

(Telegram.)

OTTAWA, 20th April, 1886.

J. W. TRUTCH,
Victoria, British Columbia.

I am informed that a sale of lots on the military reserves in British Columbia is proposed to be held in two weeks. You must take measures to stop sale of any property belonging to the reserves which belong to and are under the control of the Federal government.

ADOLPHE P. CARON.

VICTORIA, B.C., 6th May, 1886.

The Hon. Sir ADOLPHE P. CARON, K.C.M.G.,
Minister of Militia,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I duly received your two telegrams of the 20th and 21st ultimo, respectively, directing me to stop sale of any portion of any reserved land in this province under the control of the Federal government, and particularly of an island in Coal Harbour, Burrard Inlet, forming part of the reserve for military purposes on the south shore of the First or Outer Narrows of Burrard Inlet.

These telegrams I acknowledged on the 24th ultimo and subsequently, at the first opportunity, I had an interview with the Hon. Mr. Smithe, Premier and Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works of British Columbia, when I protested as directed by you, against the alienation from the Crown of any portion of these reserves.

Mr. Smithe thereupon assured me that although an application had been made to him for permission to purchase the island in question, the government had not entertained it, and that they had no intention at present of disposing of any of the lands in this province which have been reserved for military purposes.

At that interview I discussed very fully with Mr. Smithe, as I already had frequently done on previous occasions, the various questions connected with the original establishment and present position of government land reserves in British Columbia.

RECE The results of these interviews, as far as the expression of the views on this subject of the government of British Columbia as represented by Mr. Smithe, I have embodied in a memorandum prepared in pursuance of instructions to me from the Honourable the Minister of Public Works to report upon certain points in a letter on this subject to the Department of Public Works from the deputy minister of justice, a copy of which was forwarded to me.

I think it very desirable that the views of the provincial government so expressed, especially as far as they relate to lands in British Columbia reserved for military purposes, should be at once brought to your notice.

I therefore inclose a copy of that part of my memorandum, already forwarded to the Department of Public Works, which relates to this portion of the subject of lands in British Columbia reserved for public purposes.

I have the honour to be, sir,
Your obedient servant,

JOSEPH W. TRUTCH,
Dominion Govt. Agent in British Columbia.