



## Railways Construction Act 1878

1878

- Citation:** 42 V. No 45  
**Date of Assent:** 2 November, 1878  
**Commencement:** Date of Assent
- Repeal:** Repealed 1894, No 42  
**Amendments:** –  
**Type of Legislation:** Public  
**Subject:** Public Works  
Lakes, Rivers, Beds, Foreshores etc.  
Public/Native/Maori Trustee
- Relevant Sections:** *s4:* Governor may purchase from the Native owners any lands deemed necessary for the construction of any railway mentioned in the First Schedule.  
*s8:* Moneys to the credit of Ellesmere and Forsyth Reclamation and Akaroa Railway Trust Account transferred from the Public Trustee to the Public Account.  
*First Schedule:* Lines of Railway.
- Commentary:** This Act authorised the Government to appropriate funds for a six year scheme of railway development. Among the railway lines planned were one between Wellington and Foxton and one through the King Country from Te Awamutu to New Plymouth. Both of these lines were to run through land which was still in Maori possession and depended upon successful negotiation for the land. Negotiations had commenced and the land was under Proclamations resuming Crown pre-emption so as to eliminate competition from any private purchasers. The Act also appropriated the funds raised under the Ellesmere and Forsyth Reclamation and Akaroa Railway Act 1876.
- Cross Reference:** NZPD vol 30 (1878) 963, 999, 1002, 1017, 1062, 1664, 1141  
Waitangi Tribunal *The Pouakani Report* Wai 33  
(Brooker & Friend, Wellington, 1993) 81 - 93.