RETURN

To an Address of the Legislative Assembly for copies of all correspondence between the Provincial and Dominion Governments relating to Crown grants to settlers on the Island Railway lands.

By Command.

WM. SMITHE,
Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works.

Lands and Works Department,
17th February, 1886.

The Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works to the Honourable Mr. Trutch.

VICTORIA, B. C., November 20th, 1884.

SIR,—I have the honour to request that the Dominion Government will issue Crown grants in favour of the under-mentioned pre-emptors of lands situated within the railway belt on Vancouver Island.

Each of these persons has deposited in this office his original pre-emption record, certificate of improvement, and certificate of purchase receipt for the full payment of the land.

John Ead—Section eleven (11) and the east sixty acres of section ten (10), in range eight (8), Cranberry District, 160 acres.

Thomas Cassidy—Section two (2) and the east sixty acres of section three (3), range eight (8), Cranberry District, 160 acres.

Charles Stewart—Section four (4) in range one (1), Cedar District, and the east sixty acres of section four (4), range eight (8), Cranberry District, 160 acres.

Albert Fuller—Section twelve (12), fractional in range three (3), 83 acres; section thirteen (13), fractional in range three (3), 37 acres; and the east part of section thirteen (13) in range two (2), Cranberry District, 40 acres—160 acres.

John Mahoney—West half of section fourteen (14) in range six (6), 50 acres; and the west half of section fifteen (15) in range 6, Cowichan District, 50 acres—100 acres.

John Nelson—Section one (1), range five (5), 100 acres; and the east half of section two (2), range five (5), Cowichan District, 50 acres—150 acres.

I further beg to request that these patents may be forwarded to me for transmission to the parties in whose favour they are issued.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) WM. SMITHE,
Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works.

The Honourable Mr. Trutch to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works.

VICTORIA, B. C., November 27th, 1884.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 20th inst. requesting that the Dominion Government will issue Crown grants or patents in favour of the pre-emptors of certain lands situated within the Railway Belt on Vancouver Island, and which are specifically described in your letter.

I beg to state in reply that your application will be duly communicated to the Honourable the Minister of Railways and Canals.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) JOSEPH W. TRUTCH,
Agent of Canada for British Columbia.

Circular.

LANDS AND WORKS DEPARTMENT,
VICTORIA, B. C., January 7th, 1885.

SIR,—I have the honour to request that the Dominion Government will issue, and forward to me for transmission, Crown grants, or patents, in favour of those pre-emptors of lands situated within the railway belt on Vancouver Island whose claims are described in the schedule enclosed herewith.

Each of these persons has deposited in this office his original pre-emption record, certificate of improvement, and certificate of purchase receipt in full payment for the land, the right to which was acquired under the provisions of "An Act relating to the Island Railway, the Graving Dock, and Railway Lands of the Province." I have, &c.,

(Signed) WM. SMITHE,
Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works.

The Honourable Joseph W. Trutch, C.M.G.,
Agent of Canada for British Columbia, Victoria, B. C.

SCHEDULE WITHIN REFERRED TO.

John McDonald—Cedar District—
East half of section 5, range 4, 60 acres;
West half „ 4, „ 5, 50 „
West half „ 5, „ 5, 50 „ —160 acres.

George Bartlett—Cowichan District—
South part of section 5, range 3, 60 acres;
The whole of „ 4, „ 3, 100 „ —160 acres.

John James Jonckau—Alberni District—
Section 9, 160 acres.

The Honourable Mr. Trutch to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works.

VICTORIA, B. C., 8th January, 1885.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt this day of your letter of yesterday's date, covering a schedule of lands pre-empted within the Railway Belt on Vancouver Island, the pre-emptors of which lands have deposited in your office Pre-emption Records, Certificates of Improvement, and Certificates of Purchase Receipts in full payment for these lands, and requesting that the Dominion Government will issue and forward to you for transmission to these pre-emptors, respectively, Crown grants or patents of such lands in their favour.

