

COPY of a Report of a Committee of the Honorable the Privy Council, approved by His Excellency the Governor General in Council on the 22nd April, 1879.

On a memorandum, dated 16th April, 1879, from the Honorable the Minister of Public Works, representing that on a memorandum from the Chief Engineer of the Pacific Railway, dated 23rd May, 1874, an Order in Council was passed 7th June, 1873, fixing Esquimalt, on Vancouver's Island, as the terminus of that railway in British Columbia.

That subsequently, 25th March, 1875, an Order in Council was passed, authorizing the Dominion Government to notify the Government of British Columbia that it would be necessary that the Legislature of that Province, then in session, should pass an Act setting apart such extent of public lands along the line of the railway in Vancouver's Island in the manner set forth by the 11th paragraph of the terms of agreement of the Union.

That on the 23rd of May, 1878, the late Government had another Order in Council passed, cancelling that of 7th June, 1873 (which fixed the terminus at Esquimalt), but no reason appears to have been given for their action in the matter, nor is there any mention made of the Order in Council of 25th March, 1875, which provided for the appropriation of the necessary lands in Vancouver's Island.

The Minister therefore recommends that in the absence of satisfactory reasons having been given for cancelling the Order in Council of 7th June, 1873, that the Order in Council (of 23rd May 1878) cancelling it, be annulled, and that of 7th June, 1873, be revived.

He also recommends that a copy of his Report to Council, if approved, be furnished to the Honorable the Secretary of State for transmission to the Government of British Columbia for their information.

The Committee submit the above recommendation for Your Excellency's approval.

Certified. W. A. HIMSWORTH, C.P.C.

COPY of a Report of a Committee of the Honorable the Privy Council, approved by His Excellency the Governor General in Council on the 12th June, 1879.

On a memorandum, dated 10th June, 1879, from the Hon. the Minister of Railways and Canals, stating that he has had under consideration a communication dated 19th May, 1879, from the Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia, enclosing a minute of his Executive Council of 14th May, 1879, in reference to the reservation of land on the mainland of British Columbia, between Burrard Inlet and Yellow Head Pass.

The Minister recommends that the Government of British Columbia be informed that the object of the Order in Council of the 22nd April, 1879, was simply to rescind the Order in Council of the 23rd May, 1878, so as to leave the general Government free to adopt which ever route might appear in the public interest the most eligible.

That is not proposed to release the reservation of land on either route, and it is felt that this will result in no serious inconvenience for the short period which will now elapse before the location of the railway will be finally established.

The Committee submit the above recommendation for Your Excellency's approval.

Certified, W. A. HIMSWORTH, C.P.C.

*Memorandum from the Department of the Privy Council.*

OTTAWA, 17th June, 1879.

(Answer.)

Please return by bearer the despatch of the Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia, with Minute of Council relative to land reserve on line of Pacific Railway,