

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ANNO SEPTIMO DECIMO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ

No. 17

An Ordinance to provide for the Preservation of Order in
cases of any Discovery of Gold in Western Australia.

[Assented to 6th June, 1854.]

WHEREAS it is not improbable that gold and other precious metals may exist in some parts of the Colony and may unexpectedly be discovered, and it is expedient to make some provisions for the collection of Her Majesty's dues and royalties, the preservation of order and peace at the places of digging and the general security of

Gold Regulations

life and property: Be it enacted by His Excellency the Governor of Western Australia and its Dependencies, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, that it shall be lawful for His Excellency the Governor, by and with the advice of the Executive Council, to make from time to time such regulations concerning gold fields, licenses and all matters of police connected therewith, directly and indirectly, also to issue such orders from time to time as may seem to their discretion to be required, and that such orders and regulations shall be legal and binding with all the force of a legislative Ordinance for and during the term of three calendar months after the publication thereof, unless sooner rescinded by legislative enactment: Provided nevertheless that such regulations and orders shall not authorise the granting licenses as aforesaid extending over any lands granted in fee simple to other than the proprietor thereof, without the previous consent in writing of the said proprietor or his agent in his behalf if such proprietor or agent can be found in the Colony, but if such proprietor or agent cannot be found in the Colony, it shall be lawful for the Governor to issue licenses extending over the land of any such last mentioned proprietor, at the full fee or price charged for licenses to dig on Crown lands, reserving in all such cases one half of such fee or price for the use or benefit of such proprietor when found.

Governor may
make regulations

Three months

Commissioners

2. And it shall be lawful for the Governor, by and with such advice and consent as aforesaid, to name and define what shall be a gold field within the meaning of this Ordinance, the prices and forms of licenses, the terms and conditions of mining auriferous lands, to cancel wholly or in part any pastoral leases over gold fields, provided reasonable compensation be made to the lessee thereof for loss, if any, sustained by him; the amount of royalty and all other matters incidental to the discovery of auriferous lands; also to appoint commissioners and other officers to enforce and carry out such regulations as aforesaid.

CHARLES FITZGERALD,
GOVERNOR AND COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.