

Hon. Sir George Grey.

Waste Lands Sale.

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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to make provision for Regulating the Price of Waste Lands of the Crown in New Zealand. Title.

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 shall be "The Waste Lands Sale Act, 1877." Short Title.

2. This Act shall come into operation on the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-eight. Date when Act to come into operation.

3. In the interpretation of this Act the following words and expressions shall have the meanings hereby assigned to them, unless there be something in the context repugnant thereto :— Interpretation.

"Land district" has the same meaning as is given to that expression in "The Waste Lands Administration Act, 1876."

15 "Town land," "village land," "suburban land," "rural land," mean respectively lands included within the meaning of these expressions under the law in force in any land district in respect of which such expressions are used.

"Free selection" means any purchase of waste lands in any land district not at public auction.

20 4. From and after the coming into operation of this Act, and until further provision is made for the classification of waste lands by the General Assembly, all waste lands shall be sold in accordance with the law in force in the land district where such lands are situated, but not in any case at a less price than two pounds per acre, if by free selection; and where in any land district waste lands are sold or Price of waste lands fixed.
25 disposed of by public auction, at an upset price of not less than one pound per acre :

30 Provided that this section shall not apply to waste lands sold or disposed of on deferred or other periodical payments or by agricultural leases.

Price of land may be increased in certain cases.

5. The Waste Lands Board in any land district, or the Governor in Council, may increase the upset price of waste lands that may be deemed lands of special value from situation or quality, and such power may be so exercised from time to time as occasion shall require.

Town and suburban land not to be sold below £3 per acre. Deferred payment land not to be sold below £1 per acre.

6. No town land, village land, or suburban land shall be sold at a less price than three pounds per acre. 5

7. No waste lands of any kind which may be sold or disposed of under any Act of the General Assembly, or any regulations, or other law authorizing the sale and disposition of such land upon deferred payments, or in any other manner for which money is to be paid whether by way of rent or other periodical payment, shall be so sold or disposed of at a less upset price than one pound per acre. 10

But nothing herein contained shall be deemed to interfere with the *bonâ fide* letting or other disposal of any mineral, agricultural, or other lands under any such Act, regulations, or law under which the lessee or licensee is not to become the ultimate owner of the land in fee, nor with any laws or regulations for the time being in force upon any gold field, authorizing the lease or disposal of Crown lands in such gold fields. 15 20

Contracts may be completed.

8. Nothing in this Act contained shall prejudice or affect any contract or agreement for the sale, purchase, or other disposition of any waste lands in any land district lawfully made, entered into, or commenced before the coming into operation of this Act: but every such contract or agreement may be completed, carried out and enforced as if this Act had not been passed. 25

Repeal of inconsistent provisions.

9. Every Act of the General Assembly, and every regulation or other authority which may be in force at the time of the coming into operation of this Act is hereby repealed in so far as the same may be inconsistent with the provisions of this Act. 30