



Western Australia.

ANNO SEXAGESIMO QUARTO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

No. XXIII.

AN ACT to amend the Goldfields Act, 1895,
and the Acts passed in 1896 and 1898,
amending the same.

[Assented to, 5th December, 1900.]

BE it enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of Western Australia, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. THIS Act may be cited as the Goldfields Act Amendment Act, 1900, and shall be incorporated with the Goldfields Act, 1895, hereinafter called the principal Act. Short title.

2. ANY miner resident on a goldfield, being not less than eighteen years of age, may, subject to the regulations, apply for a lease, to be called a "Miner's Homestead Lease," of any Crown Application for miner's homestead lease.

64° VICTORIÆ, No. 23.

Goldfields Act—Amendment.

See Queensland Mining Act, 1898, s. 71.

land within the limits of the goldfield, and the land comprised in such lease is hereinafter called a miner's homestead.

Application to be made to the Warden.
bid., s. 71.

3. THE application shall be lodged at the office of the Warden of the goldfield within which the land applied for is situate.

Area of land that may be leased.
See *Ibid.*, s. 72.

4. NO person may apply for a miner's homestead or homesteads within the limits of the same goldfield of a greater area than the following, whether held in one holding or several holdings, that is to say:—Within two miles of the nearest boundary of any townsite or suburban area, Twenty acres; and beyond two miles from such boundary, Five hundred acres; and the aggregate area applied for by any one person within the same goldfield shall in no case exceed Five hundred acres.

The Warden may recommend the reservation of a townsite and the boundaries thereof, before recommending the issue of any miner's homestead lease.

For the purposes of this section any portions of land distant more than twenty miles from each other shall be deemed to form part of different goldfields.

Priority of title.
See 59 Vict., No. 40, s. 44.

5. IN the event of more than one application being made for the same land, or any portion thereof, priority of title shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of section forty-four of the principal Act.

Objections.
Queensland Mining Act, 1898, s. 76.

6. ANY holder of a miner's right may, within the prescribed time after the lodging of an application, lodge at the Warden's office a notice of objection to the application, specifying the grounds of objection.

Manner of disposing of applications.
See Queensland Mining Act, 1898, s. 78.

7. ALL applications and objections thereto shall be disposed of by the Warden in open Court after personal inspection of the land by him, or the receipt of a report by a mining surveyor or Inspector of Mines.

The Warden shall state in open Court his reasons for recommending or rejecting any application to which objection has been made.

Power for Warden to alter or reject application.
Ibid., s. 79.

8. IF the land applied for includes any claim or land in the authorised occupation of any person, or if the granting of the application would, in the opinion of the Warden, in any way interfere with mining or with the requirements of the public, the Warden

64° VICTORIÆ, No. 23.

Goldfields Act—Amendment.

shall make such alterations in the area and boundaries of the land as seem advisable to him, or he may absolutely reject the application.

If the land contains valuable improvements the Warden may impose a condition that the applicant shall pay the value of the improvements to be fixed by arbitration.

9. UPON receipt of the surveyor's plans and the report of the Warden, the Minister may, with the approval of the Governor, grant to the applicant a miner's homestead lease, which, subject to the prescribed conditions, shall be in force so long as the lessee pays the rent as prescribed by this Act.

Issue of lease.

Ibid., s. 81.

10. WHEN an application for a lease is rejected the applicant shall be entitled to have the amount deposited by him as rent returned to him, together with the survey fee if no survey has been made.

Return of rent and survey fee.

Ibid., s. 82.

11. WHEN a lease has been approved, notice thereof shall be published in the *Government Gazette*, whereupon the applicant shall be at liberty forthwith to enter upon and occupy the land applied for.

Occupation on approval of application.

See *Ibid.*, 83.

But if, at the expiration of six months from the notification of approval in the *Government Gazette*, the applicant has not used or occupied the said land, either by himself residing on it, or by enclosing one-tenth part of it with a substantial fence, or by substantial improvements on the land, or by carrying on some manufacture upon or in connection with the land, he shall be deemed to have abandoned the land, and shall cease to be entitled to a lease thereof, and shall not be entitled to a return of any moneys paid by him as rent, and the land may be immediately applied for by another applicant.

12. THE lessee shall, within three years from the date of the survey of the land, fence the whole of the land with a substantial fence, not being a brush fence, proved to the satisfaction of the Minister to be sufficient to resist the trespass of great stock, and within five years from the said date shall expend upon the land, in prescribed improvements, an amount equal to Ten shillings per acre.

Lessee to fence and improve.

13. WHERE any land comprised in a miner's homestead lease shall previously have been held by the lessee under the regulations as

As to improvements on land previously held as a market garden area.

as a market garden area, any improvements thereon shall be deemed a performance of the obligations of the lessee under section eleven, so far as such improvements may extend.

Payment for im-
provements.

See Land Act, 1898,
s. 145.

14. NO improvements shall be deemed made pursuant to this Act, nor shall any payment or valuation be made in respect thereof, unless the Minister shall be satisfied that the same were made *bona fide* for the purpose of improving the land, and unless the same shall consist of wells of fresh water, reservoirs, tanks, or dams of permanent character and available for the use of stock; or of dwelling houses or buildings for industrial purposes; or of sheds and buildings erected for farm or shearing and station purposes; or of cultivation, sub-division fences, clearing, grubbing, draining, ring-barking (at not more than Two shillings and sixpence per acre), or any improvement for maintaining or improving the agricultural or pastoral capabilities of the land.

Rent payable.

See Queensland
Mining Act, 1898,
s. 84.

15. THE rent reserved by a miner's homestead lease shall be as follows, that is to say:—

If the area thereof does not exceed twenty acres, an annual rent at the rate of Two shillings for every acre or part of an acre, and if the area thereof exceeds twenty acres, an annual rent at the rate of Sixpence for every acre or part of an acre, shall be payable during the first twenty years of the lease, and thereafter the rent payable in respect of such lease shall be an annual rent of One shilling and no more on the first day of January in every year, if demanded: Provided that the minimum annual rent for the first twenty years to be reserved by any lease shall not be less than Ten shillings.

Transfer of miner's
homestead lease.

Ibid., s. 87.

16. A MINER'S homestead lease may, subject to the approval of the Minister, be transferred by signing an instrument of transfer in the prescribed form and paying the prescribed fee:

Provided that no person shall be entitled to transfer any homestead lease to any person not entitled to apply for the same under section four of this Act, unless such lease shall have been in existence for a period of ten years prior to the date of such transfer, and that the transferee must be a person otherwise qualified under this Act.

Transfer by sheriff
when holding taken
in execution and
sold.

Ibid., s. 88.

17. WHEN a miner's homestead is taken in execution under the judgment of a Court of competent jurisdiction, and sold, the sheriff or other proper officer shall execute a transfer of the lease to the purchaser at such sale; and upon registration of the transfer,

64° VICTORIÆ, No. 23.

Goldfields Act—Amendment.

and payment of the prescribed fee, the lease shall be transferred to such purchaser accordingly:

Provided that the transferee shall be the holder of a miner's right, subject to the proviso in section sixteen.

18. (1.) ANY miner may mark off, apply for, and take up for mining purposes, in accordance with the provisions of the principal Act or the Mineral Lands Act, 1892, and the regulations thereunder respectively, any land comprised in a miner's homestead in the same manner as if the land were unoccupied Crown land.

Rights of miners to work leased land.
Ibid., s. 94.

(2.) A gold mining or mineral lease may be granted under the principal Act or the Mineral Lands Act, 1892, of land comprised in a miner's homestead. But in any such case the lease shall be of the mines under such land only, and not of the surface of the land.

(3.) When land comprised in a miner's homestead is taken up for mining purposes, or is included in a gold mining or mineral lease, the person entitled to mine thereon or therein shall be entitled to erect, maintain, and remove buildings and machinery, sink shafts, and carry on all necessary mining operations upon the surface of the land comprised in the claim, gold mining or mineral lease, and shall also be entitled to access to the mines through the residue of the land comprised in the miner's homestead.

19. IN any of the cases mentioned in the last preceding section, the lessee may call upon the Warden to assess the value of the damage likely to be done to any improvements upon his homestead, and the Warden may thereupon, if he think fit, require the miner or applicant for a gold mining or mineral lease working, or about to work upon the land, to deposit in his hands the amount of the damage which the working is likely to do to the lessee, and until such payment is made the miner or applicant for a gold mining or mineral lease shall not be entitled to work upon the land.

Compensation for land.
Ibid., s. 95.

Upon the receipt of the amount so required to be deposited, the Warden shall hold the same as security to be paid either wholly or in part to the lessee if he sustains any damage, or to be returned to the miner or applicant for gold mining or mineral lease on his leaving the land if he does no damage. In assessing such damage only actual injury to improvements shall be taken into account, and no compensation shall be allowed for the value of the land or the lessee's interest therein.

