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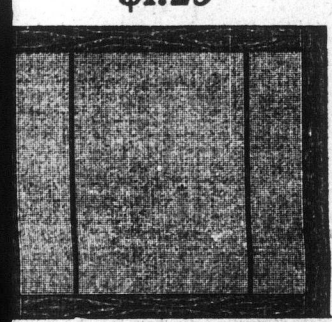
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Letter of Sir James Douglas Deals With Songhees Indian Reserve Lands

MATTER EASY OF SETTLEMENT

Reserve Is Vested in Crown and Indians Have No Exclusive Rights in It

The Songhees Indian Reserve lands are not the Indians' by treaty as has been frequently stated as a reason for the failure of the Dominion government to settle the vexed question.

According to a letter of Sir James Douglas, now unearthed, the lands were crown lands, reserved, it is true, for the benefit of the Indians, but in which the governor retained the power to exercise full control in the name of the crown.

According to the letter the lands were available for lease, the proceeds to be devoted to the interests of the Indians.

In another letter to the then Secretary of State for the Colonies, Sir James Douglas deals with the Indian question generally and states that it was the intention that each family or Indians should have a certain tract of land devoted to their uses which should remain vested in the crown, and which they could not sell, but could only be alienated by permission of the crown.

The letter of Sir James Douglas to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated Feb. 9th, 1859, shows that the city of Victoria was in a better position at that date than it is today. The letter follows:

Victoria, Vancouver's Island, 9th Feb. 1859.

Sir, I have the honor of transmitting herewith for your information, my correspondence with the House of Assembly of Vancouver's Island on the public business of this colony.

2. The subjects referred to in that correspondence are not of an important nature with the exception of that marked letter, dated 5th February, 1858, which touches on the subject of land reserved near the town of Victoria for the benefit of the native Indian population.

3. Attempts having been made by persons residing at this place to secure those lands for their own use, and by direct purchase from the Indians, and it being desirable and necessary to put a stop to such proceedings, I instructed the Crown Solicitor to insert a public notice in the Victoria Gazette to the effect that the lands in question were the property of the Crown, and for that reason the Indians themselves were incapable of conveying a legal title to the same, and that any person holding such land would be summarily ejected.

4. In my communication before referred to, you will perceive that I have informed the House of Assembly of the course I propose to adopt with respect to the disposal and management of the Indian Reserve at Victoria; that I would lease the land and to apply all the proceeds arising therefrom for the exclusive benefit of the Indians.

5. I have but little doubt that the proposed measure will be in accordance with the views of Her Majesty's government, and I trust it may meet with their approval, as it will confer a great benefit on the Indian population, will protect them from being despoiled of their property, and will render them self-supporting, instead of being thrown as outcasts and beggars upon the Colony. I have, etc.

(Signed) JAMES DOUGLAS.

The letter with regard to Sir James Douglas's policy in the treatment of the Indians follows:

Victoria, Vancouver's Island, March 14, 1859.

Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 62, of the 30th December last, containing many valuable observations on the subject of the treatment of the Indian tribes of British Columbia, and moreover your instructions directing me to inform you that it would be feasible to settle those tribes permanently in villages, suggesting in reference to that measure, that such settlement civilization would at once begin; that law and religion would become naturally established among them, and contribute to their security against the aggressions of immigrants; that the direct taxation, on the additional articles they would purchase, they would contribute to the Colonial Revenue, and with their own consent, some simple form of taxation might be imposed, the proceeds of which would be expended strictly and solely on their own wants and improvements.

2. I have much pleasure in adding, with unhesitating confidence, that I conceive the proposed plan to be at once feasible; and also the only plan which promises to result in the moral elevation of the native Indian races, in rescuing them from degradation, and protecting them from oppression and rapid decay.

3. As friends and allies the native races are capable of rendering the most valuable assistance to the Colony, while their enmity would entail on the settlers a greater amount of wretchedness and physical suffering, and more seriously retard the growth and material development of the Colony, than any other calamity to which, in the ordinary course of events, it would be exposed.

4. In my Despatch No. 4, of the 9th of February last, on the affairs of Vancouver's Island, transmitting my correspondence with the House of Assembly up to that date, there is a message made to the House on the 5th February, 1859, respecting the course I propose to adopt in the disposal and management of the land reserved for the benefit of the Indian population in this place, the plan proposed being briefly this:—that the Indians should be established on that reserve, and the remaining uncultivated land should be let out on leases at an annual rent to

the highest bidder, and that the whole proceeds arising from such leases should be applied to the exclusive benefit of the Indians.

5. The advantages of that arrangement are obvious. An amount of capital would thereby be created, equal perhaps to the sum required for effecting the settlement of the Indians; and any surplus funds remaining over that outlay, it is proposed to devote to the formation and support of schools, and of a clergyman to superintend their moral and religious training.

