

PETITION.

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

We, the undersigned, owners of land in Township Twenty-three (23), in the District of New Westminster, in the Province of British Columbia :

Whereas a petition has been circulated in this settlement, in the name of a Company, entitled the "British Columbia Improvement Company," and F. Carter Cotton and others, shareholders in said Company, said petition having reference to dyking the Sumas Prairie and lands in vicinity :

We, the undersigned, do hereby deprecate the action of the framers of said petition, in that no public meeting was called, and a number of landholders interested had no opportunity of expressing an opinion with regard thereto.

And further, we, the undersigned landholders, do hereby disclaim all liabilities as foreshadowed in said petition.

Matthew Hall.

Thos. M. Hall.

A. J. Street.

Mrs. Forsyth.

Thos. Carter.

Wm. Carter.

Isaac Tyson.

Thos. H. Irwin.

S. Ford.

William Ford.

F. Lickman.

George Lickman.

Sampson Toop.

Hector Toop.

G. Hall.

W. B. Hall.

M. Hitton.

C. Ford.

Dated this 19th day of January, 1891.

PETITION.

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RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

QUEEN VICTORIA ON RELIGIOUS LIBERTY.

The following is an extract from a proclamation issued to her subjects, in 1858, by Her Majesty Queen Victoria :—

“Firmly relying ourselves on the truth of Christianity, and acknowledging with gratitude the solace of religion, we disclaim alike the right and the desire to impose our convictions on any of our subjects. We declare it to be our Royal will and pleasure that none be in any wise favoured, none molested or disquieted, by reason of their religious faith or observance, but that all shall alike enjoy the equal and impartial protection of the law; and we do strictly charge and enjoin all those who may be in authority under us, that they abstain from all interference with the religious belief or worship of any of our subjects, on pain of our highest displeasure.”

PETITION FROM VICTORIA CITY, PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

To the Honourable the Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly, in Parliament assembled.

We, the undersigned, citizens of British Columbia, twenty-one years of age or more, believing that religious liberty is the natural right of all men, and that in regard to religious faith and observances they should be allowed to follow the dictates of conscience, do earnestly pray your honourable body not to pass any Bill concerning Sunday, or the Lord's Day, or any other religious rite, ceremony or observance, which would interfere with the rights or religious freedom of ANY of Her Majesty's subjects.

Fred. G. Walker.

Alan S. Dumbleton.

J. A. Kenning.

F. C. Holden.

Frank C. Wolfenden.

H. B. W. Aikman.

And 1002 others.

[A similar petition from the City of Vancouver, with 570 names attached, was received.]