

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

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No. 4. An Ordinance to extend and improve the Laws relating to Gold Mining.

[26th February, 1864.]

WHEREAS, from the increased extent and importance of Gold Mining in British Columbia, it is requisite to make further provision as to the holding, sale, transmission, and disposal of claims and interests in claims, and to facilitate the creation of partnerships, and also to confer privileges under certain restrictions on free miners associating together for the more economical and systematic drainage of mining ground, and to raise revenue from the duties upon the registration of various mining matters;

Preamble.

Be it enacted by the Governor of British Columbia, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:

1. From and after the passing of this Act, so much of clause thirty one (31) of the Gold Fields Act, 1859, as relates to the times of meeting of the Mining Board shall be amended to read as follows:

The Mining Board shall meet at such times as a majority of the said Board shall decide, and one-half of the members of the said Board shall constitute a quorum. Provided nevertheless that it shall be lawful for the Gold Commissioner, when and so often as in his opinion occasion shall require, to call together such Mining Board.

Mining Board Meetings.

2. Section thirty three (33) of the said Gold Fields Act, 1859, shall be repealed, and the following provisions substituted in lieu thereof:

Repeals* Section 33 of Gold Field's Act, 1859.

The General Election of members of the Mining Board shall be held on such day, in each year, as the Gold Commissioner in each District shall appoint;

Election of Mining Board.

And the Gold Commissioner shall fill by appointment all vacancies which may arise in the said Board, and when the same may occur, and such appointees shall hold office until the next General Election.

Vacancies in the Board

3. Section thirty five (35) of the said Gold Fields Act shall be amended by striking out the words Gold Commissioner in the first line of the said section.

Mining Board may act without presence of Gold Commissioner.

4. The words Gold Commissioner shall be and is hereby struck out from clause thirty six (36) of the said Gold Fields Act, 1859, wherever the same may occur therein, and in lieu thereof the words "majority of the said Mining Board" shall be inserted throughout such clause, which shall be read and construed accordingly, reserving nevertheless to the Gold Commissioner the power hereinbefore specified in clause I. of this Act.

Mining Board to manage its internal affairs.

5. Upon complaint being made to him, the Gold Commissioner is hereby empowered to order all mining works to be carried out in such manner as he shall think necessary for the safety of the public, or the protection of their rights, or the interest of the holders of claims adjoining to or affected by any such works, and to order any abandoned works to be either filled up or sufficiently guarded to his satisfaction, at the cost of the parties who may have constructed the same, or in case such parties shall be absent then to make such order in the premises as to such Gold Commissioner shall seem expedient.

Protection against dangerous works.