New Westminster
31st Janry 1867

Sir

As I have been informed that there is an impression the Company which I represent are not going on with their Saw Mill; I think it necessary to state for the information of the Govt. that a portion of the Saw Mill machinery was lost, and had to be replaced from England and although this machinery was —

The Hon.ble
A. K. Birch
Colonial Secretary

was sent by way of Panama at great cost, the last case — only came to hand by the last steamer from San Francisco, fitting large machinery is always a long and tedious operation — but I believe the Company's Saw Mill will be at work before the middle of March, all the men that can work are now employed.

Referring to the subject of the Naval Reserve on which I addressed you a few days ago I do not know that the Govt. are aware of it, but Admiral Dornan sent officers to examine the Spars that we have

prepared

on the Naval Reserve I took Captn. Porcher and two of his Officers to see these spars; and if I remember, it was at your own request that this Officer went there; the Naval Officers cannot say that they were not aware of spars having been cut there

So long back as the Summer of 1845 I employed Jeremiah Rogers with other men at $5 per day to prospect for timber on English Bay, the very land that he is now endeavouring

to

to get possession of is that which he reported as the best timbered land that he had seen, this knowledge he obtained while in the service of the Saw Mill Company; and I afterwards landed him there from the Steamer Otter for the purpose of working for the Company; in fact it is simply an attempt to levy black mail on the Company —

I shall be glad to hear from you that you compromise the Company's right of Cutting timber on the Naval Reserve

I have the Honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obt. Servt.
Edw Stamp

1867
Edw Stamp
to Hon. A. K. Birch
January 31st