

INDEX
VOLUME 2
MINUTES OF DECISION, CORRESPONDENCE & SKETCHES
LETTERBOOK No. 3
Joint Indian Reserve Commission (JIRC) & SPROAT
February 1879 to September 1879
[No Reg. Num.]

The original of this volume is an oversized book. The original pages are a bluish colour. Each page is numbered. The original book is double-sided. The copy has been made single-sided. Thus, the position of the page numbers alternates. On pages when there are two letters, or the end of one letter and the commencement of another, it is important to realize that the addressee is at the end of the letter, not the beginning. The text of the copy has been slightly reduced to fit onto legal sized paper. The maps, however, are the same size as found in the original volume.

This volume is a "Letterbook", that is, it contains copies of letters which, at some later point, would have been made into formal correspondence. The original formal letters are, most likely, somewhere within the RG10 microfilms. The letterbook was, probably, maintained generally by a copyist, although, based upon the handwriting, it appears that Sproat also used the letterbook personally.

There are frequent references to enclosures, the dates of which are sometimes cited, but these enclosures, with a few exceptions, were not reproduced in the letterbook. Since, however, an enclosure was noted in the letter, it is also noted on the index. Some letters are noted as being "cancelled." In this situation, the letter is included in the index, with the notation that it was cancelled. Sproat appears to have written a number of letters on the same day, sometimes to the same people, sometimes even on the same subject to the same people. This is a somewhat curious correspondence practice.

This volume contains correspondence related to Sproat's work as sole Indian Reserve Commissioner. Like Volume 1, this volume contains correspondence upon a variety of issues including surveying, disputes with the provincial government, agreements with Indians, Sproat's perception and interpretation of policy and his perception and interpretation of his interaction with Indians and settlers. Sproat never felt restrained in offering his opinion on a variety of subjects, even if, as he admitted at least once, his opinion was "perhaps a little outside [his] special duties." (p. 301) He clearly placed priority on his own work stating that:

[t]he actual written decision of the Commissioner is the important document - the survey sketch being merely explanatory - ...

I propose to follow my present practice of preparing at all places a Field Minute which being dated and signed is really a rough Minute of Decision.

(Properly I should copy these and send one copy for custody to the Departmental officers, but hitherto I have never been able to keep up the clerical work without large arrears, do what I will, -still as these papers might be lost by being on mules which might be drowned, or in boats that might be wrecked, both of which have happened (though without losing the papers,) I must endeavour to get copies made in the field somehow.)" (pp. 62-63)

Sproat also thought that the Minutes of decision would be prepared *after* the survey had been completed. Sproat proposed preparing instructions to surveyors with respect to each reserve [See CLSR FBBC 31529] and then preparing the Minutes after the surveys had been done. In this method the survey and the Minute of decision would conform exactly. (p. 63) "If I should leave the service before preparing the formal Minutes there would be the "Field Minutes" and the "Instructions to Surveyors" which would answer every purpose with the advantage of explanatory details." (p. 63) In another letter he states that "[t]o prevent mistakes, I have been careful, on the ground, to write elaborate minutes, showing, not only what was to be done, but the reasons ..." (p. 14) Almost contradictorily, with respect to surveys, Sproat stated that the "Reserve Commission has had nothing to do with surveys of Indian Reserves, but that these are made in pursuance of arrangements made between yourself and the Dom. Officer in charge of the Surveys [sic]." (pp. 111-12)

In discussing the work of the Commission, Sproat noted that the costs were being borne by the Dominion Government, and that "fully one half of the whole time of the Comm^{sn} is spent in examining and protecting not only the right of white settlers, but the customary advantage and fair expectations of their position as settlers." (p. 37) Politics and balancing the resolution of conflicts between the Indians and the settlers consumed a good deal of Sproat's correspondence.

The position of the two Gov^{ts} in reference to the adjustment of the Indian Land question is not always well understood or recognised [sic] by white settlers or Indian tribes yielding naturally to the influence of local and personal interests and considerations." (p. 39; see also pp. 44-45, 46, 289-90)

Sproat states that the "Commission has certain things to do which take up a certain time - the census - speeches - explanations and replies - then visits to all the lands wanted, and, next, questions with white settlers, and finally a reivew of the whole question of lands for the group of Indians concerned." (p. 221)

As Sproat indicated, many of the issues dealt with in the correspondence in this volume are expanded upon in his field notes and also his minutes of decision. A limited number of Sproat's field notes have been located. They are in volume 4 of the federal collection.

It was, at times, difficult to identify bands and the type of document for this volume. Some different headings have been used for this volume. In particular, the matter of the Sumas Dyking project, which took up some considerable correspondence and involved three bands: Sumas, Matsqui and Chilliwack. In this instance, all three bands have been identified. Also, the identifier "Williams Lake Dist." was used. There were a number of letters generally referring to Indians in this district, but identifying no particular group. Thus, the only identifier available was the district itself. The notable addition in terms of type of document is financial statement. Sproat submitted a number of them and they were quite distinct documents.

People of Note

Alexander Caufield Anderson	Former Indian Reserve Commissioner, Canada (JIRC)
George Blenkinsop	Indian Reserve Commission staff
Indians identified by Sproat	See complete list under Additional Subjects
James Lenihan	Indian Superintendent, New Westminster
Archibald McKinlay	Former Indian Reserve Commissioner, B.C. (JIRC)
Edward Mohun	Surveyor to the Indian Reserve Commission

People of Note (cont'd)

Peter O'Reilly	Stipendiary Magistrate
Dr. Israel Wood Powell	Indian Superintendent, B.C.
Gilbert M. Sproat	Indian Reserve Commissioner
Lawrence Vankoughnet	Deputy Superintendent General Indian Affairs, B.C.
Forbes George Vernon	Chief Commissioner of Lands & Works, B.C.

Items Located in the Indian Land Registry

None for this volume

Missing pages

None

**ANNOTATED INDEX
VOLUME 2**

M.O.D. is an abbreviation for Minute of Decision

Reserve names are current spellings and current numbers, unless the reserve no longer exists.

Band/Tribe names are as they appear within the volume.

PILQ refers to *Papers on the Indian Land Question*

DATE mm dd yyyy	RESERVE	BAND/TRIBE	AUTHOR/ SURVEYOR	TYPE DOC	PAGE
02 01 1879		Sliammon	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	2-3
02 01 1879	Lyackson 3 ¹	Lyackson	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	2-3
02 01 1879	Lyackson 3	Lyackson	Sproat	Letter	3
02 01 1879		Lower Nicola ²	Sproat	Letter	4-5
02 01 1879		Adams Lake ³	Sproat	Letter	4-5
02 01 1879		Neklakapamuk	Sproat	Letter	4-5
02 01 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter	5-6
02 01 1879		Langley ⁴	Sproat	Letter	6
02 04 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	6-7
02 05 1879		General ⁵	Sproat	Letter	7-8
02 05 1878	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter	8-9
02 05 1879			Sproat	Letter	10-11
02 05 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Telegram	11
02 06 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter	12
02 07 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	12-13
02 07 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter	14-15
02 07 1879		General	Sproat ⁶	Letter	15-16
02 13 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter [cancelled]	16-17
02 13 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter	17-18

¹ When referring to the reserve on Valdez Island, it is presumably this reserve. The letter found on p. 3 is the letter Sproat enclosed.

