

[AS REPORTED FROM GOLD FIELDS COMMITTEE.]

(Sir G. Grey.)

Gold Mining Districts Act Amendment.

ANALYSIS.

<p>Title.</p> <p>1. Short Title.</p> <p>2. No land to be exempted from occupation except for public uses.</p> <p>3. Area of certain claims in new gold mining districts limited to five acres.</p> <p>4. After six months claims not exceeding in the whole ten acres may amalgamate.</p> <p>5. After twelve months claims not exceeding in the whole thirty acres may amalgamate.</p> <p>6. When amalgamation not permitted.</p>	<p>7. Abandoned ground may be amalgamated with adjoining claims.</p> <p>8. Regulations for amalgamation may be made.</p> <p>9. Publication of Proclamation constituting district conclusive evidence of consent of owners to mining on land.</p> <p>10. Governor may grant lease to persons discovering gold on Native land.</p> <p>11. Powers under this Act may be exercised by the Governor's delegate.</p>
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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to amend "The Gold Mining Districts Act, 1873." 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 shall be "The Gold Mining Districts Act Amendment Act, 1875." Short Title.
- 2. Under section nine of "The Gold Mining Districts Act, 1873" (hereinafter referred to as "the said Act"), no land shall be exempted from occupation as therein mentioned, unless it be required for public uses. No land to be exempted from occupation except for public uses.
- 10 3. Whenever, after the passing of this Act, a district shall be constituted a Gold Mining District under the said Act, claims comprised in class number two, as specified in section number nineteen of the said Act, shall not exceed in area five acres. Area of certain claims in new gold mining districts limited to five acres.
- 15 4. After the expiration of six calendar months from the date of the license under which the same is held, any claim may be amalgamated with other claims: Provided that the aggregate area of the claims amalgamated shall not exceed ten acres. After six months claims not exceeding in the whole ten acres may amalgamate.
- 20 5. After the expiration of twelve calendar months from the date of the license under which the same is held, any claim may be amalgamated with other claims: Provided that the aggregate area of the amalgamated claims shall not exceed thirty acres. After twelve months claims not exceeding in the whole thirty acres may amalgamate.

When amalgamation
not permitted.

6. Provided always, that no such amalgamation shall be permitted, unless it shall be first proved to the satisfaction of the Mining Inspector that the claims in respect of which amalgamation is applied for have been worked during the whole time of their occupancy by at least one man for every thirty thousand square feet comprised in such claims. 5

Abandoned ground
may be amalga-
mated with adjoining
claims.

7. Whenever possession shall have been taken of any ground which the Mining Inspector shall have certified, under section thirty-six of the said Act, to have been surrendered or abandoned, such ground may be amalgamated with any adjoining claim: Provided that the aggregate area does not exceed thirty acres. 10

Regulations for
amalgamation may
be made.

8. Regulations providing for the amalgamation of claims may be made in like manner as is prescribed for the making of rules and regulations under section one hundred and sixty-five of the said Act, and regulations so made shall be deemed to be regulations made under the said Act. 15

New Clauses.

Publication of
proclamation consti-
tuting district
conclusive evidence
of consent of owners
to mining on land.

9. The publication in the *New Zealand Gazette* of any proclamation heretofore made or hereafter to be made under the said Act, constituting and appointing any gold mining district, shall be deemed and taken to have been and to be conclusive proof that the consent of the owner of the land to which such proclamation shall apply has been obtained for gold mining thereon. 20

Governor may grant
lease to persons
discovering gold on
Native land.

10. Any person being the holder of a "prospecting license" under the one hundred and eighty-fourth section of "The Gold Mining Districts Act, 1873," authorizing him to search for gold on Native land not being within any gold field or gold mining district, who shall discover gold on any such Native land, may make application to the Governor for a lease; and on the cession of such land to the Governor for gold mining purposes, or the sale of such lands to the Crown by the Native owners thereof, it shall be lawful for the Governor to grant a lease to the applicant in like manner and subject to the like terms and conditions as prescribed by the one hundred and seventy-fourth section of the said Act in respect of Crown lands outside gold fields and gold mining districts, and every such lease shall be valid and effectual against all persons whomsoever. 25 30 35

Powers under this
Act may be exercised
by the Governor's
delegate.

11. All powers vested in the Governor by this Act may be exercised by the person to whom for the time being the Governor's powers under "The Gold Mining Districts Act, 1873," shall have been delegated.