

The Weekly British Colonist AND CHRONICLE.

Tuesday, November 19 1867.

THE CAPITAL MEMORIAL.

THE MEMORIAL of British Columbia Bondholders, and Representatives of Commercial, Banking, Landed, and other Interests in British Columbia, some of whom have resided in the Colony for several years:

The Memorialists beg leave respectfully to refer to the Memorial dated the 20th of April last, which they had the honour of presenting to your Grace on the subject of the Seat of Government; and again to draw your Grace's serious attention to this subject.

I. Petitions were lately presented to the Governor and to the Legislative Council, praying that Victoria be made the Capital and Seat of Government.

1. Copies of these Petitions, as published in the Government Gazette of 24th April, 1867, received since the Memorialists last addressed your Grace, are appended hereto, and marked No. 1.

2. These Petitions, eight in number, express the wishes of Property Owners, Merchants, Traders, Farmers and other Colonists and Residents of Vancouver Island and the Mainland.

3. One of these Petitions from resident, and another from non-resident Property Owners in New Westminster, from which place they ask the Capital to be removed,—both express the wishes of Owners of Property in that place amounting to twenty-five per cent of the assessed value of the whole real property of the town.

4. The Memorialists are informed that if the Petitions from the Interior Districts of the Mainland had not been circulated in the Winter, when the bulk of the Miners, and others subsidiary to the Mining interest were absent on their annual migration from the scenes of their summer and autumn occupations, more persons would have joined in the expression of the same sentiments; and that, for this reason, the signatures are chiefly those of the more constant or settled residents—a fact contained in the Colony as adding weight to these Petitions.

5. The Memorialists, in calling your Grace's attention to the reasons adduced for granting the prayers of these Petitions, would state that the Petitions represent a preponderance of the intelligence and property, and of the commercial and industrial interests of the community of Vancouver Island and the Mainland.

6. The Memorialists have now received Governor Seymour's Message to the Legislative Council—No. II, also appended hereto, and which contains the following observations:

11. The Memorialists have now received Governor Seymour's Message to the Legislative Council—No. II, also appended hereto, and which contains the following observations:

12. The Memorialists have now received Governor Seymour's Message to the Legislative Council—No. II, also appended hereto, and which contains the following observations:

13. The Memorialists have now received Governor Seymour's Message to the Legislative Council—No. II, also appended hereto, and which contains the following observations:

14. The Memorialists have now received Governor Seymour's Message to the Legislative Council—No. II, also appended hereto, and which contains the following observations:

15. The Memorialists have now received Governor Seymour's Message to the Legislative Council—No. II, also appended hereto, and which contains the following observations:

16. The Memorialists have now received Governor Seymour's Message to the Legislative Council—No. II, also appended hereto, and which contains the following observations:

17. The Memorialists have now received Governor Seymour's Message to the Legislative Council—No. II, also appended hereto, and which contains the following observations:

18. The Memorialists have now received Governor Seymour's Message to the Legislative Council—No. II, also appended hereto, and which contains the following observations:

19. The Memorialists have now received Governor Seymour's Message to the Legislative Council—No. II, also appended hereto, and which contains the following observations:

20. The Memorialists have now received Governor Seymour's Message to the Legislative Council—No. II, also appended hereto, and which contains the following observations:

21. The Memorialists have now received Governor Seymour's Message to the Legislative Council—No. II, also appended hereto, and which contains the following observations:

take, which a short delay and the possession of fuller information might have prevented.

10. The measure which created the Mainland into a Colony, was passed with the best intentions, but on insufficient information at home of the true state and condition of the country to guide the Colonial Minister to a right conclusion; and this measure having been premature, unnecessary, and of a character unsuited to the condition of the Mainland at the time; and the wants of the country not having required a measure of this character since, it is not to be wondered at that its results have been unsatisfactory.

11. A short recital of facts will explain and justify these remarks.

12. The Mainland was established into a separate Colony, on the presumption that it contained a large population which would become settled, that is to say, a population which would remain, more or less permanently, to be governed. This presumption was inaccurate.

13. The fact was, that although on the discovery of Gold on Fraser River, a multitude of Miners and others of all Nationalities, but nearly all foreigners, to the number of upwards of thirty thousand persons, rushed suddenly from the neighbouring countries to the British territory (of the Mainland, afterwards named British Columbia) in the summer of 1858; which fact reached the Colonial Office, and no doubt influenced the Minister in his measures, and led him to prepare an Act for the government of a considerable population; yet as winter approached, this multitude left almost as hurriedly as they came.