² See vl. 1, pp. 312-13.

³ See vl. 1, pp. 300-01.

⁴ These Indians are currently known as Kwantlen First Nation. [See NRCan Schedule (2005), p. 89]

⁵ Sproat remarks that during the course of his work since June 1878, he has dealt with 4653 Indians. He provides a breakdown of the population figures. These were probably obtained from Geo. Blenkinsop who was the Census take for the IRC. Sproat states that the B.C. Indians "would be a most valuable part of the population of Canada, could they get their lands adjusted, and be cared for and advised and induced to give up their nonsensical practice of "potlatches" or distribution of property amongst themselves." (p. 8)

⁶ Sproat states that he "would recommend the Department (i.e. Indian Affairs) to adopt the grouping of the Indians ascertained by the Indian Reserve Commission, as that grouping exactly follows the people's wishes and in fact is their own divisions." (p. 16) [See pp. 31-32, this volume]

DATE mm dd yyyy	RESERVE	BAND/TRIBE	AUTHOR/ SURVEYOR	TYPE DOC	PAGE
02 14 1879	Survey	General	Sproat ⁷	Letter	18
02 14 1879	Oyster Bay 12	Chemainus	Sproat	Letter	19-20
02 14 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter	19-20
02 14 1878	Oyster Bay 12	Chemainus	Sproat	Letter	20
02 14 1878	Survey	General ⁸	Sproat	Letter	21
02 14 1879	Osoyoos 1 ⁹	Osoyoos	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	22-24
02 14 1879	Hope 1	Hope	Sproat	Letter	22-23
02 14 1879		Adams Lake	Sproat	Letter	24-28
02 14 1879		Neskainlith ¹⁰	Sproat	Letter	24-28
02 14 1879		Little Shuswap Lake	Sproat	Letter	25
02 14 1879	Langley 8	Langley ¹¹	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	28-29
02 14 1879	Musqueam 1	Musqueam ¹²	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	28-29
02 14 1879	Langley 8	Langley	Sproat	Sketch	29
02 14 1879	Musqueam 1	Musqueam	Sproat	Sketch	29
02 15 1879	Princeton Trail	Upper Similkameen/ Neklapamuk	Sproat ¹³	Letter	30
02 15 1879		Upper Similkameen/ Neklapamuk	Sproat	Sketch	30
02 13 1879		Adams Lake ¹⁴	Sproat	Letter	30-31
02 05 1879		Neklapamuk	Sproat	Letter	31-33
02 19 1879	Okanagan 1	Okanagan	Sproat	Letter	33

⁷ Sproat makes reference to a plan done by Mohun showing reserves from the mouth of Nicola to Douglas Lake which he cannot locate.

⁸ Sproat wishes to get matters in order so that the allotted reserves can be conveyed by B.C. to the Dominion. He states that Green's work "should be more in number, but if there is anything wrong at Becher Bay [Becher Bay Band], Chatham Island [Songhees Indians] or Valdez Island [Lyackson Indians] there will be a poor showing for the 1878 work." (p. 21) Sproat also requests the surveys of the Esquimalt and Victoria reserves.

⁹ Sproat encloses a letter to A.C. Anderson, former member of the JIRC, dealing with the "blunder" at Osoyoos where the Roman numerals L (50) and LI (51) relating to the townships in which the reserve was located, were incorrectly transcribed as V (5) and VI (6), townships which Sproat states "are I don't know where." (p. 23)

¹⁰ This group is currently identified as Neskonlith. Sproat makes reference to an Indian named Satan. Based upon Sproat's statements, it would appear that this man is a Neskonlith Indian.

¹¹ See vl. 14, pp. 80-82; CLSR BC 171.

¹² See vl. 14, pp. 80-82; CLSR BC 171.

¹³ Sproat notes that the land identified as "local meadow land" was much wanted by the Indians, "but I did not include it within their lands." Sproat identifies no Indian group, however, based upon his field notes, it appears to relate to lands discussed with respect to the Upper Similkameen. The co-ordinates and distances on the sketch seem questionable in relation to the land discussed in the field notes. [See vl. 4/13, p. 13]

¹⁴ See vl. 1, p. 301.

DATE mm dd yyyy	RESERVE	BAND/TRIBE	AUTHOR/ SURVEYOR	TYPE DOC	PAGE
02 19 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter	33-34
02 19 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter	34-36
02 19 1879			Sproat	Letter	36-37
02 13 1879		Similkameen/ Keremeos	Sproat ¹⁵	Letter [w/encl]	37-42
02 13 1879		Osoyoos	Sproat ¹⁶	Letter [w/encl]	37-38
02 13 1879		Similkameen/ ¹⁷ Keremeos	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	37-42
02 21 1879	Survey	General ¹⁸	Blenkinsop	Letter	42-43
02 19 1879		Similkameen/ ¹⁹ Keremeos	Sproat	Letter [unofficial]	43-44
02 19 1878	Nicola River Plains ²⁰	Lower Nicola	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	44-45
02 19 1878	Nicola River ²¹	Lower Nicola	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	45
02 19 1879		Sliammon	Sproat	Letter	46-47
02 19 1879		Klahoose	Sproat	Letter	46-47
02 19 1879		Homalco	Sproat	Letter	46-47
02 19 1879		Laichquiltach ²²	Sproat	Letter	46-47
02 19 1879	Lyackson 3 ²³	Lyackson	Sproat	Letter	47-48
02 19 1879	Survey	Lyackson	Sproat	Letter	47-48
02 19 1879	Lower Similkameen 2	Similkameen/ Keremeos	Sproat	Letter	49

¹⁵ Sproat touches upon a number of issues related to the allotment of reserves in the Similkameen Valley for the Indians he identifies as "Keremeos" including matters related to settlers who Sproat identifies as Daigneault, "a trespasser", two unidentified settlers who pre-empted land when he was allotting reserves and Cole, Mendoza, Barcelo, Richter and Barrington Price. He refers to an enclosed sketch (p. 40), but this sketch is not included in the letterbook. [See pp. 44-46, 49, 50-55, 59-60 this volume; vl. 5/2, pp. 77-80d]

¹⁶ Sproat states that when the JIRC arrived at Osoyoos, they found that the "only land assigned to the Osoyoos tribe" had been pre-empted by a settler named McConnell. This would appear to refer to a colonial allotment. [See pp. 152-161 this volume; PILQ, p. 93]

¹⁷ See vl. 5/3, p. 73a.