I beg to state that I have by to-day's mail forwarded a copy of your letter and enclosed schedule to the Honourable the Minister of Railways and Canals for such action thereon as he may consider advisable. I have, &c.,

(Signed) JOSEPH W. TRUTCH,
Agent of Canada for British Columbia.

Similar Circular dated 6th February, 1885, enclosing schedule as follows:—

Alexander Garvin—Nelson District—
Section 6, 160 acres.

John Mollet and John C. Mollet—Alberni District—
Lot 7, 176 acres;
Lot 8, 160 „ —336 acres.

Edmund Comar—Cowichan District—
North half of section 17, range 3, 50 acres.

[Receipt of the above was acknowledged by the Hon. Mr. Trutch on the 9th February, 1885.]

Similar Circular dated 11th February, 1885, enclosing schedule as follows:—

James Dougan—Shawnigan District—
East part of section 17, range 5, 50 acres;
The whole of „ 18, „ 5, 100 „ —150 acres.

David Holmes—Quamichan District—
West part of section 19, range 6, 10 acres;
West half of „ 20, „ 5, 50 „
The whole of „ 19, „ 5, 100 „ —160 acres.

[Receipt of the above was acknowledged by the Hon Mr. Trutch on the 16th February, 1885.]

Similar Circular dated March 4th, 1885, enclosing schedule as follows:—

Alexander Kennedy—Cedar District—
Section 8, range 4, 100 acres;
East part section 7, range 4, 60 acres—160 acres.

John Grandam—Cranberry District—
Section 14, range 6, 100 acres;
Section 15, range 6, 34 acres;
East part of section 15, range 5, 26 acres—160 acres.

Henry Guillod—Comox District—
Section 69, 55 acres.

[Receipt of the above was acknowledged by the Hon. Mr. Trutch on the 6th March, 1885.]

Similar Circular dated March 23rd, 1885, enclosing schedule as follows:—

Harry Oswald Wellburn—Comiaken District—
The east fractional part of section 4, range 1, 19 acres.

Charles Brown—Comox District—
Section 68, 139 acres.

[Receipt of the above was acknowledged by the Hon. Mr. Trutch on the 26th March, 1885.]

Similar Circular dated April 28th, 1885, enclosing schedule as follows:—

Henry Severne—Chemainus District—
Section 19, range 4, 100 acres;
Fractional part of section 19, range 5, 43 acres;
„ „ 20, „ 5, 6.30 acres—149.30 acres.

George G. McDonald—Comox District—
Section 70, 160 acres.

[Receipt of the above was acknowledged by the Hon. Mr. Trutch on the 1st May, 1885.]

Similar Circular dated July 23rd, 1885, enclosing schedule as follows:—

Peter McLennan—Shawnigan District—
West part of section 14, range 5, 80 acres;
„ „ 15, „ 5, 80 „ —160 acres.

Charles Henry Valpery—Chemainus District—
Section 11, range 6, 100 acres;
East part of section 11, range 5, 60 acres—160 acres.

[Receipt of the above was acknowledged by the Hon. Mr. Trutch on the 25th July, 1885.]

Similar Circular dated September 15th, 1885, enclosing schedule as follows :—

Archibald Hamilton—Newcastle District—
Lot 3, 160 acres.

Style Brown Hamilton—Newcastle District—
Lot 4, 160 acres.

James Beck—Cranberry District—
Section 10, range 6, 83 acres ;
West half of section 11, range 6, 50 acres ;
West part of „ 9, „ 6, 27 „ —160 acres.

Samuel Jones—Cedar District—
Section 3, range 1, 100 acres ;
West part of section 3, range 2, 60 acres—160 acres.

[Receipt of the above was acknowledged by the Hon. Mr. Trutch on the 30th September 1885.]

The Honourable Mr. Trutch to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works.

VICTORIA, B. C., 21st October, 1885.