6. I feel much confidence in the operation of this simple and practical scheme, and provided we succeed in devising means of rendering the Indian as comfortable and independent in regard to physical wants in his improved condition, as he was when a wandering denizen of the forest, there can be little doubt of the ultimate success of the experiment.

7. The support of the Indians will thus, wherever land is valuable, be a matter of easy accomplishment, and in districts where the white population is small, and the land unproductive, the Indians may be left almost wholly to their own resources, and, as a joint means of earning their livelihood, to pursue unmolested their favorite calling of fishermen and hunters.

8. Anticipatory reserves of land for the benefit and support of the Indian races will be made for that purpose in all the districts of British Columbia inhabited by native tribes. These reserves should in all cases include their cultivated fields and village sites, for which from habit and association they invariably conceive a strong attachment, and prize more, for that reason, than for the extent or value of the land.

9. In forming settlements of natives, I should propose, both from a principle of justice to the state and out of regard to the well-being of the Indians themselves, to make such settlements entirely self-supporting, trusting for the means of doing so, to the voluntary contributions in labor or money of the natives themselves; and secondly, to the proceeds of the sale or lease of a part of the land reserved, which might be so disposed of, and applied towards the liquidation of the preliminary expense of the settlement.

10. The plan followed by the government of the United States, in making Indian settlements, appears in many respects objectionable; they are supported at an enormous expense by congress, which for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1858, granted the sum of \$58,000 dollars for the support and maintenance of the Indians of California alone, and for the four years ending with the 30th June, 1858, the total expenditure for that object came to the large sum of \$1,040,000 dollars, and notwithstanding the heavy outlay, the Indians in those settlements are rapidly degenerating; neither would I recommend the system pursued by the founders of the Spanish missions in California.

Their objects, though to a certain extent necessary, were mainly of a benevolent kind; the Indians were educated and trained in the Roman Catholic faith; they were well clothed, and they were taught to labor; but being kept in a state of pupillage, and not allowed to acquire property of their own, nor taught to think and act for themselves, the feeling and

pride of independence were effectually destroyed; and not having been trained to habits of self-government and self-reliance, they were found, when freed from control, altogether incapable of contributing to their own support, and really were more helpless and degraded than the untutored savages.

11. With such beacons to guide our steps, and profiting by the lessons of experience so acquired, we may perhaps succeed in escaping the manifold evils of both systems; the great expense and the debasing influences of the American system, by making the Indians independent and the settlements self-supporting; and to avoid the rock on which were wrecked the hopes of the Spanish missions, I think it would be advisable audaciously to cultivate the pride of independence, so ennobling in its effects, and which the savage largely possesses from nature and early training.

12. I would, for example, propose that every family should have a distinct portion of the reserved land assigned for their use, and to be cultivated by their own labor, giving them, however, for the present, no power to sell or otherwise alienate the land; that they should be taught to regard that land as their inheritance; that the desire should be encouraged and fostered in their minds of adding to their possessions, and devoting their earnings to the purchase of property apart from the reserve, which would be left entirely at their own disposal and control; that they should in all respects be treated as rational beings, capable of acting and thinking for themselves; and lastly, that they should be placed under proper moral and religious training, and left, under the protection of the laws, to provide for their own maintenance and support.

13. Having touched thus briefly on the prominent features of the system, respecting which you have asked my opinion, and trusting that my remarks may convey to you the information you desired, and may not be deemed irrelevant, I have, etc.

(Signed) JAMES DOUGLAS, Governor.

Gypsy's Warning

Belleville, Ont., June 16.—A young girl in a gypsy camp near here has been secured with \$500 of her parents' money. The tribe reported the matter to the police.

Good Place for Editors.

Brantford, Ont., June 16.—G. Douglas Reville, editor of the Expositor, will be appointed sheriff of Brant county in succession to the Sheriff Watt, who was also at the time the editor of the Expositor.

PLUNGES 1,000 FEET OVER PRECIPICE

Juneau, Alaska, June 16.—Noel Ogilvie, head of the Canadian survey party, arrived here yesterday and brought news of the tragic death of James York, one of the members of the survey party, at Summit. York was on his way to the summit of a mountain when he lost his footing and plunged 1,000 feet.

Up that Ogilvie left Summit the body of York had not been recovered.