¹⁸ Blenkinsop requests Mohun's sketches showing Spence's Bridge to Osoyoos and his report of reconnaissance "from the Lower Similkameen toward Osoyoos, and towards Princeton, describing the country which was to accompany your sketches of the Keremeus district ..." (p. 42)

¹⁹ See p. 67, this volume; vl. 5/3, pp. 63a, 79 ff.

²⁰ See vl. 3, pp. 304, 308.

²¹ Sproat writes to Paul J. Gillie, a settler in the Nicola Valley. [See p. 80, this volume, vl. 3, pp. 300-02; vl. 4/9, pp. 22-24]

²² Sproat makes a general reference to Bute and Loughborough Inlet. This is where some of the reserves for the Laichquiltach are located.

²³ See vl. 3, p. 102.

DATE mm dd yyyy	RESERVE	BAND/TRIBE	AUTHOR/ SURVEYOR	TYPE DOC	PAGE
02 13 1879	Lower Similkameen 2	Similkameen/ Keremeos	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	50-56
02 13 1879	Lower Similkameen 2	Similkameen/ ²⁴ Keremeos	Unknown	Sketch	51
02 13 1879	Lower Similkameen 2	Similkameen/ Keremeos	Unknown	Sketch	52
02 13 1879	Lower Similkameen 2	Similkameen/ ²⁵ Keremeos	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	56
02 21 1879	Survey	Esquimalt ²⁶	Sproat	Letter	57
02 21 1879	Survey	Songhees ²⁷	Sproat	Letter	57
02 21 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	57-58
02 23 1879	Okanagan 1	Okanagan	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	59
02 22 1879		Similkameen/ Keremeos	Sproat	Letter	59-60
02 25 1879	Survey	General	Sproat ²⁸	Letter	60-66
02 25 1879		Similkameen/ Keremeos	Sproat	Letter	67-69
02 25 1879		Similkameen/ Keremeos	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	70
03 01 1879			Sproat	Letter	71
03 04 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter	72
03 04 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter	73
03 04 1879	Survey	Songhees	Sproat	Letter	74
03 04 1879	Survey	General	Jane	Letter	74
03 05 1878	Okanagan 1	Okanagan ²⁹	Sproat	Letter	75-78
03 07 1879	Survey	Comox	Sproat	Letter	79
03 04 1879	Coldwater 1 ³⁰	Coldwater	Sproat	Letter	80

²⁴ This sketch shows Mr. Daigneault's encroachment and the location of lands held by other settlers in the area. This affects Lower Similkameen 2. [See vl. 5/3, pp. 65, 73a]

²⁵ Along with the sketches, Sproat encloses a copy of E. Daigneault's pre-emption record dated October 3, 1878.

²⁶ CLSR BC 234 is the type of plan to which Sproat refers in this letter. The original survey was by Tiedeman in 1866. Jane examined this plan and Sproat signed it. [See BC234]

²⁷ Sproat refers to the "Victoria Reserves." This generally means the Songhees reserves, but could also encompass the Tsooke [Sooke] reserves. [See p. 74, this volume]

²⁸ Sproat deals with undertaking surveys in the Kamloops and Nicola districts, in the Okanagan and at Similkameen. He also discusses his manner of maintaining records and giving Instructions to Surveyors (pp. 62-63). Sproat's concept of the point at which the Minute of decision would be prepared is interesting as he perceives it would occur *after* the survey was completed.

²⁹ This letter is headed "O'Keefe's Case."

³⁰ In his field minute, Sproat mentions Charters in relation to the land at Coldwater. [See vl. 4/10, pp. 9-12]

DATE mm dd yyyy	RESERVE	BAND/TRIBE	AUTHOR/ SURVEYOR	TYPE DOC	PAGE
03 04 1879	Zoht 4	Lower Nicola ³¹	Sproat	Letter	80
03 06 1879			Sproat	Receipt	81
03 05 1879	Okanagan 1	Okanagan	Sproat	Letter [cancelled]	81-85
03 06 1879		Lytton	Sproat	Letter	85
03 10 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter	85-86
03 17 1879		General ³²	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	87-89
03 17 1879			Sproat ³³	Authority	89
03 15 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter	90-91
03 15 1879	Osoyoos 1	Osoyoos	Sproat	Letter	92-93
03 19 1879			Sproat ³⁴	Letter	94
03 17 1879		Sumas, Matsqui ³⁵ Chilliwack	Sproat	Letter	95-99
03 10 1879	Okanagan 1	Okanagan	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	100-01
03 15 1879		General	Sproat	Letter	102-03
03 17 1879		General	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	104-07
03 20 1879		Soda Creek	Sproat	Letter	108
03 20 1879		Williams Lake	Sproat	Letter	108
03 20 1879		General	Sproat	Letter	109-10
03 20 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter	110
03 22 1879		Lyackson	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	111-14
03 22 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	111-14
02 28 1879			Sproat	Financial Statement	115

³¹ This letter appears to relate to the proposed exchange at Zoht. [See vl. 3, p. 298, 300-02]

³² Sproat deals with his proposed itinerary for the coming year as well as the work done to date. He states that "the question of the Indians' lands has been examined and adjusted in the large extent of country south from Cache Creek and Lytton, and on both sides of the Gulf of Georgia up to and including Jervis Inlet and Comox."

³³ Sproat encloses an "Copy of a Report of a Committee of the Hon. The Executive Council approved by His Excellency the Lt. Governor on the 26 April 1878" which states that, with a few exceptions, Sproat's decisions in the Yale District should be viewed as final.

³⁴ Interestingly, Sproat writes to T. Elwyn requesting Mr. Wolfenden be authorized to provide him with "copies of the statistics since consolidation and "Journals 1876, 1877, 1878." Mr. Wolfenden is the "Government Printer" and is identified on the cover of the *Papers on the Indian Land Question*.

