

on the level ground, or to carry on
head logging. Nothing could be
more friendly and sensible than
their professions in this respect. But
they wish for a lease of a portion
of the shore of the inlet for timber
cutting purposes, so that they can
work upon it as head loggers, with
the feeling that they shall not be
liable to be turned off, if white
men come.

We spoke ^{on this subject} to Mr. Nelson of
Burrard's Inlet, whose firm are the
principal, if not the only lessees of timber
lands in the Inlet, and he appeared
to have no objections to urge against
a compliance with the desires of the
Indians; on the contrary, his firm
will be glad of an opportunity of
buying all the logs which either
Indian or white loggers can offer
there within reasonable distance from

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mail to the
Secretary.

The Hon: The Chief Com

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B.C. MINISTRY OF LANDS, PARKS AND HOUSING.
Number 3138/76.
Letter re Sechelt Band, 07 Dec 1876.

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Thunder Bay, Jarvis Inlet
7th December
1876.

Referring to the visit to us
when in Victoria, of the She-shell
(Sechelt) chief Shale, and his
application to us for a timber lease
in this inlet; and with reference
also to your having, at our request,
reserved a portion of the Inlet, pending
our visit to it, we have now the
honour to inform you that we
have settled the reserves as stated
in our Minister of Decision sent by this
mail to the Honorable the Provincial
Secretary.

The Hon: The Chief Commissioner of Lands & Works
Victoria

There is no land available in
Jervis Inlet for agricultural settlers
and white men are never likely
to settle on its shores except for
mining or fishing purposes. We
had great difficulty, over a shore line
of about 200 miles, in finding a
reasonable quantity of land for the
reserves of the She-She-llo (Sechelt) who
number 167 persons.

The merchantable Douglas fir in
this inlet, as on most parts of the coast
of the province, grows in scattered patches
where suitable soil and shelter exist.
It is stated to us by a very trustworthy witness
Mr. Iron, who has traversed the whole Jervis
Inlet country in search of timber, that every
Douglas fir section into which it would
pay a sawmill owner to put a logging camp
is included in timber leases granted to
white men. It is only possible, outside of the

leased ground,
is to say, to get
the help of
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The
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They do not
women are
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The Indians
Barren's Inlet
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Indians have
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very trustworthily witness
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of timber, that every
which it would
to put a logging camp
bees granted to
possible, outside of the

beard ground, to carry on ^{what is called} "hand logging", that
is to say, logging by 2 or 3 men, without
the help of oxen or the other aids:
particularities of a regular logging camp.

The Indians in this Inlet are
well behaved and inclined to be industrious.
They do not drink whiskey, and their
women are virtuous. A number of
healthy young children are growing up.
The Indians trade with Kamovis and
Barrow's Inlet and are punctual in
their payments. Altogether they deserve
to be encouraged. There are 2 or 3 white
men "hand logging" in the Inlet at the
present time, and others have done
so last year and the year before.
Stimulated by their example, the
Indians have lately put into the
water ^(1,300,000) ~~1,300,000~~ feet of sawlogs which
quantity was purchased from them
at \$3 thousand ft. Deceived in the
water. They will be glad to see white
men in the Inlet, whether to work

their sawmills
Looking
in which the
meagreness
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a timber hood
and establish
hope it may
Provincially
wishes of the
to timber to
or may
They wish
, exclusively to
timber on
that portion of
Queen's Road
to the head of
a mile back,
similar strip

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their sawmills at Bernard's Inlet.

Looking to the rough country in which these Indians live, the meagreness of the resources upon which they have to depend for a livelihood, their proved industry and established good behavior, we hope it may be possible for the Provincial Government to meet the wishes of the Indians with respect to timber leases, in such manner as may be found desirable.

They wish to have the right, exclusively to themselves, of cutting timber on the ^{South Western} shore of that portion of Jarvis Inlet called Queen's Reach from Point Patrick to the head of the reach, and say half a mile back from the water, also a similar strip between the two small

resources on the west side of Porpoise Bay (see our rough map sent to the Provincial Secretary).

The acreage of the former may seem considerable, but to anyone who has examined the ground, the proposed grant will appear a small affair in reality. The ground is very steep and rocky, and the probability is that "hand-lapping" can be profitably carried on only on few parts of it.

We stated to the Indians that we would ask the Provincial General-in-Chief to consider their request favourably and would let them know the result.

