JOURNALS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

OF THE PROVINCE OF

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

FROM THE 18TH DECEMBER, 1873, TO THE 2ND MARCH, 1874.

BOTH DAYS INCLUSIVE.

IN THE THIRTY-SEVENTH YEAR OF THE REIGN OF OUR SOVEREIGN LADY QUEEN VICTORIA.

BEING THE THIRD SESSION OF THE FIRST PARLIAMENT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

SESSION 1873-4.

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

VOL. III.

On the motion of the Honourable Mr. *Elliott*, seconded by the Honourable Mr. *Humphreys*, it was *Resolved*,—

That, to-morrow, this House will resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, for the purpose of considering a Bill (No. 20) intituled "An Act to impose, levy, and collect tolls on goods carried over the Trail from Telegraph Creek to the Mines in the District of Cassiar."

On the motion of the Honourable Mr. *Elliott*, seconded by the Honourable Mr. *Humphreys*, it was *Resolved*,—

That, to-morrow, this House will resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, for the purpose of considering a Bill (No. 22) intituled "An Act to provide for the maintenance of Public Schools in the Province of British Columbia."

The Honourable Mr. *Elliott* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, a Return to an Address of the Legislative Assembly for copies of all papers connected with charges made against the Superintendent, in regard to the management of Lunatic Asylum. (*See Sessional Papers*).

Mr. *Morrison* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 26) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Election Regulation Act, 1871.'"

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced, and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Monday next.

Mr. *Davie* asked the Honourable the Premier the following Question :—

Will a Court of Assize and *Nisi Prius* be held in *Cassiar* this year; and if so, about what period will such Court be held?

The Honourable Mr. *Elliott* replied as follows :—

"A Court will be held; but I am unable at present to state the date."

Mr. *Williams* asked the Ministry the following Question:—

When will work on the Coffordam contract, *Esquimalt* Dock, be commenced?

The Honourable Mr. *Elliott* replied as follows :—

"I am informed, by the gentleman in charge, that the work will be commenced as soon as the working plans are completed."

Mr. *Pimbury* asked the Honourable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following Question:—

Has any person or persons applied to the Government for a lease of timber land along the north shore of *Malaspina Straits;* if so, has the said timber lease been granted, and to whom, for how long a period, on what terms and conditions, what quantity of land, and have the terms and conditions been complied with?

Also, whether the Government have any information that the land, or any part of it, has been stripped of valuable timber, without the conditions stipulated in the lease having been complied with?

The Honourable Mr. *Vernon* replied as follows:—

"Yes; Mr. *Robert P. Rithet* has been granted a Lease for timber cutting purposes on the shore of *Malaspina Straits*, North of *Grief Point.*

"The Lease covers 11886 acres for a term of twenty-one years, dating from the 31st January, 1874.

"The principal terms and conditions are as follows, viz.:—

"A Mill to be erected, capable of cutting not less than than Twenty-five thousand feet of lumber per diem, before the 12th August, 1877.

"A rent of one cent per acre, per annum in advance.

"I am not in a position at present to state whether the terms and conditions have been complied with or not. I have no information as to whether any part of this land has been stripped of valuable timber or not."

Pursuant to Order, the Report on Bill (No. 18) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Municipality Act, 1872,' and amendments thereto," was considered.

Report adopted.

Return of Timber-Cutting Leases.

Name.	District.	Acreage.	Rate.
W. P. Sayward	Chemainus	1370	2 cents per acre per annum.
Michael and John Muir	Sooke	3316	1 do. do.
George Askew	Chemainus	519	2 do. do.
R. P. Rithet	Coast District	15000	1 do. do.
Hastings Saw Mill Co	New Westminster	18559	1 do. do.
Moody, Dietz, & Nelson	Do.	2634	1 do. do.
Do. do.	Do.	11110 58/100	1 do. do.
W. T. Collinson	Do.	365	15 dollars per annum.
Jeremiah Rogers	Do.	780	40 do. do.
Walker, Bowes, & Robertson	Omineca	425	1 cent per acre per annum.
		54078 58/100	

Return of Correspondence.

Number of Letters received in Land Office, Victoria, from 1st January to 30th November, 1873	2,068
Number of Replies for same period. This does not include formal acknowledgments or partially printed forms or circulars.	1,540
Number of applications for Pre-emptions, in Vancouver Island, from 1st January to 30th November, 1873	176
Number of Free Miners' Certificates, under Gold Mining Act, issued at Land Office, Victoria, from 1st January to 30th November, 1873	47
Number of Records made under Gold Mining Act, at Land Office, Victoria	41