³⁵ This letter relates to the issue of the dyking project which appears to affect reserves of the Matsqui, Sumas, and Chilliwack Indians. [See vl. 1, pp. 369-79; Provincial Collection, Binder 3, Corr. Nos. 106/79, 107/79]

DATE mm dd yyyy	RESERVE	BAND/TRIBE	AUTHOR/ SURVEYOR	TYPE DOC	PAGE
03 25 1879		Kamloops, et al	Sproat	Letter & M.O.D. [copy] ³⁶	116-23
03 25 1879	Canoe Lake	North Thompson & Canoe Lake	Sproat	M.O.D. [copy]	117
03 25 1879	Kamloops 2	Kamloops	Sproat	M.O.D. [copy]	117-18
03 25 1879	Kamloops 3	Kamloops	Sproat	M.O.D. [copy]	117-18
03 25 1879	Kamloops 4	Kamloops	Sproat	M.O.D. [copy]	118-19
03 25 1879	Kamloops 5 ³⁷	Kamloops	Sproat	M.O.D. [copy]	119
03 25 1879	Kamloops 1 ³⁸	Kamloops	Sproat	M.O.D. [copy]	119-20
03 25 1879	Neskonlith 2 ³⁹	Neskainlith	Sproat	M.O.D. [copy]	120-21
03 25 1879	Okanagan Commonage	Okanagan	Sproat	M.O.D. [copy]	121-22
03 25 1879	Osoyoos 1	Osoyoos ⁴⁰	Sproat	M.O.D. [copy]	122
03 25 1879	Dog Lake 2 ⁴¹	Osoyoos	Sproat	M.O.D. [copy]	122
03 26 1879			Sproat	Letter & M.O.D. [copy]	123, 117-23
03 28 1879		General ⁴²	Sproat	Letter	124-25
03 28 1879	South Saanich 1 ⁴³	Tsartlip/Saanich	Sproat	Letter	125
03 28 1879	Survey	Saanich	Sproat	Letter	125
03 28 1879	South Saanich 1	Tsartlip/Saanich	Sproat	Letter	126
03 28 1879	South Saanich 1	Tsartlip/Saanich	Sproat	Sketch	126
03 29 1879	Survey	General	Sproat ⁴⁴	Letter	127
03 31 1879		General	Sproat	Letter	128

³⁶ Sproat provides the CCLW (p. 116) and the Superintendent General Indian Affairs (p. 123) with additional information regarding the allotments made by the JIRC during the 1877 season and himself during the 1878 season. He states he will "in due course" provide "succinct descriptions of the reserves." The 1943 Schedule shows the reserves as having been allotted by the JIRC in 1877. [See vl. 1, pp. 89,91-107,397[19]; vl. 3, pp. 150-263; vl. 3, "Third Copy" No. 3, ILR No. 1023-1; Provincial Collection, Binder 2, Corr. No. 1084/78; Binder 3, Corr. Nos. 368/79, 369/79]

³⁷ This is the reserve at Heffley's Creek.

³⁸ This appears to be an addition to Kamloops 1. The description begins, "The strip at Louis Lake ..."

³⁹ See vl. 1, pp. 403-02 [13-14].

⁴⁰ There is reference to an allotment by Cox which is encroached upon by Haynes.

⁴¹ This reserve was cut-off by McKenna-McBride in 1913. The cut-off claim was settled in November 1982.

⁴² See pp. 128-35, 138, 139, 140-41 this volume.

⁴³ See NRCan Schedule (2005), p. 72.

⁴⁴ Sproat states that the sketches for the Bands he identified "can be completed and sent to me immediately ..." Seventeen Indian bands are identified. They are primarily Bands on the Island ad North Thompson, Kamloops and Deadman's Creek.

DATE mm dd yyyy	RESERVE	BAND/TRIBE	AUTHOR/ SURVEYOR	TYPE DOC	PAGE
03 29 1879		General ⁴⁵	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	128-35
03 31 1879		Lower Nicola & Upper Nicola	Sproat ⁴⁶	Letter	136
03 31 1879		Lower Nicola & Upper Nicola	Sproat	Letter	137
03 31 1879	Osoyoos 1	Osoyoos	Sproat	Letter	137-38
03 31 1879		General	Sproat	Letter	138
03 29 1879		General	Sproat	Letter	139
04 01 1879	Osoyoos 1	Osoyoos	Sproat	Letter	140
04 02 1879			Sproat	Letter	140
04 03 1879		General	Sproat	Letter	140-41
04 09 1879	Osoyoos 1 ⁴⁷	Osoyoos	Sproat	Letter	141-43
04 09 1879	Osoyoos 1	Osoyoos	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	143-45
04 09 1879	Osoyoos 1	Osoyoos	Sproat	Letter	146
04 09 1879	Osoyoos 1	Osoyoos	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	146
04 03 1879	Survey	Kamloops	Sproat	Letter	147
04 05 1879	Survey	Saanich	Sproat	Letter	147
04 05 1879			Sproat	Telegram [copy]	147
04 09 1879	Lower Similkameen 2	Similkameen/ Keremeos	Sproat ⁴⁸	Letter [w/encl]	148-49
04 06 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter	149-50
04 07 1879		Similkameen/ Keremeos	Sproat ⁴⁹	Letter	150-52
04 08 1879	Survey	Chilliwack	Sproat	Telegram [copy]	152

⁴⁵ The enclosures with this letter identify the various individuals who are to receive the goods to be distributed amongst the Indians. The list includes missionaries and Government Agents. The Indians to whom the gifts are intended are also identified. There are numerous groups identified covering primarily the Interior, but also the area around Stuart Lake and Williams Lake.

⁴⁶ This and the following letter are very general, dealing with availability of medicines for Indians in the Nicola Valley. This would appear to generally refer to the Upper and Lower Nicola Indians.

⁴⁷ Sproat discusses the sale of land by the Provincial Government at Osoyoos. The land was acquired by J.C. Haynes, who Sproat identifies as the "Dominion Custom House Officer." (p. 142). He also states that Haynes "is not an innocent purchaser, ofr I gave him, on the 9th Oct. 1878, distinct written notice of what the Indian Reserve was." (p. 142)

⁴⁸ Sproat encloses a letter from the settler named Daigneau [sic; a.k.a. Daigneault] which indicates that he has "ceased to intrude" on the Similkameen reserve. Sproat characterizes Daigneau as "a weak minded tool, probably of Mr. Haynes of Osoyoos ..." Sproat also states that he "will now endeavour to find means of adjusting Lower Similkameen Indian land matters without a fresh visit to that out of the way place." (p. 148) [See vl. 5/3, pp. 65, 77a-80d]

⁴⁹ Sproat writes to Barrington Price regarding setting aside lands for the Indians. Sproat states, "[i]f you [Mr. Price] can arrange the subdivision of the lands for arable purposes among the Indians in an equitable way, according to their own ideas of equity, it will not be necessary for me to revisit your district." (p. 150)

