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No. 1. An Ordinance to promote the Drainage of Mines.

[1ST FEBRUARY, 1864.]

WHEREAS great inconvenience has been experienced in the prosecution of Mining operations in this Colony, for lack of authority for the creation of Mining Drains, and it is expedient by Statute to provide for the same in manner hereinafter appearing;

Preamble.

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

From and after the date of the passing of this Act,

I. It shall be lawful for the Gold Commissioner of any district in the Colony, upon the application hereinafter mentioned, to grant full license and authority to any Free Miner or Miners, Company, or Companies of Free Miners, to enter into and upon any lands in British Columbia, for the purpose of constructing a drain or drains for the drainage of Mining ground; and for that purpose to enter into an agreement or agreements for a Grant or License as hereinafter mentioned, with any Free Miner or Miners, Company, or Companies of Free Miners.

Gold Commissioner may grant License to construct Mining Drains.

II. Every such application as aforesaid shall contain a statement of the extent and nature of the privileges sought to be acquired, and the maximum amount of drainage toll (if any) proposed to be charged for the use or benefit to be made or derived from the drainage works thereby proposed to be constructed.

Form of Application.

III. It shall be lawful for the said Gold Commissioner to grant such rights of entry and taking toll as aforesaid, not however exceeding the maximum amount mentioned in such application, for such term of years not exceeding ten years, and to grant such powers of assessing, levying, and collecting such sums of money by way of drainage toll, from all persons using, or in the opinion of the said Gold Commissioner benefitted by such drain or drains, and with, under, and subject to such other terms, conditions, and restrictions as to such Gold Commissioner in his discretion may seem just and reasonable.

Gold Commissioner may grant right of entry and taking Toll.

IV. No such application for a grant or license, or agreement for a grant or license, shall be received by such Commissioner until he shall have been satisfied that the notice of application, next hereinafter mentioned, has been given.

Notice of intended application.