14. This population, being in excess of the extent of the Gold field discovered, departed as fast as they could find means of transport; and only such as were profitably employed on paying-gold-diggings remained,—a residue amounting to but a tithe of the original number.

15. The exodus had begun, in fact, while the Act of Parliament establishing the Colony was on its way from England. The Miners were on the wing when the Act arrived; and, at the time of its proclamation, the bulk of the population had fled; and, in fact, never returned.

16. It is true that next season brought back a certain number of Miners, but what returned and what had remained of the first immigration never amounted to a population sufficient in number, or in variety of occupations, to be capable of supporting, as we shall immediately show, the expensive separate Administration established by the Imperial Government,—an Establishment sufficient for the government of the former number, or even a larger population.

17. In short, the Tax payers were gone, but the expensive system of Government was continued, and had to be provided for by a population too small to support it with ease and good will.

18. Wherever a Government is established, it is necessary to provide for the support of both the Island and Mainland, as to concentrate the means and energies of the people instead of dividing them, diminishes the cost of the Government.

19. This, indeed, appeared at the time when it was the natural destiny of Victoria, and had been the real condition and true basis of the country, known to the Colonists and the Imperial Government, in the early stage of the political existence of this vast and thinly peopled territory, so as to have made "one town of magnitude and of sufficient importance and attraction, to retain during the Winter the greater part of the unattached population of the Colony."

20. This, indeed, appeared at the time when it was the natural destiny of Victoria, and had been the real condition and true basis of the country, known to the Colonists and the Imperial Government, in the early stage of the political existence of this vast and thinly peopled territory, so as to have made "one town of magnitude and of sufficient importance and attraction, to retain during the Winter the greater part of the unattached population of the Colony."

21. This, indeed, appeared at the time when it was the natural destiny of Victoria, and had been the real condition and true basis of the country, known to the Colonists and the Imperial Government, in the early stage of the political existence of this vast and thinly peopled territory, so as to have made "one town of magnitude and of sufficient importance and attraction, to retain during the Winter the greater part of the unattached population of the Colony."

22. This, indeed, appeared at the time when it was the natural destiny of Victoria, and had been the real condition and true basis of the country, known to the Colonists and the Imperial Government, in the early stage of the political existence of this vast and thinly peopled territory, so as to have made "one town of magnitude and of sufficient importance and attraction, to retain during the Winter the greater part of the unattached population of the Colony."

23. This, indeed, appeared at the time when it was the natural destiny of Victoria, and had been the real condition and true basis of the country, known to the Colonists and the Imperial Government, in the early stage of the political existence of this vast and thinly peopled territory, so as to have made "one town of magnitude and of sufficient importance and attraction, to retain during the Winter the greater part of the unattached population of the Colony."

24. This, indeed, appeared at the time when it was the natural destiny of Victoria, and had been the real condition and true basis of the country, known to the Colonists and the Imperial Government, in the early stage of the political existence of this vast and thinly peopled territory, so as to have made "one town of magnitude and of sufficient importance and attraction, to retain during the Winter the greater part of the unattached population of the Colony."

25. This, indeed, appeared at the time when it was the natural destiny of Victoria, and had been the real condition and true basis of the country, known to the Colonists and the Imperial Government, in the early stage of the political existence of this vast and thinly peopled territory, so as to have made "one town of magnitude and of sufficient importance and attraction, to retain during the Winter the greater part of the unattached population of the Colony."

26. This, indeed, appeared at the time when it was the natural destiny of Victoria, and had been the real condition and true basis of the country, known to the Colonists and the Imperial Government, in the early stage of the political existence of this vast and thinly peopled territory, so as to have made "one town of magnitude and of sufficient importance and attraction, to retain during the Winter the greater part of the unattached population of the Colony."

27. This, indeed, appeared at the time when it was the natural destiny of Victoria, and had been the real condition and true basis of the country, known to the Colonists and the Imperial Government, in the early stage of the political existence of this vast and thinly peopled territory, so as to have made "one town of magnitude and of sufficient importance and attraction, to retain during the Winter the greater part of the unattached population of the Colony."