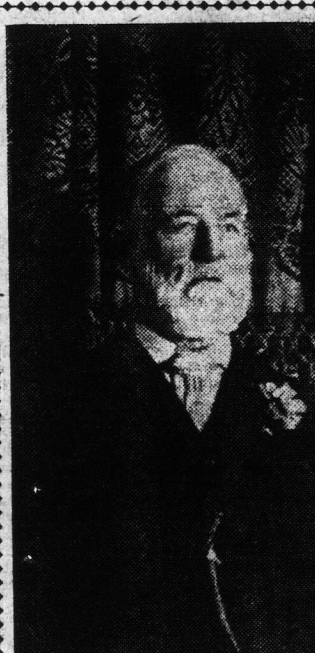
Pioneers of Victoria

ROBERT FISH

The subject of the accompanying sketch, Mr. Robert Fish, may well be ranked amongst Victoria's first pioneers, as he came to this country in the early part of the Hudson's Bay Company's regime. He is a son of Mr. Wm. Fish, of Sturminster Newton, Dorsetshire, England, his mother being Miss Charlotte Spencer, also of Sturminster. Mr. Fish made the passage out to this country on board the bark Lory which was just six months and fourteen days on the voyage, and was beating around the immediate vicinity of Cape Horn. The weather throughout the greater part of the passage was tempestuous in the extreme, especially at the Cape, but the Lory was staunch and sound so much so that on this trip water had to be poured down the wells in order to keep the ship from being swamped.

Yet the passage was not without its pleasures, as numerous games, music and dancing were always forthcoming whenever weather permitted. Mr. Fish who was then a hearty jovial lad this was most entertaining, besides he was a very good sailor. (Perhaps the Lory carried three hundred passengers on this, her only voyage to this country.) Quite enough to make the trip interesting.

On arrival here Mr. Fish with his brother and Mr. Charles Williams, after reporting at Fort Victoria, which was then the only port owned by the company, went to Colwood or Langford Plains. The latter called so after a time, as Factor Langford. Here they were employed by the company and in charge of clearing land at what was afterwards known as Colwood farm. They took contracts for this at so much per acre and engaged help as they required it. Much of this was Slawish labor and few knew the peculiarities of the redskin better than Mr. Fish. The land here was very fertile and very soon the crops of different varieties were flourishing for the company. Mr. Fish and his companions remained at Colwood during the five years in which they were employed by the company and as well as clearing the land they erected fourteen miles of fencing, some of which was on what is now the Hatley Park estate. This period was spent very healthily and happily by them. They hunted deer, grouse and other game all over the country side and were so successful that they needed little else of a fleshy nature for their larger while residing there. Fish, too, of a sunny nature came plentifully to their hook. About this time some of the Indians about the coast were very savage and created much disturbance so much so that the British man-of-war Thetis was compelled to bear down on their ranches and burn and destroy everything in sight in order to scare them into submission, and this usually had the desired effect. A fort was also about this time established at Craigflower, so named after Mr. Fish, in honor of his home in the old country. When his five years service to the company had expired, Mr. Fish, in company with his brother, decided to secure landed property and after looking about for a time, purchased one hundred and fifty acres from the company at the price of £21 per acre. They were both in the Colquitz valley near Swan Lake and there they resided for fifteen years, during which time they brought up a family of five children, like the rose, and when they sold it to Mr. Griffiths who was wharfinger for the company they returned to the country in return. The Fish brothers were practically the first settlers in the Colquitz valley. Mr. Peacock of Colquitz proper coming soon after. In 1863 Mr. Fish married Miss Ellen Griffiths, daughter of Mr. Peacock. Miss Morris came to this country in that year, a passenger on board the sailing ship Robert Lowe. She was but three weeks in Victoria when Mr. Fish met her. Their liking for each other was mutual from their first meeting and no time was lost by them before having their marriage celebrated.



ROBERT FISH

Since leaving Colquitz Mr. and Mrs. Fish have lived constantly in Victoria, where they are the possessors of several pieces of valuable real estate. Their home on Rock Bay avenue is the scene of every comfort and luxury and the casual visitor would not be impressed with the fact that either were aged pioneers so young and happy they appear, but one would be easily led to believe that Mrs. Fish was one of Solomon's prudent women that looketh well to the ways of her household and the heart of whose husband trusteth in her.

Their family consists of three stalwart sons, Messrs. George and William Fish, residing in Victoria, and Mr. Edward Fish in Spokane. They also have five grandchildren. For twenty years Mr. Fish has faithfully filled the office of janitor of the Centennial Methodist church. He is now in his seventy-sixth year, but as he has been mentioned, is still erect, hale and hearty and cheerful to a degree.

Young's Strenuous Price Reductions

Ladies' Summer Underwear

If you desire to economize on Underwear, come here today or tomorrow. A revelation to discriminating women are these bargain-prices placed on high-class Swiss Cotton and Lisle Vests, extremely worthy and dainty garments. Here are some unusually good lines for tomorrow's selling, special values that should interest shrewd buyers for miles around:

Ladies' Swiss Cotton and Lisle Vests—Always hitherto sold at 90c per garment. Today's and Thursday's Price 60c

Ladies' Swiss Cotton Vests—Regular prices for these garments are 40c and 50c each. Today's and Thursday's Price 25c



HENRY YOUNG & CO.

