

COAL-MINES ACT AMENDMENT.

ANALYSIS.

- Title.
1. Short Title.
2. Amended definitions.

3. Penalty for taking coal below high-water mark without authority.
4. Restriction as to extension of leases.

A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to amend "The Coal-Mines Act, 1886."

Title.

BE IT ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

5 1. The Short Title of this Act is "The Coal-Mines Act Amendment Act, 1887." It shall be read together with "The Coal-Mines Act, 1886" (herein referred to as "the said Act").

Short Title.

2. The said Act is hereby amended as follows, that is to say,—
10 (1.) Section three. The term "coal," as therein defined, shall include "shale," and shall be deemed to have included the same from the time of its original enactment.

Amended definitions.

The definition of "underground manager" is hereby repealed.
(2.) Section four. All the words thereof after "notwithstanding" are hereby repealed.

15 (3.) Section nineteen. The words "an underground" and the word "underground," wherever occurring before the word "manager," are hereby respectively repealed.

(4.) Section fifty. The words "serious injury" are hereby repealed, and the word "injury" substituted.

20 3. All persons taking coal from any seam which may lie under the sea or any part of the foreshore thereof below high-water mark, or under any tidal river, unless duly authorized under the said Act, shall be deemed to be in the illegal occupation of Crown lands within the meaning of "The Land Act, 1885," and shall be liable to a penalty
25 not exceeding fifty pounds for each such separate offence.

Penalty for taking coal below high-water mark without authority.

30 All provisions of "The Land Act, 1885," relating to the illegal occupation of Crown lands, and the powers of the Commissioner of Crown Lands under that Act in relation to such illegal occupation, shall apply to illegal occupation of Crown lands under the said Act as amended by this Act.

35 4. Nothing contained in sections nine and fifteen of the said Act shall be construed to authorize the grant of any original lease for a longer term than thirty years; nor to grant any extension of an original lease, whether granted under the said Act or under any Act previously in force, for a longer term than would, together with the original term, exceed ninety-nine years; nor to grant any such extension previous to the expiry of two-thirds of the term of such original lease.

Restriction as to extension of leases.