When a lessee has received any money by way of compensation for injury to improvements, he shall not afterwards be entitled to claim compensation in respect of the same improvements, but shall be entitled to claim for additions made to them after the time when he received such compensation.

64° VICTORIÆ, No. 23.

Goldfields Act—Amendment.

Appointment of arbitrators.
Ibid., s. 96.

20. IF, in any case in which the Warden has been called on to assess the damage sustained by a lessee through the operations of any miner or applicant for a gold mining or mineral lease working on the land comprised on his lease, either party is dissatisfied with his decision, such party may require that the question be referred to arbitration.

An application for arbitration shall be made within forty-eight hours after the decision of the case by the Warden, otherwise it shall not be entertained and shall be in writing addressed to the Warden, and a copy thereof shall be delivered by the applicant to the other party concerned, and shall on such delivery, be equivalent to a submission in writing by both parties of the matters in dispute to two arbitrators, who are to appoint an umpire.

Protection of mining improvements.
Ibid., s. 97.

21. WHEN a miner or gold mining or mineral lessee has put up any building or other erection, or put down a shaft upon land comprised in a miner's homestead lease, and afterwards leaves the land, the homestead lessee shall not remove or destroy such building, erection, or shaft without the sanction of the Warden. Any lessee offending against the provisions of this section shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding One hundred pounds.

Resumption.
See *Ibid.*, s. 98.

22. THE Governor may, after six months' notice to the lessee, resume the whole or any part of a miner's homestead.

Amount of compensation.

Subject to the power of resumption reserved by the lease, upon any such resumption, the lessee shall be entitled to compensation, and the amount of such compensation shall be determined in the manner prescribed by the Land Resumption Act, 1894, for determining compensation for land taken under that Act.

Miner's homestead lease not to be deemed private land within 62 Vict., No. 29.

23. NO land held as a miner's homestead lease under this Act shall be deemed to be private property within the meaning of the Mining on Private Property Act, 1898.

Limitation of Act to certain goldfields.

24. THE foregoing provisions shall apply only to such goldfields, or to such portions thereof, as the Governor may by order in Council from time to time direct.

Amendment of 59 Vict., No. 40, s. 7.

25. SECTION seven of the principal Act is amended by adding at the end thereof the words "or abolish such goldfield."

Amendment of s. 13.

26. SECTION thirteen of the principal Act is amended by inserting after the word "created," in the fourth line, the word "therein."

64° VICTORIÆ, No. 23.

Goldfields Act—Amendment.

27. SECTION fifteen of the principal Act is amended by striking out the first and second lines thereof to and including the words "to be issued," and by inserting in lieu thereof "The Minister, and every Warden, and all persons appointed for such purpose by the Minister, whether individually or in virtue of their offices, may issue documents." Amendment of s. 15.

28. SECTION sixteen of the principal Act is amended by inserting in the eighth paragraph, after the word "occupy," the words "in localities approved by the Warden." Amendment of s. 16.

29. SECTION eighteen of the principal Act is amended by striking out the words "the lease," in line five, and by inserting "any" in lieu thereof, and striking out the words "lease" and "transferred," in lines eight and nine thereof respectively. Amendment of s. 18.

30. SECTION nineteen of the principal Act is amended by striking out the words, at the beginning of the section: "It shall be lawful for the Governor to appoint such persons as he may think fit to," and inserting in lieu thereof, "The Minister, and every Warden, and all persons appointed for such purpose by the Minister, whether individually or in virtue of their offices, may," and the said section shall be deemed to have been originally enacted as now amended, and by inserting in sub-section two. after the word "occupy," the words "in localities approved by the Warden;" and by adding at the end of the same sub-section the following words:—"But no business area shall be granted within a distance of three miles from any gazetted townsite without the approval of the Minister." Amendment of s. 19.

31. SECTION twenty-three is amended by striking out all the words after "regulations," in the tenth line, and by inserting in lieu thereof, "provided that where such lands are within a municipality, a copy of such application shall be served on the Mayor of the municipality by leaving same at the office of the Town Clerk, and shall also be posted at the Warden's office." Amendment of s. 23.

The Minister, on receipt of any application under this section, shall cause notice of such application to be published in the prescribed manner, and no authority to mine shall be granted if any valid objection is lodged within thirty days after the receipt of such application. With each such application the sum of Ten pounds shall be deposited to meet the cost of publishing notice thereof, and of inspecting and reporting on the land applied for.