28. This, indeed, appeared at the time when it was the natural destiny of Victoria, and had been the real condition and true basis of the country, known to the Colonists and the Imperial Government, in the early stage of the political existence of this vast and thinly peopled territory, so as to have made "one town of magnitude and of sufficient importance and attraction, to retain during the Winter the greater part of the unattached population of the Colony."

29. This, indeed, appeared at the time when it was the natural destiny of Victoria, and had been the real condition and true basis of the country, known to the Colonists and the Imperial Government, in the early stage of the political existence of this vast and thinly peopled territory, so as to have made "one town of magnitude and of sufficient importance and attraction, to retain during the Winter the greater part of the unattached population of the Colony."

30. This, indeed, appeared at the time when it was the natural destiny of Victoria, and had been the real condition and true basis of the country, known to the Colonists and the Imperial Government, in the early stage of the political existence of this vast and thinly peopled territory, so as to have made "one town of magnitude and of sufficient importance and attraction, to retain during the Winter the greater part of the unattached population of the Colony."

levelling, bridging and clearing, to make the place tolerably habitable.

31. This expenditure following close upon the waste of money laid out at Derby was a heavy drain upon the diminished resources of the Colony, and resulted in two unprofitable investments in a short period,—a loss which New Westminster has not retrieved to the property owners, as the place has never thriven.

32. The importance to your Grace of having correct information on the circumstances which have led to the present position of the country, the Memorialists trust, will excuse them for having ventured to trace the origin of the Colony and of its Capital.

33. Governor Seymour's remarks in his Message of 27th March last, hereto appended, No. II, on the question of the Capital, render it necessary to explain to your Grace the relative conditions of the two towns of Victoria on Vancouver Island, and of New Westminster on the Mainland of British Columbia, in order to enable your Grace to come to a correct decision on the question.

34. Before New Westminster existed Victoria, situated on the Straits of Roosa, the highway from the Pacific Ocean to British Columbia, was well advanced.

35. It was the Emporium of Trade, not only for the Island, but for British Columbia also, for which latter purpose, it was well adapted, both by its proximity to Fraser River, and by its being the terminus of Ocean Navigation, beyond which large vessels did not sail.

36. Victoria at this early period concentrated the wealth and commercial enterprise of the entire country, insular and Continental; attracted Settlers of several classes and of different Nationalities who invested large sums of Money in the Town and adjoining Agricultural Districts.

37. Victoria at this time possessed all the elements of a rapidly growing, busy, and thriving Town of several thousand inhabitants.

38. It had the advantage of a resident Governor of local knowledge and experience; and of being the Capital of a Colony with a Constitutional Government composed of a Legislature, consisting of an Elective Assembly and of a Nominative Council of Colonists.

39. In short, Victoria was in 1858-59 exactly such a Town as Governor Seymour correctly thinks, the spare resources of the inhabitants (of both the Island and Mainland) should have been concentrated on, in the early stage of the political existence of this vast and thinly peopled territory, so as to have made "one town of magnitude and of sufficient importance and attraction, to retain during the Winter the greater part of the unattached population of the Colony."

40. This, indeed, appeared at the time when it was the natural destiny of Victoria, and had been the real condition and true basis of the country, known to the Colonists and the Imperial Government, in the early stage of the political existence of this vast and thinly peopled territory, so as to have made "one town of magnitude and of sufficient importance and attraction, to retain during the Winter the greater part of the unattached population of the Colony."

41. This, indeed, appeared at the time when it was the natural destiny of Victoria, and had been the real condition and true basis of the country, known to the Colonists and the Imperial Government, in the early stage of the political existence of this vast and thinly peopled territory, so as to have made "one town of magnitude and of sufficient importance and attraction, to retain during the Winter the greater part of the unattached population of the Colony."

42. This, indeed, appeared at the time when it was the natural destiny of Victoria, and had been the real condition and true basis of the country, known to the Colonists and the Imperial Government, in the early stage of the political existence of this vast and thinly peopled territory, so as to have made "one town of magnitude and of sufficient importance and attraction, to retain during the Winter the greater part of the unattached population of the Colony."

43. This, indeed, appeared at the time when it was the natural destiny of Victoria, and had been the real condition and true basis of the country, known to the Colonists and the Imperial Government, in the early stage of the political existence of this vast and thinly peopled territory, so as to have made "one town of magnitude and of sufficient importance and attraction, to retain during the Winter the greater part of the unattached population of the Colony."