1123 GOVERNMENT STREET

VICTORIA, B.C.

Western Canada Wood Pulp & Paper Co., Ltd.

HEAD OFFICE, 638 VIEW STREET, VICTORIA, B.C.

Plant under course of erection at Quatsino Sound, Vancouver Island.

ASSETS

The company have acquired 55,669 acres of Pulp Land on Quatsino Sound, Vancouver Island.

WATER POWER

In addition to the vast Pulp Limits acquired, the company have also secured a 20,000-inch water record on Marble creek, at Quatsino Sound, capable of developing from 10,000 to 15,000 h. p. This creek derives its source from three lakes, 20 miles in length, and is thus permanent the year round.

CAPACITY OF PLANT

The plant when fully complete will have a capacity of 600 tons of news and wrapping per week, and feel confident that we will have the pulp plant with a weekly capacity of 100 tons in operation by December 1st of this year.

COST OF MANUFACTURE

With our tremendous pulp limits which enable us to secure our pulp wood at a nominal figure and splendid water power, the cost of manufacture of news and wrapping paper should not exceed \$30.00 per ton; at present news is being made at \$35.00 per ton, and wrapping at \$40.00 per ton. The freight rate in carload lots from Ontario and Quebec being \$17.00 per ton.

LOCAL MARKETS

The local market of the company extends east a thousand miles to Moose Jaw and tributary region. Within the above territory the annual consumption of paper is estimated at thousands of tons exclusively that used by printers and newspapers. The five daily papers of Victoria and Vancouver alone consume over 100 carloads of paper per year.

FOREIGN MARKETS

The foreign markets of the company consist of China, Japan, New Zealand, Australia, Hawaii and the Philippines. In 1908 the above countries imported over \$10,000,000 worth of wood pulp and paper, principally from Norway, Sweden, Germany, Eastern United States and Eastern Canada.

FREIGHT RATES TO ORIENT

A freight rate from \$3.00 to \$5.00 per ton can be secured from British Columbia to China, Japan, New Zealand, Australia, on wood pulp and paper, as against a rate of \$7.00 to \$15.00 per ton on the same commodities from Eastern Canada and Europe; being from 3,000 to 5,000 miles nearer the Oriental market than Eastern Canada or European mills, we not only are able to secure a much lower freight rate, but also a lower insurance rate.

NATURAL ADVANTAGES OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

News and wrapping paper are manufactured principally from Spruce, Hemlock, Balsam and Larch wood; one ton of chemical wood pulp requires approximately two cords of four-foot wood. At present Spruce and Hemlock wood is worth from \$5.00 to \$8.00 per cord in Eastern Canada; our facilities enable us to secure it at less than \$3.00 per cord. In 1908 the American mills were obliged to pay from \$3.00 to \$15.00 per cord.

PROGRESS OF WORK

We are proceeding as fast as possible with the work. The erection of the plant has been placed under the exclusive supervision of Mr. Chas. E. Fride, of Appleton, Wis., one of the most distinguished authorities on the erection of pulp and paper mills in the United States, having built more than 50 of the leading mills of the country, and he is confident at being able to have the pulp mill in operation by December 1st of this year.

SALE OF STOCK

In offering the preferred stock of this corporation, we do so with a

We Now Offer for Subscription the Remainder of the First Issue of

300,000 PREFERENCE SHARES

IN BLOCKS OF 100 SHARES AT \$1.00 PER SHARE

PAYMENTS: FIFTEEN PER CENT ON APPLICATION, FIFTEEN PER CENT IN THIRTY DAYS

Balance, 10 per cent, per month until fully paid. The Preferred Stock is entitled to a cumulative dividend of 7 per cent, payable out of the net profits of the Company before any dividend is paid on the Ordinary Stock.

DIRECTORS:

COL. HENRY APPLETON, R.E., retired, Dir. British Canadian Wood & Paper Co. Ltd.
CHARLES W. SPRATT, President Victoria Machinery Depot, Victoria.
DR. LEWIS HALL, Mayor of Victoria, B.C.
CHARLES LUGRIN, Editor Colonist, Victoria, B.C.
W. K. HOUSTON, Member of W. K. Houston & Co.

after a like amount has been paid on the Ordinary Stock, both Stocks thereafter participate equally.

JOSEPH MCPHEE, General Merchant, Cumberland and Courtenay.

F. J. MARSHALL, formerly with National Bank of India.

FREDERICK APPLETON, Director M. R. Smith & Co. Ltd., Victoria.

GREVILLE KOLTA, Director and Fiscal Agent British Canadian Wood Pulp & Paper Co. Ltd.