DATE mm dd yyyy	RESERVE	BAND/TRIBE	AUTHOR/ SURVEYOR	TYPE DOC	PAGE
04 09 1879	Osoyoos 1	Osoyoos ⁵⁰	Sproat	Report [w/encl]	152-60
04 09 1879	Osoyoos 1	Osoyoos	JIRC	M.O.D. [copy]	152,157
04 09 1879	Dog Lake 2	Osoyoos	JIRC	M.O.D. [copy]	152-53, 157-58
04 09 1879	Osoyoos 1	Osoyoos	Unknown	Sketch	154
04 09 1879	Dog Lake 2	Osoyoos	Unknown	Sketch	154
04 09 1879	Osoyoos 1	Osoyoos	Unknown	Sketch	160
04 05 1879		General ⁵¹	Sproat	Letter	159,161
04 09 1879		Osoyoos	Sproat	Letter	161
04 09 1879		Osoyoos	Sproat	Letter	162
04 10 1879			Sproat	Letter	162
04 11 1879		Sumas	Sproat	Letter	163
04 12 1879	Mission Creek 8	Westbank/ Okanagan	Sproat	Letter	164
04 13 1879		Chilliwack ⁵²	Sproat	Telegram	164
04 14 1879		Various ⁵³	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	165-66
04 15 1879		Sumas, Matsqui/ Chilliwack	Sproat	Letter	167
04 13 1879		General	Sproat	Letter	168-69
04 15 1879		Chilliwack	Sproat	Telegram	170
04 17 1879		Sumas	Sproat	Letter	170
04 18 1879		Various	Sproat ⁵⁴	Letter [w/encl]	171-74

⁵⁰ This report does not appear to have an addressee. The date of the report is at the end. Sproat goes through the situation with respect to sale of the Osoyoos reserve assigned by the JIRC. A second sketch of the Osoyoos reserve showing the alienated areas is found on p. 160. It is unclear why this is somewhat separated from the other sketch.

⁵¹ This letter touches upon the conveyance of Indian reserves by B.C.

⁵² Sproat requests "Tracings number one and four." He refers to pages 54 and 55 of the "Indian Yellow Printed Book." This would be the PILQ. Pages 54 and 55 contain the descriptions of the reserves surveyed by Launderers in 1868. At the time of Sproat's allotments and the colonial allotments, these reserves were identified as being held by the Chilliwack Indians. Reserve 1 is what is currently known as Skwah 4, held by the Skwah Indians; reserve number 4 is Skway 5, held by the Skway Indians. Interestingly, although surveyed by Launderers, these reserves were omitted from the 1871 schedule prepared by B.C. [See PILQ, pp. 54-57]

⁵³ Sproat states that the Indians to be considered are "above Yale." This encompasses a large number of Indian groups. The enclosure is a distribution list of agricultural implements to be given to the Indians of Spuzzum, Boston Bar, Boothroyd, Siska and Kanaka Flat and the "Lytton group i.e. Skuppah, Lytton & Nicomen." [See pp. 176-78, this volume]

⁵⁴ In this letter Sproat itemizes the issues which he has placed before the provincial government to which he has received no response. They include issues affecting lands at Chemainus, Sechelt, Okanagan, Spatsum Flat [Cook's Ferry], Cowichan, Similkameen, Osoyoos, and Chilliwack as well as general issues related to water rights, timber privileges and extending Sproat's authority to other districts.

DATE mm dd yyyy	RESERVE	BAND/TRIBE	AUTHOR/ SURVEYOR	TYPE DOC	PAGE
04 18 1879		General ⁵⁵	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	175-76
04 18 1879	Lower Similkameen 2	Similkameen/ Keremeos	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	175-76
04 18 1879	Osoyoos 1	Osoyoos	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	175-76
04 18 1879		Sumas, Matsqui/ Chilliwack	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	175-76
04 18 1879		Various	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	176-78
04 18 1879	Skwah 4	Skwah	Sproat	Letter [cancelled]	179
04 19 1879		Matsqui	Sproat	Letter	179
04 21 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter	180-81
04 21 1879		Williams Lake Dist.	Sproat	Letter	181-83
04 21 1879		Williams Lake Dist.	Sproat	Letter	183
04 21 1879			Sproat	Letter	185
04 21 1879	Survey	Upper Nicola ⁵⁶	Sproat	Letter	185-86
04 21 1879	Survey	Upper Nicola	Sproat	Letter	186
04 21 1879		Upper Nicola	Sproat	Letter	187
04 23 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter	188
04 23 1879	Cowichan 1	Cowichan	Sproat	Letter	189
04 23 1879	Cowichan 1	Cowichan	Sproat	Letter	190
04 23 1879	Cowichan 1	Cowichan	Sproat	Letter	190
04 26 1879		Williams Lake Dist.	Sproat	Letter ⁵⁷	191-92
04 26 1879		Williams Lake Dist.	Sproat	Letter	192
04 26 1879		Williams Lake Dist.	Sproat	Letter	193
04 26 1879		Skulkayn ⁵⁸	Sproat	Letter	193-94
04 26 1879		Chilliwack	Sproat	Letter	194-95
04 26 1879	Aitchelich 9	Aitchelitz ⁵⁹	Sproat	Letter	195
04 25 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter	196

⁵⁵ Sproat writes to the SGIA regarding the "Inattention [sic] of the Provincial Government." Sproat states: "I note your instructions that I have to inform you if the Provincial Government do not reply to letters on the business of the Commission within a reasonable time." (p. 175) Sproat concludes by stating: "Under this mixed policy of passive resistance and aggression I have an uneasy feeling as to what may be going on and as to my being able to care suitable for the interests of the Dominion Government." (p. 176)

⁵⁶ Sproat identifies the Indians as "Douglas Lake." It is the Upper Nicola Indians who reside at Douglas Lake. [See vl. 4/11]

⁵⁷ Interestingly, there is a marginal notation cross-referencing this letter to p. 307 of this volume, i.e. "Book 3" and at p. 307 there is a cross-reference back to page 191-92.

⁵⁸ Sproat refers to a "Skulkayn Indian Reserve." The Skulkayn Indians are currently known as Skowkale and they hold two reserves, both of which had been surveyed prior to B.C. joining Confederation, but neither of the reserves was noted on the 1871 list prepared by B.C. [See PILQ, pp. 55, 83, 93; MPS 537; NRCan Schedule (2005), p. 96]

⁵⁹ Spelled by Sproat "Aht-sa-litz"

DATE mm dd yyyy	RESERVE	BAND/TRIBE	AUTHOR/ SURVEYOR	TYPE DOC	PAGE
04 26 1879	Okanagan 1	Okanagan	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	196-97
04 26 1879		Various	Sproat	Letter	197-98
04 26 1879			Sproat	Letter	198
05 01 1879	Osoyoos 1	Osoyoos	Sproat	Letter	198-203
05 01 1879	Cowichan 1	Cowichan ⁶⁰	Sproat	Letter	198-203
05 01 1879	Cowichan 1	Cowichan	Sproat	Sketch	203
05 01 1879	Cowichan 1	Cowichan	Sproat	Letter	204
05 02 1879			Sproat	Letter	204-08
05 02 1879	Cowichan 1	Cowichan	Sproat	Letter	208-09
04 10 1879	Comox 1	Comox	Sproat	Letter	209
04 10 1879	Comox 1	Comox	Sproat	Letter	209
05 05 1879			Sproat	Financial Statement	210
05 05 1879		General ⁶¹	Sproat	Letter	211-12
05 05 1879		General ⁶²	Sproat	Letter	212-13
05 07 1879		Williams Lake Dist.	Sproat	Letter	213
05 08 1879		Sumas, Matsqui/ Chilliwack	Sproat	Telegram	214
05 09 1879		General	Sproat	Letter	214-15
05 09 1879		Neklakapamuk	Sproat	Letter	215-16
05 08 1879		Sumas, Matsqui/ Chilliwack	Sproat	Letter	216
05 08 1879		Various ⁶³	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	216-17, 227-29
05 08 1879	Matsqui Main 2	Matsqui	Sproat	Letter	227
05 08 1879	Three Islands 3	Matsqui	Sproat	Letter	227