44. This, indeed, appeared at the time when it was the natural destiny of Victoria, and had been the real condition and true basis of the country, known to the Colonists and the Imperial Government, in the early stage of the political existence of this vast and thinly peopled territory, so as to have made "one town of magnitude and of sufficient importance and attraction, to retain during the Winter the greater part of the unattached population of the Colony."

45. This, indeed, appeared at the time when it was the natural destiny of Victoria, and had been the real condition and true basis of the country, known to the Colonists and the Imperial Government, in the early stage of the political existence of this vast and thinly peopled territory, so as to have made "one town of magnitude and of sufficient importance and attraction, to retain during the Winter the greater part of the unattached population of the Colony."

46. This, indeed, appeared at the time when it was the natural destiny of Victoria, and had been the real condition and true basis of the country, known to the Colonists and the Imperial Government, in the early stage of the political existence of this vast and thinly peopled territory, so as to have made "one town of magnitude and of sufficient importance and attraction, to retain during the Winter the greater part of the unattached population of the Colony."

47. This, indeed, appeared at the time when it was the natural destiny of Victoria, and had been the real condition and true basis of the country, known to the Colonists and the Imperial Government, in the early stage of the political existence of this vast and thinly peopled territory, so as to have made "one town of magnitude and of sufficient importance and attraction, to retain during the Winter the greater part of the unattached population of the Colony."

48. This, indeed, appeared at the time when it was the natural destiny of Victoria, and had been the real condition and true basis of the country, known to the Colonists and the Imperial Government, in the early stage of the political existence of this vast and thinly peopled territory, so as to have made "one town of magnitude and of sufficient importance and attraction, to retain during the Winter the greater part of the unattached population of the Colony."

49. This, indeed, appeared at the time when it was the natural destiny of Victoria, and had been the real condition and true basis of the country, known to the Colonists and the Imperial Government, in the early stage of the political existence of this vast and thinly peopled territory, so as to have made "one town of magnitude and of sufficient importance and attraction, to retain during the Winter the greater part of the unattached population of the Colony."

50. This, indeed, appeared at the time when it was the natural destiny of Victoria, and had been the real condition and true basis of the country, known to the Colonists and the Imperial Government, in the early stage of the political existence of this vast and thinly peopled territory, so as to have made "one town of magnitude and of sufficient importance and attraction, to retain during the Winter the greater part of the unattached population of the Colony."

51. This, indeed, appeared at the time when it was the natural destiny of Victoria, and had been the real condition and true basis of the country, known to the Colonists and the Imperial Government, in the early stage of the political existence of this vast and thinly peopled territory, so as to have made "one town of magnitude and of sufficient importance and attraction, to retain during the Winter the greater part of the unattached population of the Colony."

Westminster has not become a place of residence for Colonists in any number, having at this late day only a few hundred inhabitants. And, notwithstanding it has been the Port of Entry, and has had the Custom House Establishment and Staff, the only commercial character the place has attained is that of a forwarding post to the interior.

52. This will seem to be its natural destiny; and even this subsidiary position is in danger of being invaded by the superior claims of Yale higher up the River, better situated for a forwarding business by land with the Mines.

53. And besides, if the Country ever fills up in the interior, which is only a portion of the Mainland that offers attractions for settlement to any extent, then the chief town will be placed farther inland, where the Governor says, "the centre of population will be found on the eastern side of the Cascade Range."

54. On the other hand, should a Road to the Upper Country be opened from one of the Inlets on the northern coast of the Mainland, as is contemplated, and is the subject of negotiation at present in England and in British Columbia, then it is believed that New Westminster will be practically deserted; as by this new route the intricate and difficult and interminable navigation of the Fraser River will be avoided, and a shorter and cheaper route from the Coast obtained to the Upper Mining Country.

55. The facts above set forth are confirmed by the present condition of New Westminster, as described by the Solicitor General in the recent Debate in the Legislative Council of British Columbia, at New Westminster, on the Capital question: "Official life is its only hope. For eight years it has attempted to struggle into importance as a town, but has struggled in vain. Enormous sums have been lavished upon it. Houses, wharves, plank-ways erected for no practical end; and, almost at every step, we meet something which shows the sad results of misapplied energy, one grave of great expectations, the monuments of departed hope."

56. That is New Westminster, he asks? It is a Wharf and landing-place on the Fraser River; a Custom-house Station, and a Seat of Government by Proclamation only.

