



L. L. Kennedy

Governor.

By His Excellency Arthur  
Edward Kennedy, Companion  
of the Most Honorable Order  
of the Bath Governor and  
Commander-in-Chief of  
Vancouver Island and its  
Dependencies &c. &c. &c.

To Joseph Needham Esquire, Barrister at  
Law, a Justice of Our Lady The Queen.

Greeting,

I, reposing especial trust  
in your learning integrity and ability  
do hereby assign and commission you  
the said Joseph Needham to enquire  
by the oath of good and lawful  
men of the said Colony by whom the  
truth of the matter may be better  
known and by other ways and means

whereby

1777 January 20 1866



whereby you can or may the better know  
more fully the truth of all treasons  
misprisions of treasons, felonies, misdeeds  
offences and injuries whatsoever and  
also the accessories of the same within  
the said Colony by whomsoever and  
howsoever done perpetrated or committed  
and by whom to whom, when, how,  
and in what manner, and of all  
articles and circumstances to the  
premises and every or any of them  
howsoever concerning. And for this  
time to hear and otherwise determine  
the said treasons and other the premises  
according to the laws now in force of  
the said Colony, and also to deliver  
all

all and every the Gaol of Our Lady  
the Queen in the said Colony of the  
prisoners therein being, according to  
the said Laws now in force in the  
said Colony, with further power and  
authority to hold Courts of Judicature  
and to summon on cause to be sum-  
moned before you in such manner  
and by such forms as you may  
think proper all persons by means of  
whom it may be deemed that the  
truth of the matter aforesaid may be  
more fully disclosed and made known  
and also to order the production of all  
Books and Documents which shall be  
produced or examined in any Court  
of law and also to commit to the

Custody

custody of the Keeper of Her Majesty's  
Gaol in Victoria any person who shall  
in any way presume to refuse or neglect  
to obey any of your lawful commands  
in the premises and whatsoever you  
shall do in ~~and~~ about the premises  
you shall with all convenient speed  
return to me at Victoria aforesaid.

Given under my hand  
and the Public Seal  
of the Colony this *sixteenth*  
day of February in the  
year of Our Lord one  
thousand eight and sixty  
six and the Twenty ninth  
year of Her Majesty's Reign

By His Excellency's Command

*William H. Young*  
Colonial Secretary