

COPY

(183)

OF A MINUTE OF COUNCIL, RELATING TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF
THE GRAVING DOCK AT ESQUIMALT, B.C.

On a Report dated 11th February, 1880, from the Hon. the Minister of Finance, stating that he has had under consideration despatches received from the Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia, on the subject of the advances proposed to be made by the Dominion Government for the construction of the Graving Dock at Esquimalt, and that, in order to arrive at a settlement of the question, he has had several interviews with the Hon. the Attorney-General of the Province, who has been deputed to confer with the Dominion Government in connection with the same subject.

The Minister states that he has given the subject his most careful consideration, and that in his opinion it is desirable to modify the Order in Council of the 13th November last, and to substitute one in accordance with certain provisions and conditions, set forth in his Report hereto attached.

The Committee recommend that said Report be approved and acted upon, and that copies of this minute be transmitted to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and to the Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia.

(Signed)

L. R. MASSON.

Approved 12th February, 1880.

(Signed)

LORNE.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT,

OTTAWA, 11th February, 1880.

The undersigned has the honor to report that he has had under consideration despatches received from the Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia on the subject of the advances proposed to be made by the Dominion Government for the construction of the Graving Dock at Esquimalt, and that in order to arrive at a settlement of the question, he has had several interviews with the Hon. the Attorney-General of the Province, who has been deputed to confer with the Dominion Government in connection with the same subject.

The undersigned has given the subject his most careful consideration, and now begs leave to state that, in his opinion, it is desirable to modify the Order in Council of the 13th November last, and to substitute one in accordance with the following provisions and conditions:—

Firstly—The Hon. the Attorney-General having stated that the plans and specifications of the Dock prepared by Messrs. Kinnipple and Morris, of London, England, have been left for inspection with the Department of Public Works, and are those upon which tenders have been invited, the undersigned recommends that advances be made to the Province as the work progresses, to an extent not to exceed in the whole the sum of \$250,000—such advances not to include the value of any material or plant already obtained by the Provincial Government for the purposes of the Graving Dock.

Secondly—That such advances be made on the certificate of the Engineer of the Provincial Government, countersigned by the Agent of the Dominion Government in British Columbia.

Thirdly—That in case the Government of British Columbia should fail from any cause to proceed actively with the construction of the work for a period of three months after the receipt of a written request from the Dominion Government to prosecute the same, then that the latter shall have the right to enter upon and take possession of the works and premises and complete the same.