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Dec 2 - 1858



# PROCLAMATION.

By His Excellency **JAMES DOUGLAS**, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's Colony of British Columbia and its Dependencies.

**PROCLAMATION, having the Force of Law to enable the Governor of British Columbia to convey Crown Lands Sold within the said Colony.**

**WHEREAS**, by virtue of an Act of Parliament made and passed in the 21st and 22nd Years of the Reign of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen by a Commission under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in conformity therewith, I, **JAMES DOUGLAS**, Governor of the Colony of British Columbia, have been authorized by proclamation issued under the Public Seal of the said Colony, to make Laws, Institutions and Ordinances for the peace, order and good government of the same:

Now, therefore, I, **JAMES DOUGLAS**, Governor of British Columbia, by virtue of the authority aforesaid, do proclaim, ordain, and enact, that on and after the day of the date of this proclamation, it shall be lawful for the Governor, for the time being of the said Colony, by any instrument in print or in writing, or partly in print and partly in writing, under his hand and seal to grant to any person or persons any land belonging to the Crown in the said Colony; and every such Instrument shall be valid as against Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors for all the estate and interest expressed to be conveyed by such instrument in the lands therein described.

Issued at Victoria, Vancouver's Island, under the Public Seal of the Colony of British Columbia, this 2nd day of December, 1858, in the 22nd year of Her Majesty's Reign by me,

L.S.

**JAMES DOUGLAS**,  
Governor of British Columbia.

**GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.**

## **Chief Justice Begbie's Opinion, concerning Rights of Aliens.**

1st. According to the Law of England, which is the Law of British Columbia, an alien may hold lands, but is liable to have them declared forfeited to the Crown at any time.

2nd. No alien can be disturbed in the possession of lands by any other person than the Crown authorities by reason only of his being an alien.

3rd. The Colonial Government proposes to secure to aliens the full rights of possession and enjoyment of any lands which they may purchase at the sale for the space of three years. At the end of that time they must, if they wish to continue to hold the lands, either become themselves naturalized British subjects, or else convey their rights to British subjects.

4th. It is the intention of the Colonial Government to endeavour to obtain from the Home Government their sanction to measures for carrying into effect the above views, which measures are now in course of preparation. But they must depend for their full effect on the ratification by the Home Government.