We hope you may be able to give effect to our recommendation. The concession

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a very worthy
old and excellent
Inlet, and
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Dr of Porpoise
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the Indians that
Provincial General:
their request favourably
in that the

you may be
to our
The concession

is not much to give; it would satisfy
a very worthy tribe of Indians - the
old and exclusive occupants of the
Inlet, and by causing an additional
supply of saw logs to be offered for
sale, it would go far as it counts,
have the effect of helping one of
the principal industries of the province.

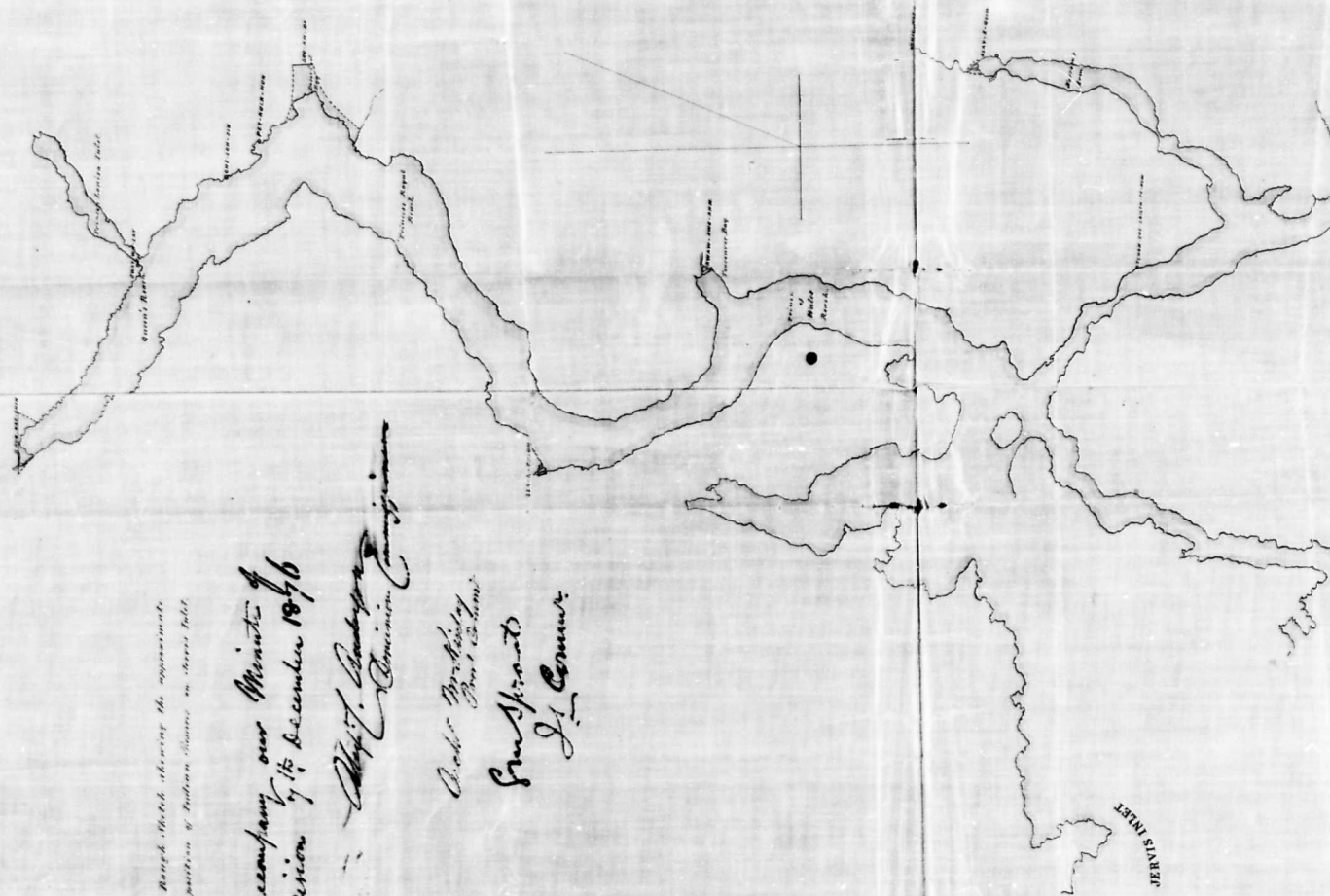
We have the honour to be
Sir,

Your obedient Servants

Alfred L. Anderson
Secy. Commr.

