

1873.

REGULATIONS

UNDER WHICH

FREE GRANTS OF LAND

CAN BE ACQUIRED IN

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

UNDER the following Regulations and Ordinances, the Government of British Columbia are prepared to give Free Grants of vacant unsurveyed Crown Land, suitable for settlement and cultivation, and not being Mineral Land, to *bona fide* Settlers, in the following quantities and sections of the Province, viz:—

On the East Coast of Vancouver Island, between Chatham Point and Fort Rupert..... 160 acres.
In that part of the Province East of the Cascade range of Mountains 240 acres.
And intend setting aside Two Townships in the New Westminster District, for Free Grant locations of 160 acres, when Surveyed.

Regulations.

1. Before any person can be located for a Free Grant of land, he or she shall make affidavit, to be deposited with the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, that he or she has not been located for any land under the Free Grant sections or regulations of the "Land Amendment Act, 1873," and is not a pre-emptor or owner of land in the Province, and that he or she is of the age of eighteen years or upwards, and believes the land for which he or she applies or desires to be located, is suited for settlement and cultivation, and is not valuable chiefly for its mines or minerals, and is not acquired for the purpose of obtaining possession of or disposing of any timber growing or being on said land, and that such location is desired for his or her benefit and for the purpose of actual settlement and cultivation of such land, and not either directly or indirectly for the use or benefit of any other person or persons whomsoever, nor for the purpose of any gold, silver, copper, lead, iron, or other mines or minerals, or any quarry or bed of stone, marble, or gypsum thereon.

2. Any person making application for a Free Grant shall, if required, procure an affidavit from such person as can make the same, stating that the land is vacant, and that no person has resided upon it for the last six months.

3. No person shall be entitled to hold land in the Province under the Pre-emption and Free Grant Acts at the same time; and any subsequent pre-emption record by the locatee, shall be considered as an act of forfeiture of any rights acquired under the Free Grant Clauses of the Act of 1873; and the locating of a Free Grant shall be construed as an act of forfeiture of any pre-emption rights acquired under any of the Land Ordinances or Proclamations in the Province.

4. An Alien shall be entitled to locate a Free Grant under the same conditions as a British subject, upon signing a declaration, before the Commissioner of the District, or a Justice of the Peace, of his or her intention to become a British subject; but in the event of such Alien not completing his or her naturalization at as early a period as the law admits, that he or she shall forfeit all rights acquired.

5. No Crown grant shall issue for any land located under this Act or under said regulations, until the expiration of three years from the date of such location, nor unless, nor until the locatee or those claiming under him or her, or some of them, shall have performed the following settlement duties, that is to say:—shall have cleared and have under cultivation at least twenty acres of the said land, whereof at least five acres shall be cleared and cultivated annually during the three years next after the date of the location, to be computed from such date, and have built a house thereon fit for habitation, at least sixteen feet by twenty feet, and shall have actually and continuously resided upon and cultivated the said land for the term of three years next succeeding the date of such location, and from thence up to the issue of the Crown grant, except that the locatee shall be allowed one month from the date of the location to enter upon and occupy the land, and that absence from the said land for in all not more than six months during any one year (to be computed from the date of the location) shall not be held to be a cessation of such residence, provided such land be cultivated as aforesaid.

6. On failure in performance of the settlement duties aforesaid, the location shall be forfeited, and all rights of the locatee, or of any one claiming under him or her, in the land, shall cease.