⁶⁰ The Cowichan lands were not covered by a treaty but were set aside during the colonial era. Reference is made in this letter to a map dated 1869 depicting the Cowichan reserve (pp. 201, 202). Page 203 on which the sketch appears has been reproduced at full size in colour. [See p. 225, this volume]

⁶¹ Sproat writes to the CCLW stating that the SGIA wishes him to continue his work on the Coast. He requests that the CCLW "obtain for me, the necessary authority to adjust Indian questions respecting land upon the sea coast of the mainland and outlying islands ..." (p. 211)

⁶² Sproat refers to a letter dated April 18, 1879 (not in collection) from the SGIA instructing him to "work on the coast instead of the interior."

⁶³ Sproat's enclosure is found at pp. 227-29 of this volume. In relation to the dyking project, Sproat cites the Popkum, Cheam, Chilliwack, Somass, Matsqui and Whonock. Sproat identifies numerous areas which he "may assign" (p. 216). His descriptions are brief and vague, often locating land in relation to settlers' holdings. It would appear that not all the areas were confirmed as reserves. In some instances, the nearest reserve has been identified. [See pp. 227-29 this volume.]

DATE mm dd yyyy	RESERVE	BAND/TRIBE	AUTHOR/ SURVEYOR	TYPE DOC	PAGE
05 08 1879	McClure's ⁶⁴	Lakahamen/ Somass River	Sproat	Letter	227
05 08 1879	Upper Sumas 6	Sumas/ Somass River	Sproat	Letter	227
05 08 1879	Aylechootlook 5 ⁶⁵	Lakahamen/ Somass River	Sproat	Letter	227
05 08 1879	Papekwatchin 4 ⁶⁶	Lakahamen/ Somass River	Sproat	Letter	227
05 08 1879	Skweahm 10 ⁶⁷	Lakahamen/ Nicomen Slough	Sproat	Letter	227
05 08 1879	Lakahamen 11 ⁶⁸	Lakahamen/ Nicomen Slough	Sproat	Letter	227
05 08 1879	Lackway 2 ⁶⁹	Lakahamen/ Somass River	Sproat	Letter	227-28
05 08 1879	Yaalstrick 1	Lakahamen/ Somass River	Sproat	Letter	228
05 08 1879	Skway 5 ⁷⁰	Skway/ Chilliwack	Sproat	Letter	228
05 08 1879	Squiaala 8 ⁷¹	Squiaala/ Chilliwack	Sproat	Letter	228
05 08 1879	Aitchelich 9	Aitchelitz/ Chilliwack	Sproat	Letter	228
05 08 1879	Skwali 3 ⁷²	Skwah/ Chilliwack	Sproat	Letter	228
05 08 1879	Skowkale 10	Skulkayn/ ⁷³ Chilliwack	Sproat	Letter	228

⁶⁴ Sproat identifies a "Reserve at McClure's." Given that Sproat is discussing other lands for which are currently held by the Lakahamen Indians, it is presumed that this land would also be land for the Lakahamen Indians, but it is unknown where McClure's is located.

⁶⁵ It is unclear if this is the land being identified. Sproat's definition is related to settler's land, Kennedy's claim north of Chadsey's slough. This reserve is at Chadsey's slough.

⁶⁶ It is unclear if this is the land being identified. Given Sproat's location, on the right bank, near Sam MacDonalds, this would appear to be the area described.

⁶⁷ It is possible that the first three areas identified are in what is now Skweahm 10.

⁶⁸ It is possible this is the area described as being about 250 acres on the Nicomen Slough.

⁶⁹ The reserve at what Sproat identifies as "Miller's Landing" is Lakway 2. [See BC 253]

⁷⁰ Identified by Sproat as the "Island Lot 289." It is not shown as such on sketches as it became a reserve.

⁷¹ Most probably this is the land described as west of Forsyth's claim and north of Bailey's claim.

⁷² Identified by Sproat as "Island 3."

⁷³ These Indians are currently known as Skowkale. [See NRCan Schedule (2005), p. 96]

DATE mm dd yyyy	RESERVE	BAND/TRIBE	AUTHOR/ SURVEYOR	TYPE DOC	PAGE
05 08 1879	Chilliwack River ⁷⁴	Chilliwack	Sproat	Letter	228
05 08 1879	Tzeachten 13	Tzeachten	Sproat	Letter	228
05 08 1879	Grass 15 ⁷⁵	Chilliwack	Sproat	Letter	228
05 08 1879	Soowahlie 14	Soowahlie/ Chilliwack	Sproat	Letter	228
05 08 1879	Tseatah 2	Cheam ⁷⁶	Sproat	Letter	228-29
05 08 1879	Cheam ⁷⁷	Cheam	Sproat	Letter	228-29
05 08 1879	Whonnock 1	Langley ⁷⁸	Sproat	Letter	229
05 12 1879	Okanagan 1	Okanagan	Sproat	Letter	218
05 12 1879		Chemainus	Sproat	Letter	218
05 12 1879	Lackway 2	Lakahamen/ Somass River	Sproat	Letter	219
05 12 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter	219-22
05 12 1879		General	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	223
05 13 1879		General	Sproat	Letter	224
04 13 1879	Okanagan 1 ⁷⁹	Okanagan	Sproat	Letter	224
05 17 1878	Cowichan 1	Cowichan	Sproat	Letter [w/encl] ⁸⁰	225
04 26 1879		General	Sproat	Letter	225-26
05 17 1879	Survey	Chilliwack	Sproat	Letter	226
05 17 1879	Aylechootlook 5	Lakahamen/ Somass River	Sproat	Letter	229
05 20 1879	Survey	Various	Sproat ⁸¹	Letter	230-32
05 20 1879		Kamloops	Sproat	Letter	230-32
05 20 1879		North Thompson & Canoe Lake	Sproat	Letter	230-32

⁷⁴ This area described by Sproat was not confirmed as a reserve.

⁷⁵ This reserve is held in common by Skway, Skwah, Aitchelitz, Kwawkwawapilt, Scowkale, Soowahlie, Squiala and Yakweakwoose.

