of all Acts relating to the payment of rates or taxes. Occupier of land liable for rates or taxes.
- 25 36. The Governor, from time to time may, *subject to the provisions of the Land Act*, make all such regulations under the Land Acts as he shall see fit *for the forms of requisitions and claims, and the time within which and the manner in which shall be done any act, matter, or thing in this Act expressed to be prescribed* for the disposition of any land acquired under this Act, or for regulating the conditions of occupation of any such land, or for fixing the area of rural or suburban land which may be applied for or occupied by any one person, or for any other purpose relating to or in connection with the disposition of any such land, or for appointing the meetings of the Board constituted under this Act, and for regulating the conduct of its business. Power to make regulations.
- 26 37. All provisions of the Land Acts, and penalties under the said Acts relating to lessees of Crown lands shall, *mutatis mutandis*, in so far as they are applicable, apply to and may be enforced against lessees under this Act. Land Act to apply to lessees under this Act.
- 27 38. As soon as may be, not later than twenty days after the commencement of the session in each year, there shall be presented to both Houses of the General Assembly— Annual accounts and reports to be furnished to the General Assembly
- (1.) A statement of the moneys received into and paid out of the Land for Settlements Account during the financial year ending on the thirty-first day of March of the year in which the said session is held.
- The Controller and Auditor-General shall certify to the correctness of such statement of accounts, and shall append to such certificate any exception he may take to any part of the same:

(2.) A statement showing the area of each block of land purchased under this Act, its locality and quality, the name of the person from whom it was bought or acquired, and the price paid for the same, together with the particulars of each transaction for the purchase of land concluded within the then next previous twelve months, and the report and valuation of the Board on each transaction, and a report on the condition and settlement of all lands acquired under this Act. 5

Repeal.

28 39. "The Land for Settlements Act, 1892," is hereby repealed ; 10
~~without prejudice to anything done thereunder~~ but all directions of the Governor to the Board shall be deemed to be made under this Act, and may be proceeded with under this Act, and all proceedings or other matters begun or undertaken under that Act may be continued and perfected under this Act. 15

New Clause.

Reserves not to be taken.

40. Nothing in this Act shall authorise the purchase or taking of lands compulsorily which have been set apart as endowments or reserves.

Expiration of Act.

29 41. This Act, if not sooner repealed, shall expire on the thirty-first day of March, in the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-nine. 20