

Mr. Kerr.

WAIMEA RIVERWORKS.

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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to authorise the Construction of certain Public Works at the Mouth of the Waimea River, in Blind Bay, Nelson.

WHEREAS the Waimea River, in the county of the same name, discharges itself into the sea at Blind Bay by two mouths, one running out to the eastward of an island called Rabbit Island, and the other to the westward thereof; and whereas between the said mouths from their point of divergence and the said island there are mud-flats not ordinarily covered by water except at high tide, and the said flats could be made available for public use if works were constructed to confine the river so as to cause its discharge solely through the eastern mouth, and to prevent the flow of the tide over the mud-flats by closing the western mouth of the said river: And whereas for the purpose of the construction of such works special authority would be required for the temporary occupation of parts of Rabbit Island, the same being reserved as a quarantine-ground: And whereas the Waimea County Council have expressed their willingness to undertake the construction of the aforesaid works at the proper cost of the county in consideration of receiving a grant of the mud-flats reclaimed by such works, and it is expedient to authorise the said construction and the making of such grant as aforesaid:

BE IT THEREFORE 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 Waimea Riverworks Act, 1887."

2. The parcel of land described in the Schedule hereto is hereby vested in the Corporation of the Waimea County for an estate in fee-simple as an endowment for the benefit of the said county; and the Governor may make and execute such conveyance or other assurance as may be necessary for evidencing the title of the said Corporation to the said parcel of land.

Land vested in Corporation under certain conditions.

3. None of the lands described in the Schedule and proposed to be vested in the said Corporation shall be so vested except on the condition that the said lands shall be reclaimed from the overflow of the sea at all times, and also that the overflow of the Waimea River to the sea shall be confined to its eastern mouth. 5

County Council authorised to construct works.

4. The Waimea County Council are hereby authorised to construct the aforesaid works, and this Act shall be deemed to be a special Act for such purpose, subject as follows, that is to say,—

(1.) The aforesaid works shall be constructed in whole by and at the expense of the Corporation of the Waimea County, and subject to the provisions of "The Harbours Act, 1878," and "The Public Works Act, 1882." 10

(2.) No works shall be constructed on any part of Rabbit Island, nor shall any person be permitted to enter upon any portion of the said island for the purpose of constructing any such works, nor at any time for the purpose of inspecting, maintaining, and repairing them, except with the permission of the Colonial Secretary, and subject to the laws controlling the quarantine of persons. 15

Possession of Rabbit Island reserved.

5. Nothing in this Act contained shall be construed to confer any right upon the Corporation aforesaid to the possession or occupation of any portion of Rabbit Island aforesaid by reason of any works being constructed thereon by the said Corporation under the authority of this Act. 20

Schedule.

SCHEDULE.

ALL that parcel of land, being part of the foreshore of the sea, comprised within the following limits, that is to say, starting from the easternmost corner of Block X., Waimea Survey District, at the entrance of the Waimea River; thence proceeding in a north-east direction across Best's and Bell's Islands to a point at high-water mark on Rabbit Island about one and a half miles from the starting-point; thence westerly along high-water mark of the southern shore of Rabbit Island to the western extremity of the said island; thence across the western entrance of the Waimea River to the south-eastern extremity of Section 2, Moutere Survey District; thence following high-water mark along the southern shore of the Waimea mud-flat to the starting-point at the easternmost corner of Block X., Waimea Survey District, at the entrance of the Waimea River: as shown on the plan marked M.D. 1338, deposited in the office of the Marine Department, Wellington.