PETITION.

To the Honourable the Speaker and the Members of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

The humble petition of the undersigned owners and tax payers in the City of Vancouver sheweth:—

That your petitioners are residents and taxpayers of the City of Vancouver.

That your petitioners are desirous that the proposed amendments to the Charter of Incorporation of the City of Vancouver, as embodied in the Bill now before your Honourable House, should be passed into law.

That of the present liability of the City amounting to \$1,815,357.00, and that amount was incurred prior to August, 1892, and no new debt has been incurred since that date, excepting debts for local improvements.

That your petitioners submit that nothing in the proposed amendments give greater facilities than now exist for the incurring of debts, and the Council are not desirous of increasing the debt of the City, but on the other hand are desirous of decreasing the debt and lightening the present taxation.

That the proposed amendments are not formulated in closed and secret meetings of the Council, but in open meetings to which the public had admission and attended.

That the proposed amendments were duly advertised, and the public of Vancouver have had full knowledge for some time past of their nature and full opportunity of objecting to the same to the Council, but no objection has been made.

That the proposed amendments have been discussed and approved of by the full Board of Aldermen.

That a public meeting was called by advertisement to discuss the proposed amendments, that a large number of ratepayers attended thereat, and after each proposed amendment was read out and discussed, a resolution was passed by a large majority present, that the said amendments were satisfactory to the citizens of Vancouver.

That the proposed amendments are duly framed with the object of giving more complete self-government to the citizens of Vancouver, and without any intention of interfering with the liberty of any individual, or restraining any enterprise or trade.

That the powers sought to be obtained are already possessed by other municipalities in the Dominion of Canada and elsewhere, and have been proved to be beneficial in effect.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that the proposed amendments be passed into law, and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c., &c.

J. Clarkson, Jas. Clandening, Henry Mutrie, John M. Spinks, and 267 others.