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Hon. Mr. Rolleston.

RUSSELL EXCHANGE OF LAND.

ANALYSIS.

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2. Grant may be made to T. Russell of certain lands in the Te Aroha District on his releasing all claims to other lands therein.

A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to provide for a Settlement of certain Claims of Thomas Russell against the Government in respect of the Mangapouri or Hungahunga Block, and a Portion of the Te Aroha Block and Waiharakeke East and Waiharakeke West Blocks.

Title.

WHEREAS in the month of March, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-three, Thomas Russell, of Auckland, entered into agreements with the Native owners for the purchase of the Mangapouri or Hungahunga Block, and a large portion of the Te Aroha Block, in the Te Aroha Survey District, Provincial District of Auckland, and of the Waiharakeke West Block in the said survey district, and also the Waiharakeke East Block in the said survey district: And whereas later in the same year arrangements were entered into for the acquisition by the Governor, on behalf of Her Majesty, under "The Immigration and Public Works Act, 1871," of certain Native lands in the Provincial District of Auckland, as set forth in the Proclamation in the *New Zealand Gazette* number fifty-five, of the twenty-second day of October, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-four, page six hundred and ninety-three, and the acquisition thereof as aforesaid has since been concluded, and therein are comprised the aforesaid lands of the Mangapouri or Hungahunga and a portion of the Te Aroha Blocks, and the Waiharakeke East and West Blocks, already referred to as being under negotiation of purchase from the Native owners by the said Thomas Russell: And whereas the said Thomas Russell was induced to abandon his claim to the purchase of the aforesaid lands, and to cease competing for the purchase of the said blocks on the understanding that the Waiharakeke West Block, estimated to contain one thousand four hundred and eighty-seven acres, and a portion of the Te Aroha Block adjoining thereto, estimated to contain eight thousand acres, should be granted to the said

Preamble.

Thomas Russell by Her Majesty at the actual cost price thereof to Her Majesty: And whereas since the said understanding the said portion of the Te Aroha Block agreed to be granted to the said Thomas Russell has been sold by Her Majesty to Messrs. Grant and Foster: And whereas it has been agreed between the Governor, on behalf of Her Majesty, and the said Thomas Russell that, in lieu of the arrangement hereinabove recited, a grant should be made to the said Thomas Russell of six thousand acres in the Waiharakeke East Block, instead of the said eight thousand acres in the Te Aroha Block, and also a grant for the whole or such portion of the Waiharakeke West Block as Her Majesty may be able to give a title to, on payment by the said Thomas Russell of the actual cost of the said lands to Her Majesty: And whereas it is expedient that such agreement should be carried into effect 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.

1. The Short Title of this Act is "The Russell Exchange of Land Act, 1883."

Grant may be made to T. Russell of certain lands in the Te Aroha District on his releasing all claims to other lands therein.

2. The Governor may issue a Crown grant in fee to Thomas Russell for six thousand acres of the Waiharakeke East Block and for the whole of the Waiharakeke West Block, or such portion thereof as Her Majesty is able to give a title to, in the Te Aroha Survey District, Land District of Auckland, on the following conditions:—

- (1.) That the boundaries of the land in Waiharakeke East Block so to be granted shall be such as may be fixed by the Surveyor-General.
- (2.) That the price to be paid by the said Thomas Russell for the said portion of the Waiharakeke East Block and Waiharakeke West Block, or such portion thereof as shall be granted to him, shall be the cost price of the same to Her Majesty.
- (3.) That such grant for the said blocks shall only be issued on the simultaneous execution and delivery by the said Thomas Russell to the Minister of Lands of a deed releasing and discharging all claims whatsoever which the said Thomas Russell has or alleges to have against Her Majesty in respect of the Mangapouri or Hungahunga Block, and a portion of the Te Aroha Block, and the Waiharakeke East and Waiharakeke West Blocks, hereinbefore described or otherwise howsoever; such deed to be in such form as may be approved by the law officers of the Crown, and to contain also a full release of all claims or alleged claims of the said Thomas Russell against the late Native owners of such blocks.