⁷⁶ The heading before the description states "Cheam and Popcum." The first area described by Sproat appears to be this reserve. It is currently held solely by the Cheam Indians. [See 1943 Schedule, p. 55]

⁷⁷ This land is described as being between Cheam reserve and Henderson's claim. It is not known where Henderson's claim is. This area described by Sproat does not appear to have become a reserve.

⁷⁸ The Langley Indians are currently known as Kwantlen First Nation.

⁷⁹ It is curious that this letter, clearly dated April 13, appears in the midst of correspondence dated the middle of May.

⁸⁰ Sproat's enclosure is a copy of correspondence found in the PILQ at p. 62.

⁸¹ Sproat encloses sketches and surveyors' field notes, the list for which is included in the letterbook, of reserves he has identified which are to be conveyed from the provincial government to the Dominion government. Based upon the areas identified, this would appear to relate to the work of the JIRC. He also sends copies to Dr. Powell. [See pp. 233, 279-80, this volume; additional subjects index under "conveyance" for other correspondence related to this issue]

DATE mm dd yyyy	RESERVE	BAND/TRIBE	AUTHOR/ SURVEYOR	TYPE DOC	PAGE
05 20 1879		Deadman's Creek	Sproat	Letter	230-32
05 24 1879	Survey	General ⁸²	Sproat	Letter	233-34
05 24 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter	235
05 24 1879		General	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	235-38
05 24 1879		Kwawkwawapilt/ Chilliwack ⁸³	Sproat	Letter	238
05 24 1879		Squiala	Sproat	Letter	238
05 26 1879		General	Sproat	Memorandum	239-40
05 26 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Memorandum	239-40
05 27 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter	240-41
05 28 1879	Goldstream 13 ⁸⁴	Tsawout et al/ Saanich	Sproat	Letter	242
05 28 1879		General ⁸⁵	Sproat	Letter	242
05 29 1879		General	Sproat	Telegram [copy]	243
05 28 1879		General	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	243-45
05 30 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter	245-47
05 31 1879		Nicomien	Sproat	Letter ⁸⁶	248-49
06 02 1879	Survey	General	Blenkinsop	Letter	249
06 05 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter	250-52
06 03 1879		New Westminster	Sproat ⁸⁷	Letter [w/encl]	252
06 03 1879		New Westminster	Sproat	Letter	253
05 31 1879	Survey	General	Blenkinsop	Advertisement [copy]	253
06 01 1879	Survey	General	Blenkinsop	Telegrams [copy] ⁸⁸	254-55

⁸² This letter indicates that it is Sproat's intention to hire Mohun and Jemmett to conduct surveys.

⁸³ Spelled by Sproat "Kwaw-kwaw-a-pilt."

⁸⁴ Sproat notes that the "Saanich Indians as part of the management relative to the fishing station" may take the timber they require. "This is to avoid the necessity of giving them a larger piece of land."

⁸⁵ Sproat writes to the CCLW and states, "I note that my authority, as far as the Prov. Gov. is concerned, is sufficient without the Order in Council which I had supposed might have been necessary - also that you think it advisable that the Reserves in the Lillooet district should be defined as soon as possible, owing to the discontent of the Indians in that quarter." [See p. 247, this volume]

⁸⁶ Interestingly, the inner address of the letter is "In camp near Ohamil" then there is the additional comment "(the writer presently in Victoria)." It would appear that Sproat composed the letter, presumably at this date at Ohamil, but that it is entered into the letterbook later when Sproat is in Victoria.

⁸⁷ Sproat provides the Mayor of New Westminster with sketches of the land assigned by him "for such use as the Dom. Ind. Dept may make of them in relation to the Indians who visit New Westminster and its neighbourhood." [See vl. 18, pp. 263-65, 338-40]

⁸⁸ Nine copies of telegrams appear on these two pages. The dates range from June 1, 1879 to June 6, 1879. The last telegram on page 254 and the first three on page 255 are noted as cancelled.

DATE mm dd yyyy	RESERVE	BAND/TRIBE	AUTHOR/ SURVEYOR	TYPE DOC	PAGE
06 02 1879	Survey	General	Blenkinsop ⁸⁹	Letter	256
06 10 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter [w/encl] ⁹⁰	256-58
06 02 1879	Survey	General	Blenkinsop	Letter	258
06 06 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Memorandum	259-60
06 06 1879	Osoyoos 1	Osoyoos	Sproat	Memorandum	259-60
06 06 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter	260-61
06 06 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	262-64
06 07 1879	Survey	General	Blenkinsop	Letter [w/encl]	264
06 06 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter ⁹¹	264-66
06 07 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter	267-68
06 08 1879		Neklakapamuk	Sproat	Telegram	268
06 11 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter	269-70
06 09 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter	270-74
06 09 1879	Survey	Kamloops	Sproat ⁹²	Letter	275
06 09 1879	Survey	North Thompson & Canoe Lake	Sproat	Letter	275
06 09 1879	Survey	Deadman's Creek	Sproat	Letter	275
06 09 1879		General	Sproat	Letter	276
06 09 1879	Survey	Neskainlith	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	278
06 09 1879	Survey	Adams Lake	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	278
06 09 1879	Survey	Various	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	279-80
06 07 1879	Survey	General	Blenkinsop	Letter	280-81
06 00 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Instructions	282-287
06 09 1879		New Westminster	Sproat	Letter	288
06 09 1879		New Westminster ⁹³	Sproat	Letter	289-94
06 09 1879	Musqueam 1	Musqueam	Sproat	Letter	294
06 09 1879	Langley 8	Langley	Sproat	Letter	294

⁸⁹ Blenkinsop inquires of Mohun how long it would take to survey ten identified areas in the interior.

⁹⁰ Sproat states he encloses a copy of "general instructions" which he has issued to surveyors. [See pp. 259-60, this volume]

⁹¹ See pp. 260-61 this volume.

⁹² In addition to providing the "maps" to Lenihan, Sproat provides the original field books for Kamloops, North Thompson and Canoe Lake, and Deadman's Creek.

⁹³ Sproat states that when he was at New Westminster in the "winter season" he found 172 Indians at New Westminster: 64 men, 61 women, 47 children, from 10 different tribes, but with about one half being from the Douglas tribe. Only one Indian expressed a wish not to be on the census of his tribe. (p. 290) Sproat expresses concern about allotting lands for Indians at New Westminster, especially "in view of the fact that there are no New Westminster Indians proper..." (p. 291).