SIR,—With reference to the applications from actual settlers within the Island Railway belt—in respect of lands pre-empted by them under the provisions of the Act of British Columbia relating to the "Island Railway, the Graving Dock, and Railway Lands of the Province"—which I have received under cover of your several letters requesting that patents for the same may be issued by the Dominion Government, and which have been transmitted by me for the consideration of the Honourable the Minister of the Interior, I have now the honour to acquaint you that, by letter of recent date, the Minister of the Interior states that before the patents applied for can be issued by him, it is necessary that the originals of all documents forming the basis of title to the land for which patent is to be issued, must be on record in his office, including the original applications for such patents which were made to the Government of British Columbia as agents, in this matter, of the Government of Canada ; and he directs me to request you to transmit to him, through me, the original applications referred to. I beg accordingly to prefer such request.

The Minister of the Interior further states that the official plans and field notes of the surveys, upon which such patents are to be based, should also be of record in his department before the patents can properly be prepared ; but that, as the survey of the lands on Vancouver Island for which patents have been applied for were made by the Government of British Columbia, it is, of course, proper that the originals of the plans and field notes of these surveys should remain of record in your office, and that it will be sufficient fulfilment of the requirements of his office in this particular that certified copies of these plans and field notes be deposited herein.

I am, consequently, directed to request that you will permit the requisite copies of the plans and field notes in question to be made from the originals in your office, by draughtsmen in the employ of the Dominion Government, and that you will be good enough to authorize the Surveyor-General of the Province to verify and certify such copies of the originals.

The Minister, moreover, points out that in respect of certain of the lands for which patents have been applied for and have been recommended by you to be issued—in fact, in every instance except one—the recommendation is that the whole of a particular section of land, consisting (according to the Provincial system of survey and allotment of lands in the districts in which these lands are situated) of 100 acres, and the east or west part, as the case may be, of an adjoining section containing 60 acres, should be patented to the applicant ; and that whilst there would appear to be no difficulty in regard to the whole sections applied for, the east or west part of a section—being 60 acres thereof—is an indefinite part of a section, and until definitely described cannot be patented, and that a re-survey of these fractional parts of sections must be made, in order that such definite description may be supplied and patent issued accordingly ; which surveys I am instructed to have made at once.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) JOSEPH W. TRUTCH,
Dominion Government Agent.

The Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works to the Honourable Mr. Trutch.

VICTORIA, B. C., Nov. 16th, 1885.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 21st ultimo, in which you advise me that the Honourable the Minister of the Interior states that the patents for Island Lands, which have been applied for, cannot be issued until the originals of all documents forming the basis of title, including the original applications for patents, shall have been placed on record in his office, and in which you request that the original applications referred to may be transmitted to him through you.

You inform me additionally that the Minister of the Interior further states that the official field notes of the surveys upon which such patents are to be based should also be of record in his department, but that it will be of sufficient fulfilment of the requirements of his office in this particular that certified copies of these plans and field notes be deposited therein.

You moreover advise me that the Minister states that the patents recommended by me to be issued in every instance except one, cannot be made out because fractional parts of sections are called for, being in addition to a whole section, the east or west 60 acres of an adjoining section, and that a re-survey of these fractional parts of sections must be made, and that you are instructed to have them made at once.

