

PAPERS

Respecting the number of Chinese and Japanese landed in the Province from foreign ports during the years 1897 and 1898.

By Command.

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Provincial Secretary.

*Provincial Secretary's Office,
7th April, 1899.*

Extract from a Report of the Committee of the Honourable the Privy Council, approved by His Excellency on the 27th March, 1899.

The Committee of the Privy Council have had under consideration a despatch, hereto attached, from His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia, dated 24th January, 1899, transmitting a copy of a Minute of Council embodying a Resolution of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia, requesting that the Dominion Government be moved to furnish the said Assembly with certain returns in respect of the number of Chinese and Japanese landed in that Province from foreign ports during the years 1897 and 1898.

The Minister of Trade and Commerce, to whom the said despatch was referred, submits the following:—

Chinese landed during the calendar year ended the 31st December, 1897, at

Victoria.

Immigrants exempt	17
" paying Poll Tax	1,017
Total immigrants	1,034
Returning within six months	190
Total number landed	1,224
Capitation tax collected	\$50,850

Vancouver.

Immigrants exempt	1
" paying Poll Tax	960
Total immigrants	961
Returning within six months	191
In transit through Canada	3,596
Total number landed	47,48
Capitation tax collected	\$48,000

New Westminster.

Immigrants paying Poll Tax	1
Total immigrants	1
Total number landed during the year	1
Capitation tax collected	\$50

Chinese landed during the calendar year ended the 31st December, 1898, at

Victoria.

Immigrants exempt	11
" paying Poll Tax	1,566
Total immigrants	1,577
Returning within six months	210
Total number landed	1,787
Capitation tax collected	\$78,300

Vancouver.

Immigrants paying Poll Tax	1,284
Returning within six months	313
In transit through Canada	1,937
Total landed	3,534
Capitation tax collected	\$64,200

Nanaimo.

Immigrants paying Poll Tax	1
Total number landed	1
Capitation tax collected	\$50

New Westminster.

Immigrants paying Poll Tax	1
Total number landed	1
Capitation tax collected	\$50

Nelson.

Total number landed	1
Capitation tax collected	\$50

Japanese landed during the calendar year ended the 31st December, 1897, at

Victoria—Total number landed	727
Vancouver—Total number landed	7

Japanese landed during the calendar year ended 31st December, 1898, at

Victoria—Total number landed	1,878
Vancouver—Total number landed	671

So far as figures are procurable, it would appear that there were landed at Quarantine during the two years—

Chinese	8,345
Japanese	3,473

As the Japanese do not come under the "Chinese Immigration Act," no special record has been kept showing the destination of the Japanese, whether intending to remain in Canada or in transit through the country; but the Customs officers at Vancouver state that the larger portion of them were in transit, but few remaining in the Province; and also that, as regards Chinese immigrants landed at Vancouver, large numbers of them were ticketed to Eastern Canadian points, and were sent forward immediately after registration.

The Committee advise that a certified copy of this Minute, if approved, be forwarded to the Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia for the information of the Legislative Assembly of that Province.

JOHN J. MCGEE,
Clerk of the Privy Council.

His Honour
The Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia.