An Act to provide for the Establishment and Management of the Rangiora High School.

WHEREAS it is expedient and desirable to make special provision for the establishment and management of a high school to be established within the Education District of North Canterbury, at Rangiora, in the County of Ashley:

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 Rangiora High School Act, 1881."

2. The Board of Governors, to be composed and appointed as hereinafter provided, shall be and is hereby constituted a body corporate by the name of the Rangiora High School Board (hereinafter called "the said Board"), by which name such body corporate shall have perpetual succession and a common seal, and may hold lands, and may sue and be sued, and may do and suffer all such things as corporate bodies may do and suffer.

3. The said Board shall consist of seven persons, of whom one shall be the Mayor for the time being of the Borough of Rangiora by virtue of his office, two shall be elected by the County Council of Ashley, two shall be elected by the Board of Governors of Canterbury College, and two shall be elected by the Board of Education for North Canterbury; and the first elections, and all subsequent elections, by such bodies, whether annual or to fill a vacancy, shall be held on such days, and conducted in such manner in all respects, as they shall respectively from time to time by resolution direct:

Provided that the first election by each of such bodies shall take place within three months after the passing of this Act, and all subsequent elections within one month after the vacancy in respect of which such election is necessary has been notified, as hereinafter mentioned, to the body entitled to elect.

4. On the thirty-first day of March, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-three, and on the same day and month in every year thereafter, one of the members elected by each of such bodies shall retire, and a person shall be elected in his place; the members to retire on the thirty-first day of March, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-three, being previously determined by ballot of the said Board, and, in every subsequent year, the one of each such two members shall retire who has served longest on the Board without re-election; but a retiring member may be re-elected.

5. If any member of the said Board shall cease to reside within the Provincial District of Canterbury for a period of six months, or shall by writing under his hand resign his office, or become bankrupt, or be convicted of any indictable offence, he shall immediately thereupon cease to be a member of such Board.

6. In the event of any vacancy or vacancies occurring by reason of the death, resignation, or otherwise of the elected members of the said Board, such vacancy or vacancies may from forthwith be filled up by the election of a new member or members by the said County Council
of Ashley, Board of Governors of Canterbury College, or Board of Education for North Canterbury, according as the vacancy shall have occurred in the case of a member who has been elected by the said County Council, Board of Governors, or Board of Education.

7. It shall be the duty of the Chairman of the said Board, or some other officer authorized for the purpose by it, immediately on a vacancy occurring, to notify the same in writing under his hand, posted, addressed to the Chairman or other principal officer of the body entitled to elect to such vacancy.

8. In the event of the refusal or neglect of any body to elect a member of the said Board within the time specified by this Act for such election, the Governor may appoint a member in lieu of the member who should have been so elected.

9. The Board shall hold its first meeting on a day and at a place to be appointed by the Governor for the election of one of its members as a Chairman, and the Chairman then elected shall hold office until the said thirty-first day of March, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-three.

The Board shall hold an annual meeting for the like purpose in the month of April in each subsequent year.

At every such meeting, the Board, by a majority of the members present, shall elect one of its number to be Chairman, who shall hold office for a term of one year only, but he shall be eligible for re-election.

In the event of there being an equality of votes, the election of Chairman shall be decided by lot at such meeting.

10. If the Chairman shall from any cause cease to be a member of the said Board, or resign the office of Chairman, the Board shall, so soon thereafter as conveniently may be, elect another member of the Board to be Chairman in his stead, who shall hold office until the next election of a Chairman as hereinbefore provided.

11. At all meetings of the Board the Chairman, or, in his absence, such member of the Board as the majority of the members assembled shall choose, shall preside; and such Chairman or presiding member shall have a deliberative vote, and in all cases of equality of votes shall also have a casting vote.

12. It shall be lawful for the said Board to establish and maintain in the Town or suburbs of Rangiora a school or schools for the higher education of boys, or of girls, or of both, and to designate the same by distinctive names, all of which schools, however, are throughout this Act included in the term "high school," or "Rangiora High School."

13. There shall be vested in the Board the whole control and management of the Rangiora High School, and the said Board shall have full power to appoint and dismiss all professors, masters, teachers, lecturers, examiners, and other officers and servants for the management of the said high school; and also the entire management and superintendence over all the affairs, concerns, and property of the said high school; and, in all cases unprovided for by this Act, it shall be lawful for the said Board to act in such manner as shall appear to it best calculated to further the purposes intended to be served by the establishment of a high school: And the said Board shall have full power from time to time to make by-laws and regulations for defining
the course of study and education on secular subjects in the said high
school, and also for the discipline and examination of the same, the
conditions upon which scholars shall be admitted, and the fees to be
paid in respect of such admission, and in general touching all other
matters, purposes, and things regarding the said high school.

