

power to recover, release, or enforce any claim upon such terms as the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may see fit.

Under the R. S. B. C. it will be seen that the husband of an intestate, if there be no other heirs, receives half his wife's estate as heir and the remainder as administrator, and no one but heirs or creditors may ask for an accounting. English law supports this disposition, also the title of the Crown to the other portion of the intestate husband's estate when there is a widow and no other heirs. Whenever our statutes are silent it will be remembered reference is taken to English law, as it was prior to November, 1858. (See "How British Columbia Gets Her Laws.")

The state of the law giving the Crown right to a moiety of the estate of an intestate leaving a widow and no other heirs cannot be defended on the presumption that no such cases arise.

The case of the widow in the Hamilton estate is a fairly recent one in point. R. B. Hamilton, a civic water-works employee, drowned in the Capilano in 1910, died intestate, leaving a widow. Though no other heirs could be found, their little home did not therefore