

BOOK NOTICES.

An English authority just to hand gives the following review of Mr. Griffith's 1886 edition of "The Iron and Steel Brand Book." "It is a valuable rather than interesting compilation. Nobody will think of turning over the pages of the book in search of amusement for an idle hour, and yet the work contains a vast amount of technical information for business men, handily arranged, and set forth in a manner that betrays no motive save a desire to produce a work of ready reference. Statistics of the output of iron and steel are excluded from Mr. Griffith's scheme, which aims at showing the kind and not the quantity, of the manufacture of iron now existent in Great Britain. A list is given of all the iron smelting works in England and Scotland whose iron is in the market. These amount to one hundred and sixty, and they contain seven hundred and seventy-one furnaces, of which one hundred and sixty have been standing idle since December, 1885. Charcoal iron is now produced by but one firm—located at Ulverston; and anthracite iron, since the stoppage of the Yniscwlyn Works, is represented only by the Ystalyfera Company of Swansea, which, however, also closed in December, 1885. Of cold blast iron there are now but twelve makers left, four in West Yorkshire, four in South Staffordshire, two in Shropshire, and one each in South Wales and North Lancashire. The hematite trade is represented by thirty-four firms, only ten of which combine the manufacture with that of other kinds of iron. Two hundred and twenty firms are included in the directory of mills and forges, sixty-five in that of steel converters, and thirty-three in that of steel rolling mills. For the record of brands, Mr. Griffith claims that though it does not set forth every description of iron, the headings are so comprehensive as to indicate the works likely to roll any section of iron that may be required. This of course, is a matter to be tested in practice, but of the general clearness of the arrangement and apparent completeness of the book there can be no doubt."

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MINING REGULATIONS

To Govern the Disposal of

Mineral Lands other than Coal Lands.
1886.

THESE REGULATIONS shall be applicable to all Dominion Lands containing gold, silver, tin, lead, iron, copper, petroleum, or other mineral deposits of economic value, with the exception of coal.

Any person may explore vacant Dominion Lands not appropriated or reserved by Government for other purposes, and may search therein, either by surface or subterranean prospecting, for mineral deposits, with a view to obtaining under the Regulations a mining location for the same, but no mining location or mining claim shall be granted until the discovery of the vein, lode, or deposit of mineral or metal within the limits of the location or claim.

QUARTZ MINING.

A location for mining, except for iron, on veins, lodes, or ledges of quartz or other rock in place, shall not exceed forty acres in area. Its length shall not be more than three times its breadth, and its surface boundary shall be four straight lines, the opposite sides of which shall be parallel, except where prior locations would prevent, in which case it may be of such a shape as may be approved of by the Superintendent of Mines.

Any person having discovered a mineral deposit may obtain a mining location therefor, in the manner set forth in the Regulations which provide for the character of the survey and the marks necessary to designate the location on the ground.

When the location has been marked conformably to the requirements of the Regulations, the claimant shall, within sixty days thereafter, file with the local agent in the Dominion Lands Office for the district in which the location is situated, a declaration or oath setting forth the circumstances of his discovery, and describing, as nearly as may be, the locality and dimensions of the claim marked out by him as aforesaid, and shall, along with such declaration, pay to the said agent an entry fee of FIVE DOLLARS. The agent's receipt for such fee will be the claimant's authority to enter into possession of the location applied for.

At any time before the expiration of FIVE years from the date of his obtaining the agent's receipt, it shall be open to the claimant to purchase the location on filing with the local agent proof that he has expended not less than FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS in actual mining operations on the same; but the claimant is required before the expiration of each of the five years, to prove that he has performed not less than ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS' worth of labour during the year in the actual development of his claim, and at the same time obtain a renewal of his location receipt, for which he is required to pay a fee of FIVE DOLLARS.

The price to be paid for a mining location shall be at the rate of FIVE DOLLARS PER ACRE, cash, and the sum of FIFTY DOLLARS extra for the survey of same.

Not more than one mining location shall be granted to any individual claimant upon the same lode or vein.

Iron.—The Minister of the Interior may grant a location for the mining of iron, not exceeding 100 acres in area, which shall be bounded by north and south and east and west lines astronomically, and its breadth shall equal its length. Provided, that should any person making an application purporting to be for the purpose of mining iron thus obtain, whether in good faith or fraudulently, possession of a valuable mineral deposit other than iron, his right in such deposit shall be restricted to the area prescribed by the Regulations for other minerals, and the rest of the location shall revert to the Crown for such disposition as the Minister may direct.

The Regulations also provide for the manner in which land may be acquired for milling purposes, reduction works, or other works incidental to mining operations.

Locations taken up prior to this date may, until the 1st August, 1886, be re-marked and re-entered in conformity with the Regulations without payment of new fees, in cases where no existing interests would thereby be prejudicially affected.

PLACER MINING.

The Regulations laid down in respect of quartz mining shall be applicable to placer mining as far as they relate to entries, entry fees, assignments, marking of localities, agents' receipts, and generally where they can be applied.

The nature and size of placer mining claims are provided for in the Regulations, including bar, dry, leech, creek or hill districts, and the RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF MINERS are fully set forth.

The Regulations apply also to

Red-Rock Flashes, Drainage of Mines, and Drifts.

The GENERAL PROVISIONS of the Regulations include the interpretation of expressions used therein; how disputes shall be heard and adjudicated upon; under what circumstances miners shall be entitled to absent themselves from their locations or districts, &c., &c.

THE SCHEDULE OF MINING REGULATIONS

Contain the forms to be observed in the drawing up of all documents, such as:— "Application and affidavit of discoverer of quartz mine." "Receipt for fee paid by applicant for mining location." "Receipt for fee on extension of time for purchase of a mining location." "Patent of a mining location." "Certificate of the assignment of a mining location." "Application for grant for placer mining and affidavit of applicant." "Grant for placer mining." "Certificate of the assignment of a placer mining claim." "Grant to a bed-rock flame Company." "Grant for drainage." "Grant of right to divert water and construct ditches."

Since the publication, in 1881, of the Mining Regulations to govern the disposal of Dominion Mineral Lands, the same have been carefully and thoroughly revised with a view to ensure ample protection to the public interests and at the same time to encourage the prospector and miner in order that the mineral resources may be made valuable by development.

COPIES OF THE REGULATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED UPON APPLICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.

A. M. BURGESS,

Deputy Minister of the Interior.