

PETITION.

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

THE HUMBLE PETITION OF THE RESIDENTS AND RATEPAYERS OF THE CITY OF VANCOUVER
SHEWETH :—

That by the thirty-fifth section of the "Vancouver Water Works Company's Act, 1886," certain powers are given to the City of Vancouver, by which they are enabled to acquire, by purchase, the works and property of the Vancouver Water Works Company :

That the City of Vancouver is desirous of acquiring the said works and property, provided they can do so by paying a fair and reasonable price therefor :

That the City of Vancouver has, under the provisions of the said thirty-fifth clause, given to the Vancouver Water Works Company notice of its intention to proceed to arbitration, to ascertain the value of the said works and property :

That the Vancouver Water Works Company, before this present session of Your Honourable House, agreed, under certain conditions, to proceed to arbitration, to ascertain the value of the said works and property :

That without giving any notice, as provided by Your Honourable House for the introduction of Private Bills, the Vancouver Water Works Company have introduced to Your Honourable House a Bill to amend the thirty-fifth clause of the "Vancouver Water Works Company's Act, 1886," making it obligatory on the City to purchase the said works in a period of time within which it would be impracticable to do so, and in default of the City acquiring the said works, to grant the Vancouver Water Works Company the exclusive right to construct and maintain water works in the City of Vancouver for a period of ten years :

That the present works are not adequate for the supply of water to the said City, and if an exclusive right was granted to the Vancouver Water Works Company, it would be a great injustice and hardship to the said City, as the City would be at the mercy of a Company having for its sole object gain and profit to its shareholders ; and, moreover, the City would be left without adequate protection in the event of fire within its limits :

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that Your Honourable House will be pleased to reject the Bill as introduced by the Vancouver Water Works Company, as no proper notices have been advertised, as provided by the rules for the introduction of such a Bill, and as it would work a great injury to the City, granting any exclusive right whatever to the Vancouver Water Works Company, and that the privileges and powers granted to the City of Vancouver by Your Honourable House in 1886—to acquire the said works, or to construct water works—should not be interfered with, as the City of Vancouver are desirous of and have given notice of their intention to proceed to arbitration, with the object of acquiring, by purchase, the said works :

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

CHARLES G. FORSBERG,
S. HARCUS,
THOS. GRAY,

JOHN J. IRWIN,
FRANK LOGG,
WILLIAM NEVARD,

and three hundred and fifty-four others.

[Two similar petitions received with one hundred and twenty-four and four hundred and seven signatures, respectively.]

VICTORIA, B. C.

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PETITION.

To the Honourable the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia, now in Session.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURABLE HOUSE:—

We, the undersigned, residents of Nicola Division, humbly pray that your honourable body may be pleased to grant unto the Nicola, Kamloops and Similkameen Railway promoters a charter to construct, equip, maintain and operate said line of railway, from Spence's Bridge through Nicola Valley to Kamloops and some point in the Similkameen District.

We believe that were such a line constructed through our rich coal fields at the Forks of Nicola, and the silver mines at Stump Lake, connecting with the Granite Creek and Similkameen sections, rich mineral developments would be one result, in addition to a vast expansion of the agricultural and pastoral resources of a section now, through isolation, comparatively worthless, but from climatic influences capable of being converted into the greatest and best fruit-growing centre of the Mainland interior, as it is well known that peaches are grown to perfection on several ranches in the Valley of the Similkameen.

It is also more than likely that the "Nicola, Kamloops and Similkameen Railway" would connect with proposed extension of "Shuswap and Okanagan" line to Osoyoos.

Feeling certain that the importance and provincial value of any section of railway is more correctly estimated by your honourable House than it can possibly be by us, your humble petitioners, we, with all confidence in the wisdom of your deliberations, cheerfully submit proposed scheme to your consideration.

And are, respectfully,

Robert Smith.
 C. E. Thomas, Nicola Lake.
 Clair Smith, Nicola Lake.
 A. H. Owen.
 Sam Sturch.
 John Corbett.
 John Gilmore.
 Geo. C. Bent, Quilchenna.
 R. Charters, "
 Richard Clarke, "
 Neil McInnis.
 George Stuart, Douglas Lake.
 William Kraft.
 Charlie Barrett.
 Ralph Ross.
 John Beak.
 Fred. J. Crake, Rockford, B. C.
 R. Scott, "
 W. G. Lauder. "
 R. J. Scott, "
 John Keyes.
 George Richardson.
 William Charters, Coutlee.
 G. B. Armstrong, Lower Nicola.

A. E. Howse, Nicola Lake.
 Samuel Moore, Quilchenna.
 John Wilson.
 J. W. Winslow.
 H. Richardson.
 James Corbett.
 E. O'Rourke, Quilchenna.
 S. B. Stott, "
 Alex. McEachern, "
 R. O'Rourke.
 Joseph Guichon, "
 John Blackwell.
 William Lunn.
 William Charters.
 Archie McInnes.
 Thomas Tannahill, Rockford, B. C.
 Dan. McInnes, "
 W. A. Scott. "
 S. J. P. Scott.
 J. C. Moore.
 John Moore.
 George Forsyth.
 James Darrach, Coutlee.

Nicola Valley, February 10th, 1891.