
PETITION.

To the Honourable Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia, in Session assembled :

The petition of the undersigned Free Miners of the Ainsworth Mining Division, in West Kootenay, humbly sheweth :—

That we have learned that your Honourable House is to be asked during the present session of the Legislature to amend the “ Act relating to Minerals other than Coal,” in such a way that prospectors would be required to perform the annual assessment work upon such claims within ninety days after the first record ; also to provide that all claims, no matter at what date staked, shall expire on the first day of January in each year, with discretionary power to be given to the Gold Commissioner of each district to vary these requirements in such cases as he shall see fit.

We, therefore, your petitioners, desire to state that we consider that such amendments are objectionable, inasmuch as they would greatly increase the hardships already devolving upon prospectors, and also inasmuch as they would impose upon Gold Commissioners an amount of labour and responsibility which it would be impossible for them satisfactorily to perform.

We, therefore, humbly request your Honourable House to make no such amendments to the Mineral Act, and, as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

Kaslo, B. C., February 15th, 1898.

W. A. SKINNER.
N. M. McINTOSH.
O. E. DESMOND.
WM. GOODWIN
and 229 others.