

outlines, to the same kind of administration that has been adopted: in France by the mining law of the 21st April, 1810; in Austria by that of the 23d May, 1854; in Italy, except in the southern provinces, by the royal warrant of 29th November, 1859; in Prussia by the general mining law of 24th June, 1865; in Bavaria by the law of 20th March, 1869; in Spain by the laws of 6th July 1859 and 13th July 1867; in Turkey by the regulations of 3rd April, 1869; and in Greece by the laws of 1861, 1867 and 1877.

PRINCIPLES WHICH SHOULD BE FOLLOWED IN DETERMINING THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH MINING RIGHTS SHOULD BE ACQUIRED AND MAINTAINED.

Explorations encouraged by giving rights to the discoverer.

1. Encouragement of explorations:

By recognizing and giving a right to the explorer on the mineral deposit that he discovers. This right should be in proportion to the value of that mineral deposit and consist in consequence in a certain annual royalty on the profits made out of the mine (say 5 per cent of these profits). This rent or royalty will be due every year in which profits are made by the lessee and until the death of the discoverer.

By further giving to the discoverer, if he wish, time to organize a company himself to lease and work the mine—say six months or nine months after the registration of his discovery.

Prevention of speculation.

2. Prevention of mere speculating and encouragement for the formation of *bona fide* working mining companies. For that purpose the mining right must be declared entirely independent of the surface right, and this mining right must not be sold, as to do so allows speculators to buy at very low figures large tracts of "mineral lands" which they retain without working them and which they sell only at very high prices; thus delaying the development of our mining industry and hindering the surface and underground explorations; and, the value of our mining districts remains unknown, which is very damaging in an immense new country like ours where the discovery of very rich mining districts may be anticipated every day.

By giving to every one offering sufficient guarantee, when a discovery has been made and when he is first to apply for it, a permanent lease (disposable and transferable as in the case of any other property) of the mining right under the area of land asked for by him, subject however to the following conditions: *

Conditions.

(a). The lessee shall pay to the discoverer the royalty stated above

* That would place a lessee exactly on the same footing as an owner in fee simply would be, excepting the condition of working the property necessary to prevent speculation.