

A mill site may be located by a free miner, not over five acres in extent, on unoccupied and unreserved Crown Lands not known to contain minerals. He may obtain a lease for one year, during its continuance, on proof of having expended \$500 on machinery, and shall be entitled to a Crown grant for \$5 an acre. This applies to former leases also. Minerals are not included in the grant.

Tunnels or drains may be run for a free miner to work his claim by license from the Gold Commissioner. Water rights may be granted to him by the Gold Commissioner, and must be recorded, rights of miners working on the streams being safe. He may not sell the water, and the grant shall cease when the mine is no longer worked. Work must be begun within 60 days; and there must be no waste of water, and an outlet must be provided for superfluous water.

Mining partnerships and limited liability companies are regulated by a number of clauses.

The duties of Mining Records and Gold Commissioners are fully laid down. Free miners may elect by a two-thirds vote a Recorder, where there is none.

County Courts have mining jurisdiction which is fully provided for.

Any person contravening the Act or refusing to obey the lawful order of a Gold Commissioner or Judge is liable to a fine of \$250 or three months' imprisonment.

An annual tax of 25 cents an acre is payable on every claim held under Crown grant. This tax shall be remitted on proof that the sum of \$200 has been expended on the claim within the year.

Mines and moneys invested in them are not exempt from provincial taxation.

The Lieutenant-Governor in Council may make orders to carry out the Act.

(Cons. Act. 1888, Chap. 82, and amending Acts, 1889, Chap. 16 (repealed); 1890, Chap. 31 (repealed); 1891, Chap. 25; 1892, Chap. 32; 1893, Chap. 29; 1894, Chap. 32, and 1895, Chap. 39; 1896, Chap. 34; 1897, Chap. 45; and Acts of 1898.)

Placer Mining Act.—Every free miner holding a certificate may mine for gold or other precious metals on any land except Government reserves for town sites, lands occupied by buildings, curtilages and orchards, or for placer mining or Indian reserves. He must give security for damages.

He may locate a placer claim on each separate creek, ravine or hill, but not more than two in the same locality, and only one a creek claim, but he may hold any number for purchase. A creek claim shall be 100 feet long, and in width, from base to base of the hills; a bar diggings claim shall be a strip 100 feet long, and in width, from high water mark to the lowest water level; a dry diggings claim shall be 100 feet square, and the same for bench diggings and hill diggings. Discoverers of new mines shall be allowed: If one, a claim of 300 feet long; if a party of two, 600 feet; if three, 800 feet; if four, 1,000 feet; if more than four, ordinary claims.

Placer claims shall be as nearly rectangular as possible. Posts shall be placed at the corners, and the initial post shall bear names and description. Locations on Sundays and holidays shall not be invalid. Placer claims must be recorded with the Mining Recorder. The removal of posts entails forfeiture. Records of placer claims may be renewed on payment of the fees, \$2.50 a year.