32. SECTION thirty of the principal Act is amended by striking out the word "he," in line six thereof, and by inserting the Amendment of s. 30.

64° VICTORIÆ, No. 23.

Goldfields Act—Amendment.

words “the holder may register the land as improved. On such registration being effected the holder, in the event of the land being thrown open for sale,” and by adding at the end of the section the words, “Such notice shall be deemed duly served if inserted in the *Government Gazette*, and sent by post to the holder at his address (if any) appearing in the register.”

See Victorian Mines Act, 1890, section 67. **33.** SECTION thirty-five of the principal Act is amended by adding after the word “thereto,” in line ten, the words:—“Provided also that a lease may be granted notwithstanding that the person applying for the same may not in all respects have complied with the Regulations, and no such non-compliance shall affect any lease already granted.”

Amendment of s. 38. **34.** SECTION thirty-eight is amended by striking out the words “and a copy of the decision of the Court of Appeal certified by him,” in the eighteenth and nineteenth lines thereof.

Amendment of s. 41. **35.** SECTION forty-one is amended by striking out the words, in the fifth and sixth lines, “may with the like consent be renewed,” and inserting in lieu thereof “shall, at any time before the expiration thereof, at the option of the lessee, be renewable for a further period of twenty-one years.”

Amendment of s. 42. **36.** SECTION forty-two is amended by striking out all the words after “*Gazette*” in the tenth line.

Amendment of s. 45. **37.** SECTION forty-five is amended by striking out, in the second, twelfth, thirteenth, and fourteenth lines, the words “or application for lease” wherever they occur, and by striking out, in line thirteen, the words “as the case may be,” and all the words after “case,” in the twenty-fifth line.

Amendment of s. 46. **38.** SECTION forty-six is amended by striking out, in the second line, the words “or application for lease.”

Amendment of s. 53. **39.** SECTION fifty-three is amended by inserting, after the word “proceeding,” in the first line, the words “under the jurisdiction conferred by section fifty-two.”

Amendment of s. 62. **40.** SECTION sixty-two is amended by inserting, after the word “proceeding,” in the first line, the words “under the jurisdiction conferred by section fifty-two.”

64° VICTORIÆ, No. 23.

Goldfields Act—Amendment.

41. SECTION eighty-one is amended by inserting, after the word “proceedings,” in the first line, the words “under the jurisdiction conferred by section fifty-two.” Amendment of s. 81.

42. SECTION ninety is amended by striking out, in the eighth line, the words “shall and.” Amendment of s. 90.

43. SECTION six of the Goldfields Act Amendment Act, 1896, is amended by inserting after the word “before,” in the fourth line, the words “any Warden or.” Amendment of 60
Vict., No. 36, s. 6.

44. SECTION nine of the Goldfields Act Amendment Act, 1898, is amended by striking out, in the first line, the words “the hearing of,” and substituting the word “recommending,” and by striking out, in the fifth line, the words “the hearing,” and substituting the words “his recommendation.” Amendment of 62
Vict., No. 16, s. 9.

45. SECTION ten of the last-mentioned Act is amended by striking out the words “one-third,” in the second line of the second paragraph, and by inserting in lieu thereof “one-eighth.” Amendment of s. 10.

46. SUB-SECTION two of section twelve of the last-mentioned Act is repealed. Repeal of section
12, sub-section (2).

47. SECTION thirteen of the last-mentioned Act is amended by striking out the words “not exceeding four,” and substituting “if the total area does not exceed ninety-six acres.” Amendment of s. 13.

48. SECTION fourteen of the last-mentioned Act is amended by adding the words “and the whole or any portion of such fine may, in the discretion of the Governor, be awarded to the applicant for forfeiture.” Amendment of s. 14.

49. SECTION nineteen of the last-mentioned Act is amended by inserting after the word “Minister,” in the fourth line, the words “or the Under Secretary for Mines.” Amendment of s. 19.

50. SECTION twenty of the last-mentioned Act is hereby repealed, and the following substituted:— Repeal of s. 20, and
substitution of new
section.

- (1.) No person shall buy gold from any other person unless either the buyer or the seller is the holder of a “Gold Dealer’s License” (hereinafter called a “license”), and any person who shall buy gold, except as aforesaid, shall

64° VICTORIÆ, No. 23.

