

## BRITISH COLUMBIA.

## B. C. Mining Laws.

(Notice to Correspondents.)

Beginning with the first issue of the BULLETIN will be found extracts from the mining laws of the province. In future numbers of the BULLETIN other extracts will be given and amendments that may be desirable to make will be suggested. A digest of the mining laws of the other provinces will also be given from time to time. Amendments, however, will not be advocated unless they have been sanctioned by matured public opinion. Every change that may be advocated in our mining laws is not necessarily an improvement. Some allowance must be made for the equities of any new provision which may be advocated. It is only by a public discussion of proposed amendments that a satisfactory decision can be arrived at. The columns of this journal are thrown open for discussions of this kind, but our correspondents must be brief, because our space is very limited.

"A free miner may locate a mineral claim measuring 1500 feet square as nearly rectangular as possible marking it by two posts 1 and 2, on the line of the vein not more than 1500 feet apart, or a fractional mineral claim can also be marked out. On No. 1 post of a mineral claim shall be written the names of the locator and the claim, the date, the compass bearing of No. 2 post, and the number of feet (of

the 1500) lying to the right and left respectively of this line; these particulars are to be furnished also to the Mining Recorder. He (the locator) must mark the line by blazing trees or post planting and place a post where he found rock 'in place' and as near as possible to the four corners of the claim. He is entitled to all minerals within the claim. The claim is not to be recorded without an affidavit that mineral has been found in place on the claim, that the legal notes and posts have been put up, that ground is occupied &c. A location made on Sunday or a holiday is not invalid. Where from the nature of the ground the location cannot thus be marked, posts may be set as near as possible and the direction and distance recorded. The free miner shall record his claim with the Mining Recorder within 15 days if his office is within 10 miles with an additional day for every additional 10 miles. A claim recorded by error in the wrong district may be recorded anew in the right district with the original date. If left in the Recorder's absence the applicant is entitled to a record of that date.

"The claim may be held from year to year on a certificate by the gold commissioner or mining recorder that work has been done on it to the value of \$100. Assessment work to be counted in certificates. A free miner or partners having adjoining claims may work them together and may obtain cer-