In reply I beg to say that I regret exceedingly that so many unnecessary obstacles have been placed in the way of the issue of patents for Island Railway lands by the Department of the Interior at Ottawa. It is nearly a year since the first applications for patents were forwarded from this office, with an accompanying certificate that all the law requires had been done to entitle the applicant to an immediate patent, and up to date not one single patent has been issued, but I am advised at this late day that the description of the lands for which patents have been applied is not sufficiently definite to enable them to be issued. It is, to say the least, strange that if the description given was found to be defective, this department was not notified of the fact, and asked to supply the additional data claimed to be necessary, which it could easily have done. The description of the plats given has been such as has been sufficient upon which to enable patents for Provincial Crown Lands to be issued by this department ever since it was first established, and with all due deference I would call the Minister's attention to the survey laws of the Province under which these surveys have been made, a perusal of which, I think, will clearly show him that the eastern or western sixty acres of a 100-acre section, measuring 50 chains east and west by 20 chains north and south, could only be one thing, a block on the eastern or western end, as the case might be, measuring 30 chains due east and west by 20 chains due north and south. I have no objection, of course, to the Minister of the Interior having surveys made, at the expense of the Dominion Government, of Island Railway lands, provided he does not interfere and conflict with the administration of these lands by the Provincial Government during railway construction, as is required by the Settlement Act. I would, however, call attention to the fact that the surveys of these lands have all hitherto been made under the authority of this department; that some of them were made during the first years of the colony's history, and although they have always been recognized as official surveys, the lines have been proved in some instances to be somewhat out in their bearing. These surveyed districts have been more or less settled over twenty years, and each settler has got his patent, based on the survey as it actually exists on the ground. The applications for patents which have been sent to the Department of the Interior are for lands in most cases in the heart of old settlements, contiguous to and surrounded by old settlers' claims, the fee of which has in each case been granted by the Crown, and has passed in some instances to third parties, and been registered in the Provincial Land Registry Office. It will be readily seen that a surveyor in no way connected with, or responsible to, this department, who might be sent at the instance of the Minister of the Interior to survey the fractions of sections referred to, might run arbitrary lines not conforming to the Provincial official survey, and upon his survey patents might issue from the Dominion Government which would conflict with patents heretofore issued by the Provincial Government for contiguous land, or rather for land which should be contiguous, but which would be over-lapped by the survey made by the Dominion Government surveyor.

In such cases confusion and disputes between neighbours, and litigation, would ensue, and all because the Dominion Minister, under a misapprehension, I presume, proceeds without any authority whatever to take into his hands the administration of lands to which the Settlement Act says shall, until the completion of the railway, be left in the hands of the Provincial

Government, who are familiar with all the circumstances bearing upon the situation, and therefore in a position to smooth out difficulties and facilitate settlement, which is certainly better than to create difficulties and complications such as are likely to ensue upon the course proposed by the Minister.

With reference to the Honourable the Minister's request to be permitted to have copies made by draughtsmen in the employ of the Dominion Government of the official plans and field notes of the survey of lands embraced within the Island Railway Grant, I shall be willing at any time to allow copies to be so made, as the Minister desires it, and I shall be glad to authorize the Surveyor-General to verify and certify such copies when made. I would remark, however, that if certified copies of plans and field notes, which are important data, are sufficient for the requirements of the Minister's Department, surely certified copies of applications for patents might be considered sufficient also, particularly as these papers are now part of the records of this office, duly registered and placed on file. If the Dominion Government had intimated at the outset that the originals of these papers would be required to be sent to Ottawa, we might have done so, and had certified copies registered and filed away in this office. It is obvious, however, that to withdraw original papers now which have been registered as originals, and to substitute copies therefor would be to falsify the record, and the Honourable the Minister will at once recognize that it is of the most vital importance in an office like this that the records should be kept inviolate.

I shall be glad to let any one sent by you from your office make copies of any maps, plans, field notes, papers or entries on the official records connected with the Island Railway lands; and it occurs to me that if my certificate as Chief Commissioner of the correctness of an applicant's claims for patent be not sufficient, that you may obtain for the Minister any further evidence necessary in this way without incurring the unnecessary expense of sending a surveyor to re-survey fractional parts of sections for which patents have been applied for in various districts within the Island Railway Belt.

I submit that the parties operating in the same field, at the same time, independently of each other, without the least concerted action, and both claiming to act with authority, are bound to come into collision.