Goldfields Act—Amendment.

be guilty of an offence, and on conviction thereof shall be liable to a fine not exceeding One hundred pounds, or to imprisonment for not more than three months. Provided that nothing herein contained shall apply to the purchase of gold-bearing ores or tailings from any registered leaseholder or claim-holder under a contract in writing, signed by or on behalf of the vendor, setting forth that the ores or tailings were produced from and taken out of the ground comprised in the lease or claim of which the vendor is the registered holder, and which said lease or claim is sufficiently described in the said contract.

Warden or Resident
Magistrate may grant
a gold-dealer's
license.

(2.) A license may be issued to any person desirous of dealing in gold. If such person desires to deal in gold on any goldfield, he shall apply for a license to the Warden, and if without a goldfield, to the Resident or Police Magistrate of the district within which his place of business is situated. All such applications shall be made in open Court, after the prescribed notice has been given. Any person may object to the issue of such license. No license shall be issued to any applicant unless the Warden or Magistrate is satisfied that he is a person of good character and reputation, and it shall be in the absolute discretion of such Warden or Magistrate to grant or withhold such license, as he may think fit. A fee of One pound shall be payable for a license, which shall remain in force until the thirty-first day of December next after the date of its issue, and may be annually renewed, on payment of a like fee, but may be cancelled by a Warden or Magistrate on the licensee being convicted of any offence against this section, or of any felony or misdemeanour which, in the opinion of such Warden or Magistrate, renders him unfit to hold a license.

Renewal of license.

(3.) The Warden of any goldfield, or the Resident or Police Magistrate of any district in which licenses are in force, shall appoint a day during the month of December in each year for the holding of a Court for the granting of renewals of licenses. At least seven days' notice shall be given of the sitting of such Court by advertisement in a newspaper (if any) circulating in the district, and any licensee desiring to renew his license shall give notice, in the prescribed form, to the Warden or Magistrate of his intention to apply. Such Court may be adjourned to any day during the same month. On every application for a renewal of license the Warden

64° VICTORIÆ, No. 23.

Goldfields Act—Amendment.

or Magistrate shall have like discretion as to such renewal as in the case of an original application.

- (4.) A license shall only entitle the licensee to deal in gold within the goldfield, goldfield district, or magisterial district within which it is issued, but the Warden of any other goldfield or Resident or Police Magistrate of any other district may, on application being made in open Court, extend such license to such other goldfield or district, and indorse the license to that effect. Notwithstanding any of the provisions of this section, any incorporated Bank may, on application to the Under Secretary for Mines, obtain a license without giving notice, which shall apply throughout the Colony. Effect of license.
- (5.) (a.) There shall be kept at the office of the Warden and the Resident or Police Magistrate of every goldfield or district, a register of all holders of licenses granted or in force in such goldfield or district, and every licensee residing or carrying on business as a gold dealer in any goldfield, goldfield district, or magisterial district, shall cause his name, and the address of his place or places of business, and of any change of address, to be registered in the register to be kept as aforesaid. Registers of holders of gold dealers' licenses to be kept at the office of Wardens and Resident Magistrates.
- (b.) It shall be the duty of the Mining Registrar, or the Clerk to the Magistrate, to transmit a statement of the name and residence of every person to whom a gold dealer's license is granted, or who obtains a renewal thereof, and the date of the issue or renewal thereof, to the Under Secretary for Mines, who shall record the particulars so transmitted in a book, to be called the Register of Gold Dealers.
- (c.) The before-mentioned registers shall be open for inspection by the public at all times during ordinary office hours.
- (d.) Every name of a licensee shall be struck off the register on the expiration of his license, unless a renewal of such license has been previously granted.
- (6.) Every licensee shall keep at his place of business a book (hereinafter called "A Gold Dealer's Book"), and shall immediately, after buying or selling any gold, make an entry in such book of the name and address of the Licensee to keep gold purchase book.

64° VICTORIÆ, No. 23.

Goldfields Act—Amendment.

buyer and seller, respectively, and of such other particulars as may be from time to time prescribed, and shall furnish to the Warden, Resident or Police Magistrate, or Under Secretary for Mines, such particulars as to gold bought as may also be from time to time prescribed. Any licensee failing to comply with these provisions shall be guilty of an offence against this section.

Inspection of gold purchase book.

