

PETITION.

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To the Honourable the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia, in Parliament assembled:

The humble petition of the New Westminster and Vancouver Tramway Company, Limited, sheweth as follows:—

1. That your petitioners are a company authorized under an Act of this Legislature to construct, equip, and operate an electric tramway between the Cities of Vancouver and New Westminster.

2. That your petitioners have, in accordance with the terms of the charter granted to them by your Honourable Body, constructed, equipped, and are now operating a line of electric tramway between the said two cities.

3. That, in a former petition which your petitioners have presented to this Honourable House during the present Session, they have set out the expenditure which has already been made by them upon their line, and a statement of the changes and additions which they intend to make in the equipment, organization, and grades of their said undertaking.

4. That your petitioners have entered into a solemn obligation before the Private Bills Committee of your Honourable Body to carry out and complete these changes before the first day of July in the present year, and that your petitioners confidently assert that when the proposed alterations are completed your petitioners' tramway will be so completely equipped and operated as that it will furnish ample accommodation for all the needs of the public for many years to come.

5. That your petitioners have been informed that an Act has been introduced at the present Session of your Honourable House to extend the charter granted in the year 1889 to the "New Westminster and Vancouver Short Line Railway Company," and asking for authority to the said company to operate their said line by electric or any other motive power now known, or that may be hereafter discovered, and to erect poles, stretch wires, and construct all necessary appliances to enable the company to carry out their undertaking by the use or application of any motive power.

6. Your petitioners allege that the said company was incorporated in the year 1889, and by their Act of Incorporation they were required to commence the construction of their said railway within two years from the sixth day of April, 1889, and to complete the same within three years from the said date.

7. That the said date fixed for the commencement of the construction of the said road has long since elapsed, and that the date for the completion of the said road, under the terms of the said charter, will expire on the sixth day of April, 1892; and your petitioners allege that up to the present date, so far from the construction of the said road having been commenced or carried on, the said company have never done any *bond fide* work in connection with their said road, and that it will be absolutely impossible for them to complete the same within the terms of their charter.

8. Your petitioners further allege that, until your petitioners, by the investment of large capital, had demonstrated the feasibility of carrying on a profitable tramway system between the two cities, the said "New Westminster and Vancouver Short Line Railway Company" had done nothing to demonstrate any intention to carry out the terms of their said charter.

9. That your petitioners consider it would be unfair and very prejudicial to their rights if the said company, which has been incorporated for the purpose of operating an ordinary railway, should be allowed to change their system in order to enter into a ruinous competition with your petitioners.

Your petitioners, therefore, pray that the said "New Westminster and Vancouver Short Line Railway Company" may not be authorized by any Act of your Honourable House to change the system of motive power granted to them by their said Act of Incorporation.

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

Dated this ninth day of March, A.D. 1892.

[L.S.]

D. OPPENHEIMER,
President.

VICTORIA, B.C.:

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