57. The failure of New Westminster is believed to be due: (1) To the town being in excess of the requirements of the Country; (2) To the want of attractions for settlers in the neighbourhood; and (3) To the better situation of Victoria for trade; its better climate, commercial resources, superior means of education, social amenities and public amusements; advantages which attract the people of the Mainland to Victoria; while their absence repels them from New Westminster.

58. This result is just what was predicted of New Westminster, when the unhappy selection of its site was made, subject as it is to such drawbacks as an unequal climate; severe cold and much rain in Winter, and heat and the pest of Mosquitoes in Summer, and the delay of business by the difficulties of approaching the interior from regular communication by the freezing of the river.

59. The failure of the place is a proof of the illiberal attempt to force the site of a town on an artificial basis, and to make it a chief town of the united Colony, and where the principal commerce of the Colony is carried on, and the most suitable place for the town of the Colony, as it was in 1858 and 1859, the Capital—at all events until the increase of population on the Mainland may need the Capital to be placed far inland.

60. It is natural that to a stranger, looking at a Map of the united Colony, it might seem inconsistent with the fact of the great extent of the Mainland, that the Capital should be on the Island.

61. This objection is, however, equally applicable to the ground of convenience, to the site of New Westminster which is in the corner of the Mainland, being at the south western extremity of the Mainland; only 12 miles north of the American boundary line (parallel 45).

62. New Westminster is besides farther removed than Victoria from the islands which are dependencies of the present Colony of British Columbia.

63. Admitting that the objection is applicable to a superficial view, yet to one familiar with the positions of the two Towns, and with the true state of the two Countries, the objection loses its force.

64. The facts and circumstances stated in paragraph 5, of our Memorial of 20th April last, and the fact, admitted by Naval Officers, that Esquimalt Harbour is the only convenient and the most suitable Station for Her Majesty's Ships, are reasons that justify the almost universal opinion of the Colonists of both the Island and the Mainland that Victoria is the most suitable place for the Capital.

65. And the Memorialists agree with them, not alone on Colonial, but also on Imperial grounds. The uses and advantages of Victoria for Imperial purposes we have never overlooked.

66. Secondly, as regards New Westminster, the Memorialists state: 49. New Westminster, from the first, has presented a striking contrast to Victoria. 50. Built almost entirely of Wooden Houses, it has progressed but little in eight years of its existence.

51. Although a vast amount of Public Money has been expended upon and around the place: Although it has had from the period of its foundation the advantages of: (1) the residence of the Commander, Officers and Corps of Royal Engineers, for whom costly Houses and Barracks were erected; (2) Victoria business Agencies and connexions; (3) the present Governor's residence and patronage since he came to the Colony; (4) the residence of the Governor's Staff permanently, and that of the Judge and Interior Magistrates periodically, yet with all these benefits and favours New

Westminster has not become a place of residence for Colonists in any number, having at this late day only a few hundred inhabitants. And, notwithstanding it has been the Port of Entry, and has had the Custom House Establishment and Staff, the only commercial character the place has attained is that of a forwarding post to the interior.

52. This will seem to be its natural destiny; and even this subsidiary position is in danger of being invaded by the superior claims of Yale higher up the River, better situated for a forwarding business by land with the Mines.

53. And besides, if the Country ever fills up in the interior, which is only a portion of the Mainland that offers attractions for settlement to any extent, then the chief town will be placed farther inland, where the Governor says, "the centre of population will be found on the eastern side of the Cascade Range."

54. On the other hand, should a Road to the Upper Country be opened from one of the Inlets on the northern coast of the Mainland, as is contemplated, and is the subject of negotiation at present in England and in British Columbia, then it is believed that New Westminster will be practically deserted; as by this new route the intricate and difficult and interminable navigation of the Fraser River will be avoided, and a shorter and cheaper route from the Coast obtained to the Upper Mining Country.

55. The facts above set forth are confirmed by the present condition of New Westminster, as described by the Solicitor General in the recent Debate in the Legislative Council of British Columbia, at New Westminster, on the Capital question: "Official life is its only hope. For eight years it has attempted to struggle into importance as a town, but has struggled in vain. Enormous sums have been lavished upon it. Houses, wharves, plank-ways erected for no practical end; and, almost at every step, we meet something which shows the sad results of misapplied energy, one grave of great expectations, the monuments of departed hope."