(7.) Every inspector, sub-inspector, or sergeant of police, and (if authorised in that behalf in writing under the hand of a Warden, or Resident or Police Magistrate, or under the hand of any two Justices of the Peace), every member of the police force or officer of the Mines Department may at any time, on a business day, enter the place of business of a person holding a gold dealer's license, or other the place where his gold dealer's book is, and may inspect and make extracts from such book, and every person refusing to produce such book, or resisting or impeding such inspection, or extracting, shall be guilty of an offence against this section: Provided that the person making such inspection or extracts shall not divulge the result thereof to any person other than a superior officer, or by order of the Court, under a penalty on summary conviction not exceeding Twenty pounds.

Returns to be furnished by owners, etc., of batteries.

(8.) Every owner or manager of a battery or other apparatus for the extraction of gold from earth or ore, shall furnish the Mines Department monthly with a return, setting forth the amount of stone or earth treated by him during the previous month, together with full particulars of the amount of gold extracted therefrom, with such other particulars as may be prescribed by the Regulations.

Penalties for offences.

(9.) Save where a penalty is specially provided, a person guilty of an offence against this section shall be liable to a fine of not more than Twenty pounds, and in default to imprisonment not exceeding three months, and every offence against this section may be dealt with by a Court of summary jurisdiction.

Jurisdiction.

Interpretation.

(10.) For the purposes of this section "buyer" shall mean as well dealer or agent, and "gold" shall mean as well gold bullion, gold ores, alluvial gold, gold amalgam, gold alloys, zinc precipitates, slag, concentrates, and unwrought gold in any form.

64° VICTORIÆ, No. 23.

Goldfields Act—Amendment.

(11.) Every license granted under the section hereby repealed shall expire on the Thirty-first day of December, One thousand nine hundred, but any licensee whose license except for this Act would have continued after that date, shall be entitled to receive from the Under Secretary for Mines the proportionate part of the fee paid for such license in advance for any period subsequent to such date.

Expiration of existing licenses.

51. IT shall not be lawful for the owner, lessee, or occupier of any mine lying under any railway reserve, or under land resumed for railway or tramway purposes, to mine under such reserve or resumed land without giving at least fourteen days' previous notice, in writing, to the Minister.

No person to mine under railway reserve except on certain condition.

The Minister may impose upon such owner, lessee, or occupier such terms, if any, as the Minister thinks necessary for the public safety, and in that case such mining shall only be carried on in accordance with those terms.

A condition for the observance of this section by the lessee of every existing and future mining lease shall be deemed to be contained therein. The Governor, if he shall think fit, may, at the request and cost of any such lessee, owner, or occupier, cause or require the deviation of any railway or tramway so far as may be necessary for the working of any lode or reef.

52. SUBJECT to the provisions of section twelve of the Goldfields Act Amendment Act, 1898, and without prejudice to any lease the subject of pending legal proceedings, whenever by any notice heretofore or hereafter inserted in the *Government Gazette*, signed, or purporting to be signed by the Minister, or by the Under Secretary for Mines, any lease granted under the principal Act, or any Act relating to gold mining heretofore in force, shall have been declared void or forfeited, such notice shall be deemed to have been from the date of such its publication conclusive evidence that such lease was and was duly declared to be forfeited at the time mentioned in such notice, and that Her Majesty forthwith thereafter re-entered upon the said land in pursuance of the proviso for re-entry contained in the said lease, and the land comprised in any lease so declared void shall be deemed to have been, from the date of the publication of the *Gazette* containing such notice, vacant and unoccupied Crown land, capable of being taken possession of and occupied for mining or other purposes within the meaning of the principal Act, and any person who, after such insertion, shall remain or be in the possession or occupation of the lands comprised in such lease, or any part of them, under colour of such lease, shall be deemed to be in the

Gazette notices of forfeiture of mining leases to be conclusive evidence of forfeiture.

See Mines Act, 1890 of Victoria, sec. 76.

64° VICTORIÆ, No. 23.

Goldfields Act—Amendment.

unauthorised occupation of Crown lands and may be proceeded against accordingly : Provided that the Governor may, for any cause which he may deem sufficient, by any subsequent notice in the *Government Gazette*, signed, or purporting to be signed by the Minister or the Under Secretary for Mines, cancel any notice of voidance or forfeiture, and reinstate the lessee as of his former estate or some part thereof, and on any terms and conditions as regards the lessee and any persons who, since the forfeiture, have been lawfully in possession of any part of the land, and any proceedings taken and any things lawfully done or suffered since the forfeiture as to the Governor may seem fit.

In the name and on behalf of the Queen I hereby assent to this Act.

ALEX. C. ONSLOW, Administrator.