

manded by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to request that you will move the Secretary of State for the colonies to ascertain from the Dominion government whether there would be any objection on their part to transfer to the Admiralty a plot of ground in Constance Cove, Esquimalt Harbour, tinted blue on the accompanying chart, in exchange for the reserves C and D on the plan transmitted with the letter above referred to.

I am, &c.,

EVAN MACGREGOR.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

OTTAWA, 24th March, 1886.

Sir ADOLPHE CARON,
Minister of Militia,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I inclose herewith a map showing the military reserve at the entrance to Burrard Inlet. It contains 950 acres adjoining the terminal city of Vancouver on the Canadian Pacific Railway. I would respectfully request that you would grant the same to the city reserving the right to use any portion of it for military purposes or on occasion when required even the whole of it. The city to build a carriage road around the reserve and otherwise spend money on it to make it attractive for a park. In my opinion it can be made one of the finest parks in the world and in connection with the proposed establishment of national parks along the line of the Canadian Pacific Railway would be quite an attraction to tourists travelling over our national railway and the above proposed arrangement would not in any way interfere with the right of your department to these lands.

Please give the matter your earnest consideration and advise me of your decision.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. W. ROSS.

This military reserve piece of ground is the identical spot that Lieut. Col. Holmes, D.A.G., so strongly recommends for the site of our barracks and battery. Would it not be better to suspend action in this regard until we have personally inspected the spot?

FRED. MIDDLETON,

Major General.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

OTTAWA, 19th April, 1886.

GRANT POWELL, Esq.,
Under Secretary of State,
Ottawa,

SIR,—In a letter received from the Honourable Mr. Trutch, dated the 30th ultimo, he incloses a clipping from the British Columbia *Gazette* being an advertisement of notification, dated the 11th March, by Mr. Alexander Russell, of his intention to make application within 60 days to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works of that province for permission to purchase an island, containing 10 acres, situated near the head of Coal Harbour, Burrard Inlet.

The island in question is included in the preservation for military purposes, 950 acres in extent, established in 1859 on the south side of the First Narrows, Burrard Inlet, and I have therefore to request that you will communicate with the Government of British Columbia calling their attention to the fact this land is so reserved and not subject to sale by that government.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient servant.

A. M. BURGESS,

Deputy Minister of the Interior.