

Colonial Secretary to Mr. Mactavish.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,  
November 12th, 1863.

*Sir,*

I am desired by the Governor to acquaint you, with reference to previous correspondence upon the subject of the Reconveyance to the Crown of lands by the Hudson Bay Company, that with a view to a speedy settlement of the question in dispute His Excellency proposed that the Crown on the one hand should give up a lot of land at the foot of Fort street assigned to it by the Agreement of February, 1862, and that the Company on the other hand should surrender in exchange for it a lot at the foot of Broughton street, and should also withdraw their claim to the portion of the Government Reserve marked Z on the plan submitted by you in your letter of the 29th July, 1862, and to the two lots in Government street, adjacent to the Post Office lot.

2. Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies having submitted this proposition to the Hudson Bay Company, the Company have declared their readiness to surrender any right or title the Company may have in the lots marked in Mr. Mactavish's plan with the letter Z, as well as the lot 1603 on which the Post Office is built, and the two lots adjoining thereto marked 1605 and 1607; and the Company are also ready to surrender the lot at the foot of Broughton street in exchange for the lot at the foot of Fort street, on which it was originally intended that the Harbor Master's Office should be built, desiring it, however, to be understood in making these concessions that the Company surrender only the rights which they actually possess, and that the arrangement is made subject to and saving the rights of third parties (if any) to whom the lots in question may have been already conveyed.

3. His Excellency therefore directs me to ask for a precise description of the land that will be coming to the Crown under this arrangement, and also whether you are empowered at once to make a formal conveyance of the same.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) WILLIAM A. G. YOUNG.

VICTORIA, VANCOUVER'S ISLAND,  
21st November, 1863.

W. A. G. YOUNG, Esq.,  
Colonial Secretary.

*Sir,*

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 12th inst., addressed to Mr. Mactavish, asking first for a precise description of the land that will be coming to the Crown, under an arrangement stated in your letter to have been made between Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies and the Hudson's Bay Company; and secondly, whether Mr. Mactavish is empowered at once to make a formal conveyance of the same.