Victoria Vancouver Island
5th June 1865

Sir

I take leave to inform you that the Steamer Otter arrived at Burrards Inlet on Friday afternoon, from Port Neville the Captain proceeded to Moodys Mill but could not find any Officer to give him a Clearance, It was too late to enter Fraser River that night, on the following day he had to proceeded to New Westminster to enter and clear at the Custom House, twenty four hours was lost in doing this for which the Company I represent have to pay the Owners of the Otter Ninety dollars; I again have to ask that Burrards Inlet may at once be declared a port of entry or that an officer may be stationed there to enter or clear vessels and receive duties

I am &c

New Westminster
9th June 1865

Sir

In reply to your communication of this date in reference to the steamer Otter having to come from Burrards Inlet to New Westminster to clear; I beg to state that the permission as stated in your letter was given about 4 P M on Friday the 2nd inst; too late to be of any use; as the Otter arrived on the same day at the Inlet, and although I wrote to the Capt.n my letter could not then reach him in time to prevent his coming here

I am &c

The Hon.ble A. N. Birch
Colonial Secretary
New Westminster

Bayd = Stamp 1865 "Über" entering at Customs

to

A. W. Bersch

June 9th.

2774,
774
5551
1653
~~750~~
400
2503
1200
3763

5576 · 18
622 · 18

8550
425
1275