

HOROWHENUA BLOCK.

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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to protect the Rights of Equitable Claimants in respect of certain Portions of the Horowhenua Native Lands. Title.

WHEREAS sundry disputes have arisen from time to time as to the rights of ownership, and otherwise, connected with certain Native lands known as the Horowhenua Block: And whereas Warena te Hakeke and Te Kepa te Rangihiwini have at divers times sold and otherwise disposed of portions of the said block: And whereas petitions have been presented to Parliament, praying that investigation should be made into the various matters connected with the ownership of the said lands, and the sale and disposal thereof: And whereas it is expedient that, pending such investigation, and the settlement of such disputes, provision should be made to protect the rights of all parties concerned: Preamble.

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 Horowhenua Block Act, 1894." Short Title.

2. The whole, or such portion as the Minister of Native Affairs may think fit, of the purchase-money of certain land in the Land District of Wellington, containing about one thousand five hundred acres (portion of the land known as Horowhenua Number Eleven B), which has been purchased from the said Warena te Hakeke by Her Majesty for the purpose of a State farm at Levin, may be paid to him. Purchase-money for Levin State Farm may be paid.

3. For the purpose of protecting the rights of all claimants in respect of the Horowhenua Block as against the said Warena te Hakeke and Te Kepa te Rangihiwini, it is hereby declared that, notwithstanding anything in any Act to the contrary, all dealings, whether by way of sale, lease, charge, or otherwise howsoever, with the following lands and interests in lands, shall, until otherwise directed by the Governor in Council, be absolutely void for all purposes, that is to say,— Prohibition of dealings with Horowhenua lands.

(1.) The several parcels of land in the Land District of Wellington, known respectively as Horowhenua Number Six, Horowhenua Number Eleven A, and Horowhenua Number Eleven B.

(2.) All other lands and interests in lands legally or equitably owned by or vested in the said Warena te Hakeke and the said Te Kēpa te Rangihwinui or either of them. 5

Charge on lands.

4. All the aforesaid lands and interests in lands shall stand charged with whatever moneys may, on the final adjustment of the aforesaid disputes, be found owing by the said Warena te Hakeke, and the said Te Kēpa te Rangihwinui, or either of them, to any such claimants as aforesaid. 10

Native Land Court to give effect to charge.

5. The Native Land Court and all proper officials shall, when requested by the said Minister so to do, make all orders and entries, and do all acts that may be deemed expedient for the purpose of recording such charge as aforesaid, and otherwise giving effect to the provisions of this Act. 15

Act not to apply to Queen.

6. This Act shall not apply to Her Majesty, or to any portion of the aforesaid lands that have been or may hereafter be acquired by Her Majesty. 20