

Crown Purchases Vesting Bill.

THIS Bill is submitted on the advice of the Crown Solicitor in order to vest in the Crown two small portions of land at Parkes. The facts are, briefly :—

In the year 1875, a Crown grant of allotment No. 12, section 17, of the town of Parkes, was issued to Patrick Maloney.

In the year 1878, a Crown grant for allotment No. 13 was issued to Francis James Connelly.

In the year 1884, both allotments were purchased by the Crown from the respective holders, but no transfers or surrenders appear to have been taken, and the original grants are still standing.

The Crown has since dealt with part of these lands, and has issued additional grants therefor.

The original grantees died many years ago, but their descendants, who have been interviewed, make no claim to the land.

Mrs. Maloney, widow and administratrix in the estate of Patrick Maloney, died in 1893, and one of her sons has made a written statement that his mother informed him that she had received a sum of £50 for allotment 12.

Another son, Thos. J. Maloney, who is now the administrator of his father's estate, has informed the Crown Solicitor that he is prepared, at the expense of the Crown, to execute all necessary documents in order to vest allotment 12 in the King. The administrator makes no claim to the allotment.

In regard to Connelly's matter, there are some complications, and although most careful inquiries have been made, the Crown Solicitor cannot definitely identify the Francis James Connelly, the grantee of allotment 13. There is some slight doubt as to whether the grant should have issued to Francis James Connelly or James (or John) Francis Connelly.

Most careful inquiries have been made, and every endeavour made to obtain the original grant. The widow of James Francis Connelly is a feeble old lady who remembers that her husband bought some land at Parkes about 1875. Her daughter says that as far as she can remember (she was only a child then) her father did not own land in the position of portion 13 at the time of his death in 1898.

As before stated, the Crown Solicitor has thoroughly investigated this case, and it is on his specific recommendation that the Bill has been prepared as the best way of dealing with the matter.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

(Rough Draft for Consideration Only.)

No. , 1922.

A BILL

To declare that certain lands purchased by the Crown were vested in the Crown ; and for purposes consequent thereon or incidental thereto.

WHEREAS by Crown grant dated the thirtieth day of November, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-five, allotment number twelve of section seventeen of the town of Parkes as originally surveyed was sold and granted to one Patrick Maloney, then of Parkes, now deceased, such Crown grant being registered in the office of the Registrar-General, volume number two

hundred and forty seven, folio number fifty-one: And whereas by Crown grant dated the tenth day of August, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-eight, allotment number thirteen of the said section and town as originally surveyed was sold and granted to one Francis James Connelly, then of Forbes, now deceased, such Crown grant being registered in the office of the Registrar-General, volume number three hundred and seventy-seven, folio number sixty-eight: And whereas the lands comprised in such Crown grants were purchased by the Crown in or about the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four, but such Crown grants are still registered in the office of the Registrar-General in the name of the said Patrick Maloney and Francis James Connelly respectively, and the Crown grants cannot be located, and there is no trace of any Memorandum of Transfer or Surrender thereof to the Crown: And whereas it is desirable to declare that such lands were on such purchase vested in the Crown: Be it therefore enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of New South Wales in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. This Act may be cited as the "Crown Purchases Vesting Act, 1922."

2. The lands comprised in the said grants shall on the respective dates of their purchase by the Crown as aforesaid be deemed to have been vested in and the property of the Crown, and to have been Crown lands within the meaning of any Act dealing with Crown lands; and all dealings by the Crown in respect of such lands after such purchase shall be deemed to have been valid.