56. That is New Westminster, he asks? It is a Wharf and landing-place on the Fraser River; a Custom-house Station, and a Seat of Government by Proclamation only.

outlay to complete the improvements begun by that gentleman—more especially a new roof on the original portion—yet it is clear that, as he and his family inhabited the House in its present condition till they left the Colony a few months ago, it cannot require a heavy outlay to make it "permanently habitable."

57. Governor Seymour says, "The Legislature of the Mainland was called upon to provide a House, suitably furnished for the residence of the Governor, while no such provision was required from Vancouver Island."

58. The natural inference that anyone, ignorant of the facts, would draw from this, is that while there is "a suitably furnished Residence for the Governor" at New Westminster, there is no such accommodation at Victoria.

59. On this statement we beg to offer the following explanation:— 60. There was a Government House on the Mainland at the time mentioned by the Governor, and for several years before; and we are at a loss to understand why the Legislature should have been called upon by the Home Government to provide another.

61. This House, now occupied by Governor Seymour on Fraser River, was built in 1859 by order of Governor Douglas as "The Camp," and occupied by Colonel Moody and family until he left the Colony; and after Colonel Moody's departure, your Grace's predecessor in office caused furniture to be bought for that House, to be sent out from England, and to be paid for out of Colonial funds.

62. Instead of no such provision having been required from Vancouver Island, the Secretary of State for the Colonies called upon the Government of that Colony most pointedly and urgently, at the period mentioned by Governor Seymour, to have a Government House built, there being none then, as Governor Kennedy's predecessor had occupied an appropriation afterwards, and a Government House was bought at Victoria, and furnished by Governor Kennedy at the expense of the Colony of Vancouver Island.

63. This explanation is required to confirm the accuracy of our statement made above to your Grace respecting the Government House at Victoria.

64. The expense of repairing Government House at Victoria is the only outlay which Governor Seymour says would be incidental to the removal of the seat of Government from New Westminster; and the Memorialists would confidently submit that the saving of this outlay cannot counter-balance the disadvantages of keeping the seat of Government in an unsuitable and inconvenient spot, to the prejudice of the general interests, and in opposition to the expressed wishes of the Taxpayers; while the advantages of having it at Victoria, consisting in the benefit and contentment of the Community at large, do fully justify the outlay.

65. The Memorialists have this day their reasons for believing that the Public Buildings at New Westminster, and that the moderate expense of repairing Government House at Victoria should not prevent the fixing of the seat of Government at that place, and that the Government House at Victoria will be a permanent establishment.

66. Before dismissing the subject of Government House at Victoria the Memorialists beg to draw your Grace's attention to a statement made in connection with it which has caused some surprise, both here and in the Colony.

67. In Governor Seymour's message of 27th March last to the Legislative Council, No II hereto appended, the Governor, in reciting circumstances which occurred when in England last year, between himself and "an influential Member of the Government," states "that it was on his (the Governor's) intercession alone that the seat of Government House at Victoria was withheld on the ground of economy; but seems to think, on the ground of economy, that because "there is no intention of erecting" other, and "inasmuch as a considerable outlay would be required to make the Government House at Victoria permanently habitable, the retention of the Seat of Government on the bank of the Fraser is to be preferred."

68. As to the public offices at New Westminster, the Memorialists would remark in the first place, (1) that although they cost a vast amount of money at the time they were built, when materials and labour were very high, they are mere rough wooden buildings erected in 1859 at "The Camp," a mile distant from the town of New Westminster, for the various uses of the Royal Engineers; (2) some of the Memorialists know the officials complained of the offices being unfit and uncomfortable, although the complaints may not have been made officially; (3) that their unfitness for business purposes is a matter of local notoriety, and so well known in the Country, that the Petition from the Interior asserts the fact, No I appended hereto; (4) that their condition is indeed put beyond question by the fact mentioned by the Governor himself in this same message of 27th March, 1867, namely, that some few years back £10,000 had been voted "for the erection of public buildings in New Westminster"; (5) that the unfitness of the existing buildings at "The Camp," and their distance from the town of New Westminster, were put forward as reasons for the voting of this money at the time alluded to by the Governor; and (6) that it appears from all this pretty certain that if the Government continues long "on the banks of the Fraser," £10,000, at least, will be needed to replace the present offices.

69. And further, as regards this matter of the public offices, we would state that there are extensive public buildings, including a House of Assembly, Court House, and Government Offices at Victoria sufficient and suitable for all the requirements of the Public Service of the United Colony, especially built for such uses, at great cost, in 1859, the occupation of which would save all outlay at New Westminster, while the officers would be better housed than they are now.