The Minister of the Interior would appear to think that as principals in the matter, the Dominion Government are at liberty to dispense with the service of their agents, and assume direct and sole control and management of the Island Railway and Island Railway lands. It will be well, however, possibly to remember that the Provincial Government are not agents in the ordinary sense. They are acting as such in pursuance of an agreement negotiated and entered into after the most careful and serious consideration, on a basis calculated to bring about an extensive settlement of Island Railway lands. That agreement was ratified by concurrent Acts of Parliament of Canada, and of the Legislature of this Province, and cannot be lightly set aside, evaded or over-ridden.

There is another view also in which it might be well for the Minister to look at this question. The Provincial Government are the real principals in the matter of this railway and these lands. The lands are Provincial lands placed in the hands of the Dominion Government in trust to be applied to one purpose only, which is to secure for the Province the construction of the Island Railway. Even the money subsidy to be paid by the Dominion to the railway contractors was a debt due by the Dominion to the Province; so that in every way the Provincial Government are the real principals in this case, and are entitled upon the equities of the matter to be consulted and considered. If, however, the equitable view be not sufficient for the Honourable the Minister, then the legal statutory provision embodied in clause *f* of the settlement agreement, which confers upon the Provincial Government authority to administer Island Railway lands, surely will be; particularly when it is remembered that that arrangement was made at the time because it was admittedly in the interest of the settlement of these lands that it should be. The Provincial Government feel that they are not in a position to abandon the trust which has been placed in their hands. They cannot give up the administration of these lands, and they hope that the Dominion Government will not thwart their efforts to carry out the spirit of that portion of the Settlement Act which provides for the colonization of the agricultural lands within the Island Railway Belt during Railway construction.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) WM. SMITHE,
Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works.

The Minister of the Interior to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works.

OTTAWA, December 12th, 1885.

DEAR SIR,—I wrote you a private note from Montreal the other day in reference to land matters upon the Island and in answer to yours of the 24th November.

The practical difficulty which has arisen in the issue of patents to pre-emptors upon the Railway lands has been due, as appears in the papers, to two causes: First, to the contention by this Department that the originals of the applications and plans of surveys should be furnished to us before the patents issue; and next, to the fact that the descriptions given in your several lists sent here have hardly been sufficient for a Crown patent.

In relation to both these points I may say that I am most anxious to have an early *settlement* of all these matters with a view to patents issuing to pre-emptors upon these lands, and that I am not at all disposed to insist upon any proceeding which could, even remotely, retard that settlement.

I quite recognize that the Dominion Government have no interest in these lands except in so far as they form a part of the consideration for the construction of the Island Railway, and I am quite prepared to admit the principle which you lay down as having been agreed upon, that the Provincial Government should administer the lands for the purpose of settlement, and make pre-emption records to actual settlers, and that this provision connects the land law of the Province directly with the administration of these Railway lands; and I notice what you say: that as a matter of fact you have been administering them exactly in accordance with the requirements of the Provincial Land Act.

My chief difficulty is as to the descriptions which you furnish. If, however, the Government of British Columbia is prepared to take the full responsibility of the issue of the patents with such description as you have given, and will assume that responsibility by formal Order in Council communicated to us, I will order the patents to be issued at once.

In sending the Order in Council, it would be well to attach to it a list of the persons to whom you desire to have patents issued, and in each case the occupation and the residence of the person should be sufficiently described to enable him to be identified. Of course you will understand that we are most anxious to have the fullest possible description of the land to be patented, so that there may be no difficulty in the future in identifying the precise parcel granted.

Trusting that this arrangement may be satisfactory to you,

I am, etc.,

(Signed) THOS. WHITE,
Minister of the Interior.

The Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works to the Minister of the Interior.

VICTORIA, B. C., January 15th, 1886.

DEAR SIR,—Referring to your letter of the 12th ultimo, I beg to say that a formal Order in Council has been passed by the Provincial Government, assuming full responsibility for the issue of patents for Island Railway lands to applicants whose applications have been certified by, and forwarded from, this department. Agreeably to your request, I have had all applications re-checked, and more minute descriptions of the several parcels of land applied for made out; and for your better guidance I have caused sketches to be prepared and forwarded to you in the usual way, through the office of the Dominion Government Agent here, such as we attach to all Crown grants issued from this department, shewing clearly what is conveyed to each patentee.

