

on the same during each year to the value of at least \$100, or payment of such sum be made to the Mining Recorder. Such assessments must be recorded before the expiration of the year or the claim is deemed abandoned. If, however, such record is omitted, a free miner may, before the expiration of thirty days thereafter, record such assessment upon payment of a fee of \$10. The actual cost of the survey of a mineral claim, to an amount not exceeding \$100, may also be recorded as assessment work. If, during any year, work is done to a greater extent than the required \$100, any further sums of \$100—but not less—may be recorded and counted as further assessments. As soon as assessment work to the extent of \$500 is recorded, the owner of a mineral claim is entitled to a Crown grant on payment of a fee of \$25, and giving the necessary notices required by the Act. Liberal provisions are also made in the Act for obtaining mill sites and other facilities in the way of tunnels and drains for the better working of claims.

Placer Claims.

Placer mining is governed by the 'Placer Mining Act,' and by the interpretation clause its scope is defined as 'the mining of any natural stratum or bed of earth, gravel or cement mined for gold or other precious minerals or stones.' Placer claims are of four classes, as follows:—

'Creek diggings:' any mine in the bed of any stream or ravine:

'Bar diggings:' any mine between high and low water marks on a river, lake, or other large body of water:

'Dry diggings:' any mine over which water never extends:

'Precious stone diggings:' any deposit of precious stones, whether in veins, beds, or gravel deposits.'

The following provisions as to extent of the various classes of claims are made by the Act:—

'In "creek diggings" a claim shall be 250 feet square: Provided always that the side lines of each claim shall be measured in the general direction of the watercourse or stream:

'In "bar diggings" a claim shall be:—

'(a.) A piece of land not exceeding 250 feet square on any bar which is covered at high water, or

'(b.) A strip of land 250 feet long at high water mark in the width extending from high water mark to extreme low water mark:

'In "dry diggings" a claim shall be 250 feet square.'

Every placer claim shall be as nearly as possible rectangular in form, and marked by four legal posts at the corners thereof, firmly fixed in the ground. On each of such posts shall be written the name of the locator, the number and date of issue of his free miner's certificate, the date of the location and the name given to the claim. In timbered localities all boundary lines of a placer claim shall be blazed so that the posts can be distinctly seen, underbrush cut, and the locator shall also erect legal posts not more than 125 feet apart on all boundary lines. In localities where there is no timber or underbrush monuments of earth or rock, not less than two feet high and two feet in diameter at base, may be erected in lieu of the said last mentioned legal posts, but not in the case of the four legal posts marking the corners of the claim.