70. The saving of the smallest sum is, in the present condition of the finances, an imperative necessity.

71. The Government House at Victoria, improved and added to by Governor Kennedy, will no doubt require some

outlay to complete the improvements begun by that gentleman—more especially a new roof on the original portion—yet it is clear that, as he and his family inhabited the House in its present condition till they left the Colony a few months ago, it cannot require a heavy outlay to make it "permanently habitable."

57. Governor Seymour says, "The Legislature of the Mainland was called upon to provide a House, suitably furnished for the residence of the Governor, while no such provision was required from Vancouver Island."

58. The natural inference that anyone, ignorant of the facts, would draw from this, is that while there is "a suitably furnished Residence for the Governor" at New Westminster, there is no such accommodation at Victoria.

59. On this statement we beg to offer the following explanation:— 60. There was a Government House on the Mainland at the time mentioned by the Governor, and for several years before; and we are at a loss to understand why the Legislature should have been called upon by the Home Government to provide another.

61. This House, now occupied by Governor Seymour on Fraser River, was built in 1859 by order of Governor Douglas as "The Camp," and occupied by Colonel Moody and family until he left the Colony; and after Colonel Moody's departure, your Grace's predecessor in office caused furniture to be bought for that House, to be sent out from England, and to be paid for out of Colonial funds.

62. Instead of no such provision having been required from Vancouver Island, the Secretary of State for the Colonies called upon the Government of that Colony most pointedly and urgently, at the period mentioned by Governor Seymour, to have a Government House built, there being none then, as Governor Kennedy's predecessor had occupied an appropriation afterwards, and a Government House was bought at Victoria, and furnished by Governor Kennedy at the expense of the Colony of Vancouver Island.

63. This explanation is required to confirm the accuracy of our statement made above to your Grace respecting the Government House at Victoria.

64. The expense of repairing Government House at Victoria is the only outlay which Governor Seymour says would be incidental to the removal of the seat of Government from New Westminster; and the Memorialists would confidently submit that the saving of this outlay cannot counter-balance the disadvantages of keeping the seat of Government in an unsuitable and inconvenient spot, to the prejudice of the general interests, and in opposition to the expressed wishes of the Taxpayers; while the advantages of having it at Victoria, consisting in the benefit and contentment of the Community at large, do fully justify the outlay.

78. New Westminster is the Capital of a Colony composed of two distinct parts, and this only for eight years. Victoria has been for eight years the Capital of a free Colony, the Capital of a free Colony, and composed of two distinct parts, and this only for eight years. Victoria has been for eight years the Capital of a free Colony, the Capital of a free Colony, and composed of two distinct parts, and this only for eight years.

79. Victoria can, at any description on the ground of law, and this would make her plea stronger than that of the young man's plea admitted in 1860. But the Memorialists agree that the plea of legal matter does not carry much weight.

80. They are humbly of plea of legal status should be untenable in order to arrive at a conclusion; and, they respect your Grace will agree with them.

81. Admitting all due legal Proclamation which establish that it surely were on the ground, Act must be so construed as to be able; and that a Capital, virtue of this Act must be inoperative under all circumstances, and regardless of all other provisions.

82. To put such a construction upon any Proclamation, to that form of Colonial process and effect never claimed, the enactment of the Imperial Trade in dispute, and settling seems (as if on second thought) this reasonable construction, Message, for he adds that he is certain that any Proclamation passed when the community advanced state of population government; but, for the present, to leave matters as they are.

83. The Memorialists are satisfied and contented with the decision, that the contingency renders this admission practically because the project of such population as would "develop interests of the Colony in future," is so remote as not to settle the question of the we fully share the object throughout the Colony itself proposed to "leave matters in the hands of the Legislature, really essential to the progress of the Colony."

84. Although the Memorialists are not yet able to do so, yet they deem it due to the reasonableness of the wishes and also to themselves, to state that they are not aware of any other person who has taken any steps to settle the question of the we fully share the object throughout the Colony itself proposed to "leave matters in the hands of the Legislature, really essential to the progress of the Colony."

85. The Memorialists are satisfied and contented with the decision, that the contingency renders this admission practically because the project of such population as would "develop interests of the Colony in future," is so remote as not to settle the question of the we fully share the object throughout the Colony itself proposed to "leave matters in the hands of the Legislature, really essential to the progress of the Colony."

</