

Science and other educational purposes contemplated by the 'Canterbury Museum and Library Ordinance, 1870.' (7)

This reserve was made and duly gazetted on July 8, 1872.⁽⁸⁾ By the "Reserves Sales and Leasing Act" 1876,⁽⁹⁾ the land reserved for these institutions was made purchasable, in the same way as the waste lands of the Crown, at £2 per acre, but unfortunately the land was not of such a quality that people would purchase at that price, and the revenue derived from the endowment was not sufficient to maintain the three institutions in a state of thorough efficiency.⁽¹⁰⁾

The Board of Governors of Canterbury College, realizing that the income from the endowments set aside by the Provincial Government for the Museum, School of Technical Science, and Library was insufficient, came to the sensible conclusion that it would be in the interests of the reading public to hand the Public Library over to the City Council, a representative body with power to rate, and thus obtain means to maintain the Institution on a proper footing.⁽¹¹⁾

Thus, at a meeting of the Christchurch City Council on November 26, 1883,⁽¹²⁾ his Worship the Mayor said that he had received a letter from the Board of Governors asking him to appoint a deputation to meet the Public Library Committee to consider transferring the control of the Public Library to the City Council, and announced that he had asked the Works and Finance Committee to act in this capacity. All other things being equal, it would appear that this

7. Journal of the Canterbury Provincial Council. Session XXXVI, 1872. p.36.

8. Govt. Gazette of Province of Canterbury. Vol. XIX, No. XXXV, p's 168-9.

9. Statutes of New Zealand, 1876. No. 10, p.33.

10. Heinrich Ferdinand von Haast, "The Life and Times of Sir Julius von Haast"; Wellington, H.F. von Haast, 1948. p. 889.

11. *ibid* p. 890.

12. C.C.C. Vol. 12. P. 505-6.