I am glad that you have so promptly arranged this matter, which was threatening to cause very grave complications in the settlements included within the Island Railway belt.

Yours truly,

(Signed) WM. SMITHE,
Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works.

The Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works to the Honourable Mr. Trutch.

VICTORIA, B. C., January 18th, 1886.

SIR,—I beg to hand you herewith a copy of a Report of a Committee of the Honourable Executive Council, approved by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor on the 30th December, 1885, and to enclose a schedule giving the names of those settlers upon lands within the railway belt on Vancouver Island in whose favour patents have been applied for, and the official description of their respective claims, accompanied by tracings of the plans of the surveys of the same.

I have the honour to request that you will kindly forward these documents to the Honourable Minister of the Interior, with a view to the speedy issue of patents to the persons named.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) WM. SMITHE,
Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works.

[ENCLOSURES.]

Copy of a Report of a Committee of the Honourable the Executive Council, approved by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor the 30th December, 1885.

On a Memorandum from the Honourable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, dated 28th day of December, 1885, reporting:—

That from time to time since the month of November, 1884, applications have been made by him to the Agent of the Dominion Government in British Columbia for the issue of patents in favour of settlers upon lands within the railway belt upon Vancouver Island. That each application was accompanied by a schedule setting forth the name of the pre-emptor and the official description of the land for which a patent was desired.

That as yet the Dominion Government have not issued any patents for these lands, the reason assigned for not doing so, being that the description of the different plots was not sufficiently explicit. The Honourable Minister of the Interior however, states, in a communication upon the subject dated 12th December, 1885, that, if the Government of British Columbia will by formal Order in Council assume the full responsibility of the issue of the patents with such descriptions as are given, that he will order the patents to be issued at once.

That the descriptions of the lands referred to are such as have always been found sufficient for issuing Crown grants heretofore in this Province.

And recommending that in order to supplement the descriptions and to more particularly identify the various claims for which patents are desired, tracings of the maps or plans of the surveys of the respective pre-emptions be forwarded to the Dominion Government to be annexed to the patents, and further recommending that this Government agree to assume all responsibility for the accuracy of the description in patents so issued.

The Committee advise the approval of the recommendations.

Certified,

(Signed) JNO. ROBSON,
Clerk Executive Council.

Schedule.

Name.	Description.	Acreage.	Total.
	QUAMICHAN DISTRICT.		
David Holmes.....	Section 19, range 5	100	
	West half of section 20, range 5.....	50	
	West 5 chains of section 19, range 6.....	10	
			160
Geo. Battey.....	Section 1, range 7	100	
	East 30 chains of section 2, range 7.....	60	
			160

Name.	Description.	Acreage.	Total.
	COWICHAN DISTRICT.		
Geo. Bartlett	Section 4, range 3	100	
	South 12 chains of section 5, range 3	60	
			160
Edward Comar	North half of section 17, range 3		50
John Nelson	Section 1, range 5	100	
	East half of section 2, range 5	50	
			150
John Mahony	West half of section 14, range 6	50	
	West half of section 15, range 6	50	
			100
Geo. Bartlett	Section 5, range 4		100
	COMIAKEN DISTRICT.		
H. O. Wellburn	East portion of fractional part of section 4, range 1		19
	SHAWNIGAN DISTRICT.		
J. W. Graff	East 12½ chains of Section 11, range 5	25	
	East 12½ ,, ,, 12, ,, 5	25	
	North 8 ,, ,, 11, ,, 6	40	
	West 30 ,, ,, 12, ,, 6	60	
			150
Peter McLennan	West 40 chains of section 14, range 5	80	
	,, 40 ,, ,, 15, ,, 5	80	
			160
James Dougan	Section 18, range 5	100	
	East half of section 17, range 5	50	
			150
	CHEMAINUS DISTRICT.		
C. H. Valpey	Section 11, range 6	100	
	East 30 chains of section 11, range 5	60	
			160
Hy. Severne	Section 19, range 4	100	
	Fractional part of section 19, range 5	43	
	,, ,, 20, ,, 5	6.30	
			149.3
	ALBERNI DISTRICT.		
John Mollet, Jr.	Section 7	176	
J. C. Mollet	Section 8	160	
			336
J. J. Jonckau	Section 9		158
	NEWCASTLE DISTRICT.		
S. B. Hamilton	Section 4		160
A. Hamilton	Section 3		160
	NELSON DISTRICT.		
A. Garvin	Section 6		160
	CRANBERRY DISTRICT		
John Ead	Section 11, range 8	100	
	East 30 chains of section 10, range 8	60	
			160
Thos. Cassidy	Section 2, range 8	100	
	East 30 chains of section 3, range 8	60	
			160
James Beck	Section 10, range 6	100	
	Portion of west half of section 9, range 6	27	
	West half of section 11, range 6	50	
			177

