with a statement of your claims for employment here or elsewhere. Pending this reference to the Imperial Government, His Excellency would propose that you should continue on your present salary in connection with the Treasury Department in Victoria, —collecting and disbursing revenue as a Sub-Accountant, and completing the accounts of the Treasury of the late Colony of Vancouver Island.

In making this suggestion, the Governor desires me to assure you that your acceptance will in no way prejudice your position with the Home Government.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient Servant, ARTHUR N. BIRCH.

TREASURER of VANCOUVER ISLAND to the COLONIAL SECRETARY of BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Treasury, Victoria, 13th March 1867.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, dated the 6th instant, informing me that, under the "Officers' Enabling Ordinance," the necessity for the continuance of the appointment of Treasurer of Vancouver Island no longer exists; and that, pending a reference by His Excellency to the Secretary of State of the question of the abolition of the office, and also of my claims for employment here or elsewhere, the Governor proposes that I should continue, on my present salary, in connection with the Treasury Department in Victoria, collecting and disbursing revenue as a Sub-Accountant, and completing the accounts of the late Colony of Vancouver Island. which, through the absence of a systematic audit, have necessarily fallen into arrear.

In reply, I have to request that you will acquaint His Excellency that, while I am willing to remain in the Colony on my present salary, until the accounts are audited and the closing entries completed, and although satisfied with His Excellency's assurance that my acceptance of the subordinate office will not prejudice my position with the Home Government, I cannot, in justice to my status in the Colony, which has been attained after nine years' steady industry, accept the appointment of Sub-Accountant, believing that such a step would prejudice my usefulness as a Member of the Local Government in the event of that honour being conferred upon me by the Secretary of State.

At the same time I shall be glad, whilst waiting the completion of the Auditor's work, to afford every assistance in my power to the Sub-Accountant at Victoria.

For the sake of regularity in the accounts, I have this day closed the Cash-book of the Treasurer of Vancouver Island, and paid over the balance remaining in my hands to the credit of the Government Account at the Bank of British Columbia, a memorandum of which you will please find inclosed herewith. Until further advice, in order to save inconvenience to the public, I shall continue to collect the revenue as usual.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient Servant, ALEXANDER WATSON.

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