

Downing Street, May 31, 1862.

SIR,

I am directed by the Duke of Newcastle to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 18th of June, 1861, and the 21st of May, 1862, containing complaints against certain Government Officers in Vancouver Island.

I am to state to you in reply, that any charges which you had to prefer against the administration of justice in Vancouver Island ought either to have been brought forward in the Colonial Legislature, where their justice would have been tested by public discussion, or transmitted through the Governor, in which case he would have taken steps, before referring the charges to the Secretary of State, to give the parties inculpated the opportunity of explanation.

I am to add that it is wholly impossible for the Duke of Newcastle to take any other steps on such ex parte and imperfect statements as have now been submitted to him than that of sending your letters to the Governor with instructions to submit them to Mr. Cameron, Mr. Begbie, and Mr. Good, and to forward to his Grace, with his own observations, whatever statements any of those gentlemen may think it necessary to make on the subject.

I am, sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed)

C. FORTESCUE.

Edward E. Langford, Esq,

June 6, 1862.

MY LORD DUKE,

Sir, I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a letter from Mr. C. Fortescue of the 31st ult., in which he states that any charges that I had to prefer against the administration of justice in Vancouver Island ought to have