

New Parliament.]

Mr. Bunny.

Masterton and Greytown Lands Management Act 1871 Amendment.

ANALYSIS.

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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to amend "The Masterton and Greytown Lands Management Act, 1871." Title.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend "The Masterton and Greytown Lands Management Act, 1871" (hereinafter called "the said Act"): 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 Masterton and Greytown Lands Management Act 1871 Amendment Act, 1879," and this Act shall be incorporated with the said Act. Short Title.

2. Sections eight, eleven, seventeen, eighteen, nineteen, twenty, and twenty-one of the said Act are hereby repealed. Repeal.

3. The Greytown Trustees may from time to time appoint and may remove or re-appoint fit persons to be Treasurer, Secretary, and Collector, and may pay such persons such salaries and allowances for their services out of the trust funds as the Trustees may think fit. Appointment of Treasurer, &c.

4. Within *fourteen* days from the *thirty-first* day of *March* in each year, the Greytown Trustees shall cause a balance-sheet to be prepared, containing a true statement of receipts and payments on account of the trust during the past year, and of all sums of money prepared, audited, and published. Balance-sheet to be prepared, audited, and published.

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which may be due to or owing by the Greytown Trustees, and shall lay such balance-sheet with all needful vouchers forthwith before the auditors appointed; and all such accounts shall be audited, and published in some newspaper circulating in the district, and in the Government *Gazette* of Wellington. 5

Retiring Trustees.

5. On the last Thursday in the month of *April*, in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty, one-third of the Greytown Trustees shall go out of office; and on the last Thursday in *April*, in every subsequent year, one-third of the Greytown Trustees, being those who have been longest in office without re-election, shall go out of office; and in each instance the places of the retiring Trustees shall be supplied by the election of a like number of Trustees in the manner hereinafter provided. Such retiring Trustees shall hold office until their successors are elected. 10

Meeting to be held to receive yearly report and balance-sheet, and appoint auditors.

6. For the purpose of receiving the yearly report and balance-sheet of the Greytown Trustees, and of appointing two persons as auditors for the ensuing year, a meeting of persons of full age whose names are entered upon the voters' list shall be held at a place and on a day to be appointed by the Greytown Trustees, not later than the *sixteenth* day of *April* in each year; of which meeting and the time and place of holding the same not less than seven clear days' public notice shall be given in some newspaper circulating in the district, at which meeting the Chairman of the Greytown Trustees shall preside, or in his absence a chairman shall be appointed by the meeting; and the report and balance-sheet of the Greytown Trustees for the past year shall be read and submitted to the meeting, and the meeting shall then proceed to the election of two properly-qualified persons to be auditors for the ensuing year as herein provided. 15 20 25

Manner of appointment of auditors.

If only two are proposed, the Chairman shall declare such two persons to be duly elected; but, if more than two are proposed, then the chairman of such meeting shall ascertain the determination of the meeting by a show of hands, or in such other manner as he thinks fit, and shall declare the same, which declaration shall be final, unless a poll be then demanded in writing signed by any three voters present. 30

Provision where poll is demanded for election of auditors.

7. When any such poll shall be demanded, it shall be proceeded with, as in the case of an election, under the provisions of "The Regulation of Local Elections Act, 1876." 35

Voters' list for Greytown Trust Lands.

8. The Greytown Trustees shall, on or before the *thirty-first* day of *January* in each year, make out a list, to be called "The Voters' List," containing the names of all persons of the full age of twenty-one years and upwards, arranged in the alphabetical order of their surnames, who have resided six months within the boundaries of the Masterton Small Farm Block and within the boundaries of the Borough of Masterton, and shall enter against each name the place of abode of such person; and shall keep such list in some place to be publicly notified, and allow it to be inspected without fee by all persons interested therein, during all office hours, until the *fifteenth* day of *February*; and shall on or as soon as possible after the *first* day of *February* publicly notify that such list is ready for inspection. 40 45

Grounds of objection to voters' list.

9. Any person interested may object to the voters' list on any of the following grounds:— 50

- (1.) That his name is not entered therein, whereas he is entitled to vote at the election of trustees.
- (2.) That the name of any person is omitted, whereas such person is entitled to vote. 55
- (3.) That the name of any person is entered, whereas such person is not entitled to vote.
- (4.) That the name or place of abode of any person on the voters' list is incorrectly described.

All such objections must be in writing, under the hand of the objector, 60

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and must be addressed to the Greytown Trustees, and delivered at the place where the list is open for inspection, on or before the *fifteenth* day of *February*.

5 **10.** The Greytown Trustees shall make and sign a list of all such objections, and shall keep such list in some place for inspection by all persons interested therein, during all office hours, from the *sixteenth* to the *twenty-first* day of *February* inclusive. List of objections shall be open for inspection.

10 **11.** The Greytown Trustees shall hold a sitting upon a day between the *twenty-second* and *twenty-eighth* days of *February*, both inclusive, to be appointed by the Trustees, and of which three days' notice shall be given by publication in some newspaper current in Greytown; and shall, at such sitting or at an adjourned sitting, hear and determine all such objections, and shall amend the voters' list by correcting every error set forth in any such objection and proved to the satisfaction of the Trustees to exist therein, and the Chairman of the Trustees shall initial every alteration so made in the voters' list; and the list so corrected shall be signed by not less than three of the Greytown Trustees, and shall be the voters' list for the Greytown Trust Lands, and shall come into force on the *first* day of *April*, and continue in force until a new voters' list comes into force in like manner. Hearing of objections.

15 **12.** Upon the last Thursday in *April* in each year, the persons whose names are on the voters' list shall elect two persons to be Trustees in place of those of the Greytown Trustees who go out by rotation; and such elections shall, after the passing of this Act, be conducted under "The Regulation of Local Elections Act, 1876." Election to fill place of retiring Trustees.

25 **13.** All the sections of this Act shall be deemed to be here re-enacted with the substitution of the term "Masterton" for "Greytown," and the term "Masterton Trustees" for "Greytown Trustees." Act applicable to Masterton.