An Act to relieve the Government of any Liability in connection with an alleged Contract with respect to certain Lands situated in the South-East.

[Assented to, November 15th, 1917.]

WHEREAS by letter dated the sixteenth day of April, nineteen hundred and seventeen, bearing the signature “H. A. Morris” and addressed to the Commissioner of Crown Lands, an offer was made to sell to the Government of the State of South Australia certain lands therein referred to as “South-Eastern lands,” particulars whereof were contained in a schedule forwarded with the said letter, at the price of Two Hundred and Ninety-two Thousand Pounds in South Australian Inscribed Stock: And whereas it has been alleged, but it is denied by the said Government, that in the course of certain interviews and correspondence subsequent to the said letter, or otherwise, the said offer was accepted: And whereas it is desirable in the interests of the State that any doubts as to the matters aforesaid should be settled—

Be it therefore Enacted by the Governor of the State of South Australia, with the advice and consent of the Parliament thereof, as follows:

1. This Act may be cited as the “South-Eastern Lands Contract Annulment Act, 1917.”

2. (1) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, it shall not be held that the said offer has been accepted, or that the said offer and anything subsequent thereto together constituted a contract or contracts.

(2) Any
(2) Any contract which, if not for this Act, might be held to have been entered into in the circumstances hereinbefore mentioned, is hereby declared to be absolutely null and void, and to have been so from the beginning.

3. The operation of this Act shall not give rise to a claim for compensation or for damages at the suit of any person who alleges that he is aggrieved thereby.

In the name and on behalf of His Majesty, I hereby assent to this Bill.

H. L. GALWAY, Governor.