

18,909

Appendix C

Extract from Commission Report
Sent 21 March 1877.

" The industry of the men is manifested
" in a very useful and profitable way,
" and by the millowners on Burrard's
" Inlet is duly encouraged. Last year,
" we were informed, they supplied
" 1300 000 cubic feet of saw logs,
" for which they received, delivered in
" the water adjacent to the places
" where cut, at the rate of \$3 per m
" -being the price paid also to white
" men prosecuting the same business.

" To encourage this industry, and in
" accordance with a wish expressed by the
" chiefs the Commissioners assured them
" that they would recommend the
" Provincial Government to grant them

18,909 *Append C. contd.*

" a special privilege of timber cutting
 " on the west side of Queen's Reach
 " from the Hamacchin reserve at the
 " head down to Point Patrick.

" with a view to this, indeed, the
 " Commissioners had before leaving
 " Victoria, asked for the reservation
 " temporarily, of this tract of land, a
 " request which was at once acceded
 " to by the Chief Comr. of Land.

note
 * This proved
 to be an
 error

note. The above refers to the
 Lewis Islet Indians, north of whom
 the former Commission did not go. The
 Shiammon and Klaboose &c Indians
 are immediately to the north, and the
 extract is given to show the nature
 of the timber questions which so much
 interested all these Indians, and
 to elucidate, in part, what follows.

Appendix C. contd.

18.909

The former Reserve Commission turned before reaching the Shammon, Klokoonas & but at Comox they saw some of these Indians who were there trading and they heard of the people's wants generally from Mr Rodello, the local S.P. & others.

Accordingly, on getting back to Victoria and learning that their next trip was to be to the interior, and that the further prosecution of coast work must be delayed, all the Commissioners joined in the following letter.

Appendix D

Cpm

Victoria th 27 April 1877

Sir,

" It would, in our opinion,
 " be well if the Provincial Government
 " reserved Herwood Savary and Cortes
 " Island in the Gulf of Georgia,
 " until the land claims of the

Appendix D contd

" Klappoose and other neighbouring
 " Indians are settled, also all the
 " islands in the Fraser river lying
 " opposite to the Matsqui Village and
 " near the SW of Township 17 West
 " West District.

" Looking to the number
 " of Indians in Barclay Sound
 " and that neighbourhood, and also
 " at Salmon River which flows into
 " Johnson's Straits, we recommend
 " similar action in reference to land
 " at the head of the Alberni Canal
 " from that place to the Mountains,
 " and also the land in the Salmon
 " River valley. The Alberni land
 " is within the railway belt.

Judging from letters which

Appendix D contd

18.909

" have reached us from Mr Duncan
 " L.P. and others, it might, further,
 " be advisable, pending the settlement
 " of Indian land questions, not to give
 " any right to lands on the Nass
 " and Skeena, except subject to the
 " occupation rights of the Indians

The Hon^{ble}
 Chief Commissioner
 of Lands Works
 Victoria

to A. C. Anderson
 " A. McIlwain
 J. M. Sproat

Note

The Commes^s proceeded in 1877 to
 the Interior, and left over the
 above Coast work and also the
 New Westminster District for future
 adjustment, much to the disappoint-
 ment of the Indians concerned.

In spring of 1878 the question
 of the season's programme came up
 and for pressing reasons, the Commission

18.909

determined to go again to the interior,
but messages reached Mr. Sproat from
the Shiammin &c. and a deputation
of 6 chiefs came from the New
Westminster District, strongly protesting
against the Commission again going
past them.

When Mr. Sproat did start,
the Indians as advised in his letter to
Ottawa 20th May 1878. came long distances
to see him at New Westminster
and were waiting at every landing
place on Fraser river as he passed
up in the steamer.

Though at work in the
Interior Mr. Sproat repeatedly
wrote to Govt Agents and to
the Provincial Government, on the
subject of the lands for these Coast
and New Westminster District Indians,

but it is probably unnecessary to
copy these letters.

In one to the Chief Commr
of Lands dated, In Camp, Cooks Ferry,
17 July 1878. Mr Spruat said

"I also crave reference by
" way of reminder, to the letter
" of the Indian Reserve Commission
see ante " 27 April 1877 asking you to
" reserve temporarily certain lands
" in places visited by the
" Commissioners. The Klahoose
" Indians are very anxious
" about Harwood, Savary and Cortes
" Islands, and came to New West-
" to meet me on the way up to
" express their anxiety.

Appendix F

On returning from the 1878
campaign in the interior, Mr
Sproat received the following
letter from Dr. Powell which
, with its enclosure, speaks
for itself

Indian Office Victoria
12th Oct 1878

Sir " I have the honour to
" enclose copy of a letter from
" Mr Rodello, the Government
" Agent at Comose, relative to
" anticipated troubles between the
" Clahahmin (Shiammon) Indians
" and white men who are
" engaged in cutting timber in
" the vicinity of the Indian
" villages. " I have conferred

By Mr Sproat D^y
Ind Res Comm

"with the Hon: The Attorney General
"on the subject, who considered it
"best to leave the matter
"in abeyance until your return
"to this place

^{se}
(o) J. W. Powell
J. Lupt

App. Enclosure in above letter

Cornor Oct 3. 1878.

"Dr Powell

Sir

I am now to inform
you that on the 20th day of inst
I went across the gulf of Georgia
over to visit the L'Annon
tribe of Indians which the
priest of New Westminster was
there which he told me to be
sure to inform you with the

18.909

the trouble between the Indians
and some white men there
cutting logs for the sawmills.
The Indians said distinctly
"now Mr Rodello as you are
"the Govt Agent here, and you
"have always been our best
"friend, we now depend on you
"that you will inform Dr
"Powell, our agent, of this matter
"and hoping that he will settle
"this. If not, we will
"protect ourselves.

"Also this day 3 Canoes
"have arrived here from Klahoose
"also stating another complaint
"as above which the Indians
"have seized the logs that the

" white men have cut, and they
" will not allow them to take
" the logs away, and they will
" wait for your answer to me
" by next steamer to prevent
" further trouble for these white
" men to cut timber close to
" their villages.

Yours Obed
J. Rodello

" The priest he also told me
" to write to Mr Sproat Indian
" Commissioner, but I think you
" will do, or see Mr Sproat
" yourself.

On inquiry Mr Stewart found
that the Provincial Government
had sold a much coveted piece
of timber land close to the
principal village of the Indians,
but the season was too far
advanced for him to effectively
examine the question, and
when spring opened the Commissioner,
as already stated, was under
an imperative obligation to
adjust matters in the popular
district of New Westminster.

Thereafter, on the earliest
opportunity, he went on the coast
and began at Shannan
(See Map), and he must

18.909

beg leave, in conclusion, to say
that it is inexplicable to his
mind that any gentleman
connected with these transactions
should have written as some
appear to have done, ^{to the Dominion Govt} to say
that they do not know why
the Commission undertook
work on the Coast, or why
the Commission began at
Siammon.

Emd