
PETITION.

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

The humble petition of Amor DeCosmos, of the City of Victoria, Esquire, sheweth as follows:—

1. That your petitioner is the President of the Board of Provisional Directors of the Victoria, Saanich and New Westminster Railway Company.

2. That the said Company was first incorporated under an Act of the Parliament of Canada, assented to on the 20th day of March A. D. 1889.

3. That subsequently, on the 10th day of July, A. D. 1891, an Act of re-incorporation was passed by the said Parliament of Canada.

4. That under the provisions of the said Statute, and of the general law of the Dominion of Canada respecting railways, the said Company is empowered to lay out, construct, equip and operate a line of railway, from a point in or near the City of Victoria to a point at or near Schwartz Bay, North Saanich, on Vancouver Island.

5. The said Company are also empowered, under their Acts of Incorporation and the general law of the Dominion of Canada, as aforesaid, to construct divers branch lines.

6. That your petitioner has been informed that a Bill has been introduced into your Honourable House, at this present Session, praying for the incorporation of a Company, to be known as "The Victoria and Sidney Railway Company," and asking for power to lay out, construct, equip, maintain and operate a line of railway from some convenient and accessible point in the City of Victoria, by the most feasible and available engineering route to the town-site of Sidney, in the District of North Saanich.

7. That the said Victoria, Saanich and New Westminster Railway Company have in contemplation the building of a branch line from their main line or road which will traverse, as nearly as may be, the same section of country as that through which the power to construct a railway is asked by the said "The Victoria and Sidney Railway Company."

8. That the provisional directors of the said Victoria, Saanich and New Westminster Railway Company have already expended, on behalf of the said Company, in exploration and preliminary surveys, and for incidental expenses connected with the organization of the Company, the sum of about twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000), and have in good faith been carrying out the provisions of their charter; and that it is the intention of the promoters to push forward the work of construction of the said railway with all possible speed this year.

9. That the said the Victoria, Saanich and New Westminster Railway Company have power under their Act and *bona fide* intend to construct, equip and operate a line of railway ferry from Schwartz Bay to Point Roberts and other points, the result of which will be to

shorten the communication between the cities of Victoria and New Westminster to a distance of sixty-six (66) miles, and the said Company expect to be able to carry passengers from the said City of Victoria to New Westminster in two hours and thirty-seven minutes, allowing thirty minutes for stoppages on the way.

10. Your petitioner, on behalf of the said Victoria, Saanich and New Westminster Railway Company, respectfully submits to your Honourable House that in the interests of the public it is not advisable to charter the construction of the Victoria and Sidney Railway, inasmuch as it will run through a portion of the district which will certainly be covered by the Victoria, Saanich and New Westminster Railway Company, and will not have any terminal facilities or other especial advantages which will make it an undertaking either profitable to the Company or beneficial to the public.

Your petitioner, therefore, prays, on behalf of the said Victoria, Saanich and New Westminster Railway Company, and the Board of Provisional Directors thereof, that the said Act to incorporate the Victoria and Sidney Railway Company may not be passed at the present Session of your Honourable House.

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

A. DeCosmos.

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

VICTORIA, B. C. :

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