CHAPTER liii.

An Act to authorise the Commissioners for General Control and Correspondence and for the superintending and directing the erection establishment and regulation of Asylums for the Lunatic Poor in Ireland to transfer certain lands for Hospital purposes to the Corporation of Belfast and to the Trustees of the Royal Victoria Hospital Belfast. [1st July 1898.]

A.D. 1898.

WHEREAS by the Belfast District (Lunatic Asylums &c.) Act 1892 the city of Belfast (in this Act called "the city") was constituted a district with an asylum for lunatic poor under the Acts relating to the lunatic poor (the council of the city being substituted for the grand jury under those Acts) and the existing Belfast Asylum at Grosvenor Street in the city was constituted the asylum for the city the sum of money in the said Act mentioned being made payable by the city to the treasurer of the county of Antrim in respect of the said asylum:

55 & 56 Vict. c. ccxxxi.

And whereas since the passing of that Act certain lands at Purdysburn in the county of Down have been acquired at the expense of the city for the purpose of erecting a new lunatic asylum thereon for the city as such district as aforesaid and such last-mentioned lands and the said Belfast Asylum are vested in the Commissioners for General Control and Correspondence and for the superintending and directing the erection establishment and regulation of asylums for the lunatic poor in Ireland under the Acts relating to the lunatic poor (in this Act and the said Act of 1892 called "the board of control"):

And whereas the lord mayor aldermen and citizens of the city (in this Act called "the Corporation") are desirous that a portion of the said lands at Purdysburn not required for the purposes of the said new asylum should be transferred to them by the board of control to be held and used by them for hospital purposes:

A.D. 1898.

And whereas during the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven a sum of one hundred thousand pounds or thereabouts has been subscribed for the purpose of providing a new general hospital for the city to be called "the Royal Victoria Hospital":

And whereas a portion of the grounds of the said Belfast Asylum at Grosvenor Street aforesaid is suitable for the site of said proposed new general hospital and might without detriment to the said asylum be transferred to trustees for the purposes of the said last-mentioned hospital and such transfer would be for the advantage of the city and the Corporation are desirous that the same should be made accordingly:

And whereas the board of control have no power to transfer the lands aforesaid for the purposes aforesaid and it is expedient that they should be authorised to transfer the same to the Corporation and the said trustees respectively for the purposes aforesaid respectively:

And whereas the objects aforesaid cannot be accomplished without the authority of Parliament:

And whereas forty-one members (being an absolute majority of the whole number) of the council of the Corporation at a meeting held on the twenty-second day of December one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven after ten clear days notice by public advertisement of such meeting and of the purposes thereof in the Belfast News Letter a newspaper published and circulating in the city of Belfast such notice being in addition to the ordinary notices required for summoning such meeting resolved to promote the Bill for this Act and that the expense in relation to promoting the Bill should be paid out of the general purposes fund:

And whereas such resolution was published twice in the said newspaper:

And whereas at a further special meeting held in pursuance of a similar notice on the nineteenth day of January one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight being not less than fourteen days after the deposit of the Bill for this Act the propriety of the promotion of the said Bill was confirmed by forty-five members of the said council being an absolute majority of the whole number:

And whereas the promotion of the Bill for this Act has been approved of by a special resolution of the persons qualified to vote at the election of the members of the council of the Corporation passed on the twenty-third day of February one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight at a meeting of such persons summoned in the manner provided by the Borough Funds (Ireland) Act 1888:

May it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted and be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty by and with

the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal and Commons in this present Parliament assembled and by the authority of the same as follows (that is to say):—

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited for all purposes as the City of Belfast (Hospitals) Act 1898.

Transfer of lands at Purdysburn.

2. The board of control may grant and convey to the Corporation without any purchase price or other consideration and the Corporation may acquire and hold for hospital purposes under the Public Health (Ireland) Act 1878 the whole or any part of the lands at Purdysburn in the county of Down described in the first part of the schedule to this Act being part of the lands at Purdysburn aforesaid which have been acquired for the purposes of the new lunatic asylum for the city.

Transfer of lands at Grosvenor Street.

3. When and so soon as governors or trustees shall be constituted by Act of Parliament charter or deed with powers for the management of the proposed new Royal Victoria Hospital the board of control may with the consent of the Corporation without any purchase price or other consideration grant and convey to such governors or trustees the whole or any part of the lands in the city of Belfast described in the second part of the schedule to this Act being part of the grounds of the Belfast Asylum at Grosvenor Street and Falls Road in the said city to be used as a site for the said hospital.

Provisions in case asylums transferred to Corporation.

4. If previously to the grants and conveyances by this Act authorised the lands at Purdysburn and the Belfast Asylum shall have become transferred to and vested in the Corporation by virtue of any Act of Parliament it shall be lawful for the Corporation to devote and hold for hospital purposes as aforesaid the whole or any part of the lands at Purdysburn described in the first part of the schedule to this Act and to devote as a site for the said Royal Victoria Hospital the whole or any part of the lands described in the second part of the schedule to this Act.

Costs of Act.

5. The costs charges and expenses of and incident to the preparing applying for obtaining and passing of this Act shall be paid by the Corporation out of the general purposes rate or such other rate or fund as the Corporation may determine.

A.D. 1898.

The SCHEDULE above referred to.

FIRST PART.

The lands being portion of Purdysburn Asylum grounds situate in the townlands of Ballycowan Ballynavally Ballydollaghan and Ballynahatty in the county of Down lying south-west of the public road leading from Shaws Bridge to Comber and west of the public road leading from Newtownbreda to Ballylessan and containing 63 acres or thereabouts.

SECOND PART.

The lands being portion of the Belfast District Lunatic Asylum grounds adjoining Grosvenor Street and Falls Road in the city of Belfast and county of Antrim extending along Grosvenor Street 185 yards or thereabouts and along Falls Road 55 yards or thereabouts and containing 6 acres or thereabouts.

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