
PETITION.

To the Honourable the Speaker and Members of the Legislature of the Province of British Columbia, in Parliament assembled:

The petition of the undersigned business men and residents of the City of Sandon, humbly sheweth:—

(1.) That in the year 1892, John Morgan Harris, an American subject, located the Loudon Mineral Claim, on which now the greater portion of the City of Sandon is situated.

(2.) That before the said Harris had said claim Crown-granted in 1895, he transferred to one Justic Sproat, a supposed influential British subject, a portion of the said claim to him.

(3.) That in the interval between locating and Crown-granting several tunnels had been driven on supposed leads on said property, and to the present no mineral or mineral lead has been discovered, thus establishing the fact the affidavit on which the Crown grant was issued was insufficient.

(4.) That all the Acts bearing on such cases convey the conclusion that surface rights to mineral claims are given for mining purposes only.

(5.) That no portion of the said Loudon Mineral Claim is now used or required for mining operations, and that the said Harris and associates are selling, leasing, and otherwise disposing of the surface of said Mineral Claim, to the serious detriment of other settlers thereon, as if they had made an absolute purchase from the Crown of all surface rights in the first instance, instead of locating a mineral claim.

(6.) Your petitioners, therefore, pray that since the said property is not required for mining purposes, and since the affidavit on which the Crown grant was issued, is defective, that the whole surface rights be thrown on the market by the Crown, having a respect for present occupants, the locator and associates included, or otherwise disposed of as may do a fair measure of justice to present occupants and holders of improvements thereon.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

MICHAEL KISLIN, Miner and Prospector ;
 NICOLA D. PALORCIA, Shoemaker ;
 A. D. MCKENZIE, Laundry ;
 and 41 others.

VICTORIA, B. C.:

Printed by RICHARD WOLFENDEN, Printer to the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

1899.