14. The said Board shall make and may from time to time revoke,
vary, and make fresh regulations for the conduct of business at its
meetings, for determining how meetings shall be convened, and what
number of members shall constitute a quorum thereat, and for such
other like matters as may be requisite for the conduct of the business
of the said Board.

15. Minutes of the proceedings of the said Board shall be regularly
entered in a proper book to be kept for that purpose, and at every
meeting of the said Board the minutes of the previous meeting shall
be read over and signed by the Chairman of the meeting at which the
same shall be read, and the minutes when so signed shall be held to
be a true statement and record of the proceedings of the Board for all
purposes whatsoever.

16. The Board shall keep full and accurate accounts of all its
receipts, disbursements, assets, liabilities, and engagements, and shall,
in the month of January in each year, cause the same to be audited
by such person as the Governor may appoint; and copies of such
accounts, when audited, shall be forwarded to the Minister in
charge of the Department of Education, together with a report of the
proceedings of the said Board during the previous year; and such
report and accounts shall be laid before the Assembly at its next
session.

17. All things required by this Act to be done by the said Board
shall be done in accordance with or in pursuance of a resolution passed
at a meeting of the said Board, and no act of the said Board shall be
invalid or liable to be questioned on the ground that one or more of
the members of the said Board was or were incapacitated, or had
ceased to hold office as members of the said Board, or on the ground
that the seat of any member of the said Board is vacant.

18. The reserves to be vested in the Board in pursuance of the
provision hereinafter contained, and all other real and personal estate
which may be purchased by the Board or granted as a site or sites for
a high school, or devised, bequeathed, or given to the said Board for the
benefit of the Rangiora High School without any trusts or powers of a
different nature being expressed in the instrument so devising, bequeath-
ing, or giving the same to the said Board, shall be held and dealt with
by the said Board under and subject to the provisions of "The High
Schools Reserves Act, 1880," the Rangiora High School being hereby
declared to be a high school under that Act.

19. The rents, profits, and annual income of all real and personal
estate which may be vested in the said Board, together with all funds
which may from time to time be derived from fees or payments made
in respect of scholars or students attending the said high school, shall
be applied by them for the maintenance of the said high school at
Rangiora, and the payment of all salaries and expenses connected
therewith, and for prizes, exhibitions, and scholarships for the students
therein: Provided that the said Board shall have power to set apart,
Board's powers to invest its moneys.

if it shall see fit, out of the said rents, profits, and annual income, such part as it shall consider advisable, either as addition to the capital fund, which shall then be invested in manner as hereinafter mentioned and dealt with as part of such capital fund, or as a reserve fund to meet extraordinary expenses, which shall be invested and dealt with in such manner as the said Board shall direct.

20. With respect to any moneys bequeathed or given to the said Board for the said high school, or being rents, profits, and annual income set apart under the preceding section, the said Board shall have power to invest the same in the purchase or upon mortgage of freehold lands in New Zealand, or upon the stocks, bonds, bills, or debentures of the Government of the Colony of New Zealand, or of any Municipal Corporation established within such colony, and from time to time to vary any such investment.

21. It shall be lawful for the Commissioners appointed under "The Education Reserves Act, 1877," for the Provincial District of Canterbury, or, if they fail to act, for two Commissioners appointed for that purpose by the Governor, to select, out of that portion of the reserves for secondary education in the Provincial District of Canterbury not yet selected and set apart for any other high school under any other Act hereinbefore passed authorizing such selection and setting-apart, such reserves as will be equal to one-third of the whole value of the said reserves so remaining unselected and not set apart as aforesaid, to be ascertained in manner following: The said Commissioners shall, within six months after the passing of this Act, make a valuation of the whole of the said portion of the said reserves for secondary education in the said provincial district, and shall determine which of such reserves shall be of a value equal to one-third of the whole value thereof, and shall set apart the reserves last aforesaid for the maintenance of the Rangiora High School; and, on the Proclamation of the Governor that such reserves have been selected and set apart for the said Rangiora High School, the said reserves shall absolutely vest in the Rangiora High School Board incorporated by this Act.

22. The Rangiora High School shall be subject to inspection by an Inspector appointed by the Minister of Education.