

P A P E R S

RELATIVE TO

THE AFFAIRS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

PART III.

Despatches from Governor Douglas.

No. 1.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor DOUGLAS, C.B., to the Right Hon.
Sir E. B. LYTTON, Bart, M.P.

BRITISH
COLUMBIA.
No. 1.

(No. 127.)

Victoria, Vancouver's Island, April 8, 1859.

(Received May 28, 1859.)

(Answered No. 22, Sept. 19, 1859, page 101.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour of transmitting herewith for your information, an Abstract of the Revenue and Expenditure of the Colony of British Columbia, taken from the accounts of that Colony, which have been made up in a clear and intelligible form, to the 23rd day of February 1859.

2. Those books comprise all our financial transactions up to that period. It will be observed, that the income derived from the various sources therein shown, amounts to the sum of 22,924*l.* 1*s.* 5*d.*, and the expenditure for the same period to 25,059*l.* 6*s.* 4*d.*, exceeding the income by the sum of 2,135*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.*

3. To meet that deficiency there is on the other hand the sum of 10,284*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.* remaining, partly in cash at Langley, and partly due on the sale of town lots, at the same place; a small sum invested in Government buildings, and in aid of the Harrison's river road, which leaves a balance on that date exceeding 8,000*l.* in favour of the Colony.

Some petty balances may remain outstanding at Fort Hope, Yale, and Lytton, which were not received in time to be incorporated with those accounts; but such sums will be paid out of the current revenues of those districts.

At the towns of Lytton, Hope, and Yale, which were surveyed and laid out into building lots last autumn, no sales have yet been made, but instructions have been conveyed to the Commissioner of Lands and Works, to bring those lands into the market with as little delay as may be convenient.

4. The construction of the Harrison or Lillooet road has been the great source of outlay this season, that work having cost the Colony nearly 14,000*l.*

5. Large as the outlay may appear, it very inadequately represents the value of this important public work, which has removed the difficulty of access, and the great impediment to the development of the mineral regions of British Columbia.

6. The outlay for all other objects connected with the Colony, including 2,300*l.* applied in defraying the extra pay allowed, for one quarter, to the officers and ships companies of Her Majesty's ships "Satellite" and "Plumper" forms the moderate sum of 11,059*l.*

III.