

containing belts of timber fit for milling purposes shall be sold at a price to be hereafter fixed by the Government of the Dominion, or by the said company, the existing rights, if any, of any persons or corporations in any said lands not to be affected by this Act.

By their letter (in No. 34215) of 3rd June, 1884, the company request permission to reserve certain portions of the lands along the proposed line of railway for town sites; also for permission to sell the lands so reserved for town sites, in lots, at a price to be fixed by the company; as also the Newcastle reserve, near Nanaimo (not being an Indian reserve or settlement, nor a military or naval reserve). The grants for lands sold, as aforesaid, to be issued by the Provincial Government in the usual way, and the money received therefor to be applied in the manner provided by section (f) of the agreement ratified by "An Act relating to the Island Railway, the Graving Dock and Railway Lands, &c., of the Province."—(B.C. Act, 1884.)

By the letter of 11th June, 1884, of the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works of British Columbia (in No. 34215), it is stated that the Government of British Columbia "approve of the proposition and consider it to be in the interest of settlement that the proposed arrangement be made."

The lands in question, however, form part of the lands vested in the Dominion Government by Act of the Legislature of British Columbia, and therefore the assent of the Governor in Council will be required; but it appears to me that before such assent is asked for a letter might be sent to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, British Columbia, requesting him to obtain from the company a general map or plan showing the location of the proposed town sites, the total area of each town site, the dimensions of lots, streets, the rivers, streams, &c., the line or lines of railway passing through or near the same, with a statement whether any portions have been and are already occupied by squatters, or sold, or reserved for public purposes, or if covered with timber, or if coal mines or other mines are likely to be found therein or thereon, and generally all such information as may satisfy the Government of Canada as well as the Government of British Columbia that the assent of the Governor in Council can be safely given to the proposed arrangement.

Respectfully submitted.

H. A. FESSIAULT.

OTTAWA, 27th June, 1884.

VICTORIA, B. C., 11th June, 1884.

SIR,—The enclosed letter, addressed to you, was submitted for the consideration of the Provincial Government, and in regard thereto I have the honor to inform you that the Government here approve of the proposition, and consider it to be in the interest of settlement that the proposed arrangement be made.

I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

WM. SMITHE, *Chief Commissioner Lands and Works.*

Hon. Minister Railways and Canals, &c., Ottawa.

OFFICE OF THE ESQUIMAULT AND NANAIMO RAILWAY COMPANY,
VICTORIA, B. C., 3rd June, 1884.

SIR,—I am directed, on behalf of the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company, to write you and request permission for the company to reserve certain portions of the lands along the proposed line of railway for town sites.

Also for permission to sell the land so reserved for town sites in lots, at a price to be fixed by the company, as also the Newcastle reserve near Nanaimo (not being an Indian reserve or settlement, nor a military or naval reserve).

The grants of lands sold as aforesaid to be issued by the Provincial Government in the usual way, and the money received therefor to be applied in the manner provided by section (f) of the agreement ratified by "An Act relating to the Island Railway, the Graving Dock, and Railway Lands of the Province," 1884.