Archd. McKinlay
Prov. Commr.

Geo Sproat
Joint Commissioner



rough sketch showing the approximate position of Indian houses on Skeena Inlet.

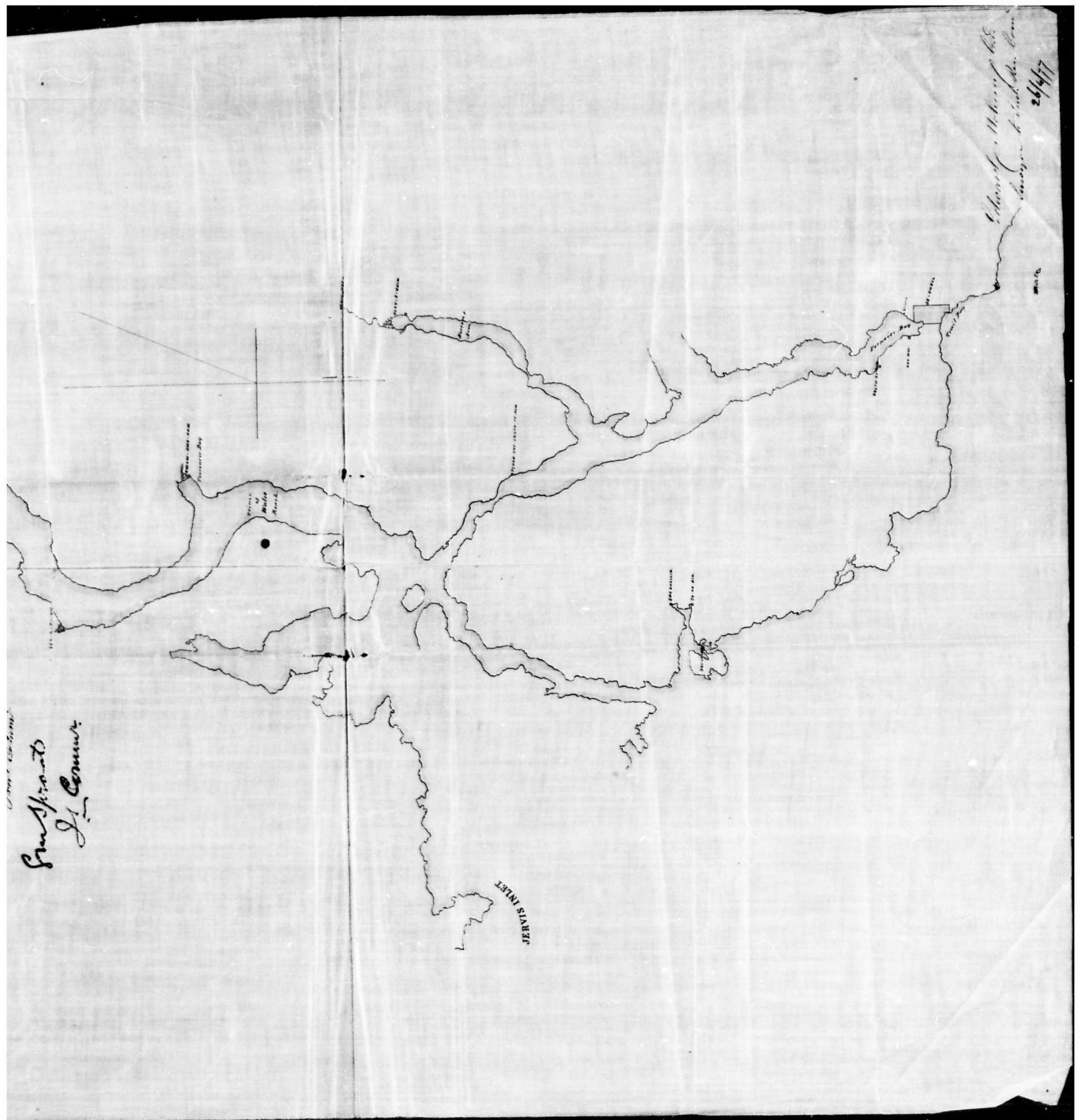
*To accompany our Minutes of
Decision of 15 December 1876*

*Wm. J. C. Thompson
Commissioner*

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*Sechart Bay
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*Sechart Bay, B.C.
26/4/77*

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Box 1 Number 3138/76.
File 5 Letter re Sechart Band, 07 Dec 1876.