

occupied by these pre-emptors to be surveyed, and pay for the survey out of the moneys deposited to the credit of the Receiver-General on account of the pre-emptions.

I have, &c.

A. M. BURGESS, *Deputy Minister of the Interior.*

G. W. BURBIDGE, Esq., *Deputy Minister of Justice.*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, OTTAWA, 30th March, 1885.

SIR,—I have the honor to enclose herewith copy of letter, dated 8th January, 1885, from the Hon. J. W. Trutch, agent of the Dominion Government at Victoria, B.C., addressed to the Minister of Railways and Canals, and of a letter dated 7th January, 1885, from the Hon. William Smith, Chief Commissioner of lands and works of that Province, asking that Crown grants or patents may be issued in favor of pre-emptors of certain lands within the railway belt on Vancouver Island, described in the schedule to Mr. Trutch's letter of 8th January. Be good enough to advise me whether, under the Settlement Act of 1884, there is any legal objection to complying with the request.

I have, &c.,

A. M. BURGESS, *Deputy Minister of the Interior.*

G. W. BURBIDGE, Esq., *Deputy Minister of Justice.*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, OTTAWA, 30th March, 1885.

SIR,—I have the honor to inform you that your letter of the 29th December last, addressed to the Hon. the Minister of Railways and Canals, enclosing copy of a letter received by you from the Hon. Mr. Smith, respecting certain lands on Vancouver Island situated within the railway belt, has been transferred to this Department. The subject of your communication has received the consideration of the Minister of the Interior, and the opinion of the Minister of Justice has also been obtained, a copy of which I have the honor herewith to enclose, and I am to request that you will communicate with the provincial authorities, informing them that there appears to be no reason why their desire to have made available for lumbering, pastoral and other purposes, the land within the railway belt and Vancouver Island, in the manner proposed by the Hon. Mr. Smith, should not be complied with. I am therefore to request that you will be good enough to place yourself immediately in communication with the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company, and report, for the information of the Minister, the conditions upon which you think it would be in the public interest the lands in question should be dealt with by them.

I have, &c.,

A. M. BURGESS, *Deputy Minister of the Interior.*

Hon. J. W. TRUTCH, C.M.G., *Agent Government of Canada,*  
Victoria, B.C.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

*From Department of Railways and Canals.*

Address: Ottawa.

Date: 19th March, 1885.

SUBJECT:

Transmits files of Department *re* application of Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway for permission to reserve certain lands for town sites along the line of the proposed railway.

ACTION:

March 21st.—Transferred to Department of the Interior, having been entered in Department of Justice by mistake.

GEO. W. BURBIDGE, *Deputy Minister of Justice.*