Name.	Description.	Acreage.	Total.
	CRANBERRY DISTRICT.		
John Grandam	Section 14, range 6	100	
	,, 15, ,, 6	34	
	East 37 chains of section 15, range 5	26	
			160
Charles Stewart	East 30 chains of section 4, range 8		60
	CEDAR DISTRICT.		
Charles Stewart	Section 4, range 1		100
Samuel Jones	Section 3, range 1	100	
	West 30 chains of section 3, range 2	60	
			160
Albert Fuller	Fractional part of section 12, range 3	83	
	West portion of section 13, range 3	37	
	East 20 chains of section 13, range 2	40	
			160
	COMOX DISTRICT.		
G. G. McDonald	Section 70		160
Hy. Guillod	Section 69		55

The Honourable Mr. Trutch to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works.

VICTORIA, B. C., 22nd January, 1886.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt, yesterday, of your letter of 18th instant, covering a copy of a report of a Committee of the Executive Council, approved by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor on the 30th ult., with accompanying schedule of names of settlers upon lands within the Railway Belt on Vancouver Island, in whose favour patents have been applied for and the official description of their respective claims, accompanied by tracings of the plans of the surveys of the same, all of which documents you request me to transmit to the Honourable the Minister of the Interior.

I beg to state that your request will be complied with forthwith.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) JOSEPH W. TRUTCH,
Dominion Agent in British Columbia.

The Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works to the Honourable Mr. Trutch.

LANDS AND WORKS DEPARTMENT,
VICTORIA, B. C., Jan. 22nd, 1886.

SIR,—I have the honour to request that the Dominion Government will issue and forward to me for transmission, Crown grants, or patents, in favour of those pre-emptors of lands situated within the railway belt on Vancouver Island whose claims are described in the schedule enclosed herewith.

Each of these persons has deposited in this office his original Pre-emption Record, Certificate of Improvement, and Certificate of Purchase Receipt in full payment for the land, the right to which was acquired under the provisions of "An Act relating to the Island Railway, the Graving Dock, and Railway Lands of the Province."

I have, &c.,

(Signed) WM. SMITHE,
Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works.

SCHEDULE WITHIN REFERRED TO.

J. W. Graff—Shawnigan District—
East 12½ chains of section 11, range 5, 25 acres;
East 12½ " " 12, " 5, 25 "
North 8 " " 11, " 6, 40 "
West 30 " " 12, " 6, 60 " —150 acres.

George Bartlett—Cowichan District—
Section 4, range 3, 100 acres,
South 12 chains, section 5, range 3, 60 acres—160 acres.

George Battey—Quamichan District—
Section 1, range 7, 100 acres;
East 30 chains, section 2, range 7, 60 acres—160 acres.

[Receipt of the above was acknowledged by the Hon. Mr. Trutch on the 26th Jannary, 1886.]