

A Chinese petition

Rec'd G. C. ...
3/7-91

(Translation)

599

We, Cheung Wai, Kin Wai, Wa Lun, Cham Cheung, Man Kwai and Leung Tsong -subjects of the Chinese Empire- present this petition, the cause being that your petitioners through being stupid and inexperienced have been taken advantage of and are therefore dissatisfied. Your petitioners pray that Your Excellency will rigorously order the Justice of the Peace of this place to make good to your Chinese petitioners the money collected from Chu Kee or Ah Kee who tried secretly to escape from here without paying his debts. All are aware that gain should be obtained righteously and that when clearly it has not been righteously obtained, it causes unrest to the common people. Under the latter circumstances, how can the people be satisfied? As for instance, when last year about the 12th month (Jan'y or Feb'y) the judge at our request commanded an officer to arrest Chu Kee or Ah Kee for secretly running away without paying wages. The officer - a white man named Dennis - soon arrested Chu Kee and happily obtained \$400 from him, after which he liberated him. Dennis then returned to court and made known the fact that he had received the \$400.00, but that it was to be kept temporarily in court until the 1st of June, 1891, when should Chu Kee not return, the money would be paid out to the laborers. Now it is several months past that period and the money is not forthcoming, all that is being said is that an order had come from your Excellency that the amount is to go to the Government. Now why should this be so? Does it not seem as if because we are stupid and inexperienced, that therefore we can be imposed upon? To be fair and just with the people will eventually win their hearts. Besides with territories so extensive why should you quarrel over the little hard-earned money of your inferior people? Your petitioners are compelled to present this petition in English and Chinese so that Your Excellency might thoroughly understand the case and immediately order the Justice of the Peace of this place not to confiscate the money deposited by Chu Kee but to pay it over to the Chinese laborers. If Your Excellency will do this, it will be a kindness never to be forgotten.

The following are the names of the creditors and the amounts reported:-

Chan Wa Lun for wages - - - - -	\$16.25
San Cham Cheung for merchandise - - - - -	65.00
Lau Man Kwai for wages - - - - -	95.00
Lau Kin Kwai ditto - - - - -	55.00
Cheng Wai for beef - - - - -	50.00
Leung Tsong for wages - - - - -	87.00
Total sued	368.25

To
His Excellency at
Victoria.

From
San Cham Cheung and others,
Kootenay, 1891.

*Jno Benedict Gardner,
Translator*

新嘉坡華民 浪像建維 華研 港昌 磁柱 梁名 署為

欺壓愚蒙輿情不服乞 憲弁新孔榜本處西官將所
收徐其私逃之員新歸華民以俯恤工商事並開利根
於義而義利不明取舍必亂朝野豈能輸服耶如舊
歲十月間稟官命差為徐其私逃之員一業業蒙
番差剪叮士當場捉獲幸收到徐其員四佰元將
他釋放是時剪叮士四街聲明所收之員四佰元暫存
衙內候至禮拜七月一號徐其不返方行交拆工人等
情今已過期數月其員依然不候只說 大憲察臨
新婦 皇家果屬何因要至愚蒙粗若可欺公道
終屬人心况堂堂英甸何爭小民此小血汗之資
迫得譯唐番字樣謹將情節稟上伏乞 大憲
廉明斧斷一而此榜本外批方官時前所以徐其
之款當以准歸華工免充皇家實費 鴻慈於
不既矣

計開欠單列左

- 欠陳華聯工員壹拾元
- 欠莊滿昌貨員陸拾伍元
- 欠劉毓桂工員九拾伍元
- 欠劉建仁工員伍拾伍元
- 欠張懷高員伍拾元
- 欠梁倉工員八拾元
- 共銀壹佰八元



西歷一千八百九十一年由新嘉坡華民

新嘉坡 港昌

大英仁憲大人 署察林施行

廣東省城...

欺壓愚蒙與情不服乞 憲齊新孔榜本外...

取徐其私逃之月新歸華民以備他工...

於義而義利不明取舍必亂朝野豈能轉服...

歲十七月間稟官命差為徐其私逃工月一案...

番差剪哨士官場投獲拿訊到徐其月四相元將

他釋放是時剪哨士四街聲明所以三月四相元暫存

街內候至陽月一號徐其不返方行互拆工人等

情今以過期數月其月依然不候只說 大意案臨

新婦 皇家果屬何因要至憲蒙制若可欺公道

終屬人心况堂堂英甸何爭小民些小血汗之資

迫得詳 唐者字樣謹將情節稟上伏乞 查憲

廉明斧斷一而小 榜本外地方官時前所以徐其

之撤當且准歸華工免充皇家實載 鴻慈於

不說矣

計開欠單列左

欠陳學研工月事拾元

欠莊湛昌貨月陸拾伍元

欠劉錫桂工月九拾伍元

欠劉建項工月伍拾伍元

欠張陳 尚月伍拾元

欠梁倉 工月八拾元

共銀票板欠月各 拾八元

西歷一千八百九十一年南...

新港昌

利大英和憲大人

有卷案施行

...

大英一千九百零九年
British Columbia
1899

自海
一千九百零九年
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Printed at the ... with Home Cook, Vancouver

大英和憲大入...

新海島... 由早...



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