

pendent within the "Province of New Munster." Thus it will be seen that the objects of the Act are limited expressly to the "Province of New Munster."

In furtherance of these objects, the 2nd clause of the Act vests "all the Demesne Lands of the Crown in the Province of New Munster" in the New Zealand Company, in trust for the purposes and subject to the provisions thereafter contained. Thus expressly again limiting the operation of the Act to the "Province of New Munster."

Again, by the following clauses, the Act gives to the Company the power of disposing of the Demesne Lands of the Crown in the Province of New Munster, on certain terms and conditions prescribed by the Act; and the provisions of the Act in the following clauses, are confined to Lands within the "Province of New Munster."

The 16th clause of the Act then provides that certain loans to the Company shall be secured upon the Lands, &c., then belonging to the Company. All the Lands of the Company being, as the Committee are aware, within the Province of New Munster.

After reciting that it is expedient to provide for the contingency of the Company finding themselves unable to continue their proceedings "with profit to themselves and benefit to the said Company," the 19th section provides that all the Lands of the Company shall revert to and become vested in Her Majesty as part of the Demesne Lands of the Crown, subject to subsisting contracts and upon the condition of satisfying any liabilities of which the Company might then be liable under existing engagements with respect to the Settlement of Nelson, or any liabilities which the Company should have contracted with the consent of the Special Commissioners. The Lands in question, thus to revert to the Crown, being, it is to be observed, lands situated in the Southern Settlements. And now for the first time the words "New Zealand" occur instead of the words the "Province of New Munster." And the 20th section provides that upon the reversion to Her Majesty of the lands belonging to the Company all claims upon the Company in respect of the loans which may have been advanced to the Company shall be remitted to them; and that there shall be paid to the Company out of the proceeds of all future sales of the Demesne Lands of the Crown in "New Zealand" the sum of £268,370 15s.

The charge of any part of this sum upon the Province of Auckland virtually rests upon the use of the words "New Zealand" in the 20th section of the "Act to Promote Colonization in New Zealand," 10 and 11 Vic., c. 112. Looking to the scope and object of the whole of the preceding provisions of the Act, it must, I think, be obvious that the words "Province of New Munster" ought to have been used in the 23 section instead of the words "New Zealand;" that there is strong ground to believe that the words "New Zealand" have been inserted inadvertently or otherwise, and that it is more probable either that the enactment as it stands was passed in the hurry of Legislation, or that Parliament was deceived, rather than that the Legislature gave its *deliberate assent* to a conclusion palpably illogical, and practically unjust.