DATE mm dd yyyy	RESERVE	BAND/TRIBE	AUTHOR/ SURVEYOR	TYPE DOC	PAGE
06 10 1879	Survey ⁹⁴	Nicomen	Sproat	Letter	295
06 10 1879	Survey	Nicomen	Sproat	Letter	295
06 09 1879	Survey	Nicomen	Sproat	Letter	296
06 12 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	297
06 12 1879	Survey	Sumas, Matsqui/ Chilliwack	Sproat	Letter	298
06 12 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter	299
06 12 1879		Kamloops ⁹⁵	Sproat	Letter	300
06 12 1879		General	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	301-06
06 15 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Letter	307
05 03 1879		Williams Lake Dist.	Sproat	Letter	307
06 14 1879	Survey	Cheam	Sproat	Letter	308
06 16 1879	Soowahlie 14 ⁹⁶	Soowahlie	Sproat	Letter	308
06 16 1879	Yakweakwioose 12 ⁹⁷	Yakweakwioose	Sproat	Letter	309
06 19 1879	Chehalis 5	Chehalis/ ⁹⁸ Harrison River	Sproat	Letter	309
06 20 1879	Survey	Upper Nicola	Sproat	Letter	310-11
06 20 1879	Douglas Lake Commonage	Upper Nicola	Sproat	Letter	310-11
06 20 1879	Douglas Lake 3	Upper Nicola	Sproat	Letter	310-11
06 20 1879		Skulkayn ⁹⁹	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	311
06 20 1879	Yakweakwioose 12	Yakweakwioose	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	311
06 20 1879	Survey	Upper Nicola	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	312-13
06 20 1879	Survey	General	Sproat	Memorandum	314
06 24 1879		Ohamil ¹⁰⁰	Farwell	Letter	314
06 23 1879			Sproat	Telegram	314

⁹⁴ Sproat notes that Jemmett is going to be surveying in the area and that Jemmett. Sproat also refers to a 12 acre parcel held by a settler named Coxon.

⁹⁵ Sproat responds to a suggestion originating with Fr. Grandidier that a an Indian Agency be established at Kamloops. Among other things, Sproat states he will speak with the Kamloops Chiefs.

⁹⁶ This is the closest reserve to the Cultus Lake Road identified by Sproat.

⁹⁷ Spelled by Sproat "Kwe-kwe-a-qui oose."

⁹⁸ Sproat writes of an "Indian Village at Harrison River ..." This seems most likely to be Chehalis, especially as a portion of the current reserve was a colonial reserve. [See PILQ, p. 104, Item G(2)]

⁹⁹ Sproat refers to a "Skowkayn" reserve. These Indians are currently known as Skowkale. Two reserves were allotted for these Indians. It is not known to which one Sproat was referring.

¹⁰⁰ This group is currently known as Skw'ow'hamel First Nation.

DATE mm dd yyyy	RESERVE	BAND/TRIBE	AUTHOR/ SURVEYOR	TYPE DOC	PAGE
06 24 1879			Sproat	Telegram	315
06 26 1879	Survey	General	Blenkinsop	Letter [w/encl]	315-16
07 28 1879			Sproat	Telegram	316
06 28 1879	Survey	General	Blenkinsop	Letter	317
06 15 1877			JIRC ¹⁰¹	Authority & M.O.D. [copy]	317-20
06 15 1877	Musqueam 2	Musqueam	JIRC	M.O.D. [copy]	317
06 15 1877	Sea Island 3	Musqueam	JIRC	M.O.D. [copy]	317
06 15 1877	Kitsilano 6	Squamish	JIRC	M.O.D. [copy]	318
06 15 1877	Capilano 5	Squamish	JIRC	M.O.D. [copy]	318
06 15 1877	Mission 1	Squamish	JIRC	M.O.D. [copy]	318
06 15 1877	Seymour Creek 2	Squamish	JIRC	M.O.D. [copy]	318-19
06 15 1877	Burrard Inlet 3	Squamish	JIRC	M.O.D. [copy]	319
06 15 1877	Inlailawatash 4	Squamish	JIRC	M.O.D. [copy]	319-20
07 01 1879	Grass 15	Chilliwack ¹⁰²	Sproat	Letter	320
07 01 1879		Neklakapamuk	Sproat	Telegram	320
07 03 1879		General	Sproat	Letter	321
07 03 1879		General	Sproat	Letter	321
07 03 1879			Sproat	Letter	322
07 04 1879		General	Sproat	Letter	322
07 04 1879	Lower Similkameen 2	Similkameen/ ¹⁰³ Keremeos	Sproat	Letter	323
07 22 1879		Similkameen/ Keremeos	Sproat	Letter	324
07 22 1879		Osoyoos	Sproat	Letter	324
07 26 1879	Comox 1 ¹⁰⁴	Comox	Sproat	Letter	325-26
07 26 1879	Cowichan 1	Cowichan	Sproat	Letter	326-32
07 26 1879		Kamloops ¹⁰⁵	Sproat	Letter	333-39
07 30 1879	Cameron Bar 13	Lytton	Sproat	Letter	339

¹⁰¹ For original Minutes of decision, see vl. 3, pp. 138-148

¹⁰² Sproat states that this reserve is "the only piece of grass land on the prairie that the Indians have and it is assigned for all the Indians to cut grass on." This reserve is held in common by the Aitchelitz, Kwaw-kwaw-a-pilt, Skowkale, Skwah, Skway, Soowahlie, Squiala and Yakeweakwioose Indians. Sproat notes that Mr. Derby, of the Sumas Dyking project, has agreed to this allotment. [See 1943 Schedule, p. 85; NRCan Schedule (2005), pp. 11, 96]

¹⁰³ See pp. 49-56, this volume.

¹⁰⁴ This letter deals with the missionary Duncan's desire to purchase title to an old Indian settlement which the JIRC allotted to the Comox Indians.

¹⁰⁵ This letter is a discussion of the possible creation of an Indian Agency in the Kamloops area.

DATE mm dd yyyy	RESERVE	BAND/TRIBE	AUTHOR/ SURVEYOR	TYPE DOC	PAGE
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07 26 1879		Neklakapamuk	Sproat ¹⁰⁷	Letter [w/encl]	357-60 342-56
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07 29 1879		"Flatheads" ¹⁰⁹	Sproat	Letter	366-68
08 10 1879			Sproat ¹¹⁰	Telegram	368
07 21 1879	Hamilton Creek 2	Upper Nicola ¹¹¹	Sproat	Letter	368-69
08 11 1879		Similkameen/ Keremeos	Sproat	Letter	369-70
08 11 1879	Penticton 2 ¹¹²	Penticton	Sproat	Letter	369-70
08 11 1879	Survey ¹¹³	Lower Nicola	Sproat	Letter	370-71
08 11 1879	Hamilton Creek 7	Lower Nicola	Sproat	Letter	370-71

¹⁰⁶ See CLSRBC 244; FBBC 31529, p. 88.

¹⁰⁷ This is Sproat's report upon his meeting with the Neklakapamuk Indians. The enclosures precede the letter. Based upon the list of elected Indians, the Neklakapamuk comprise Indians from Lytton, Ashcroft, Pemynoose, Lower Nicola, Stryne, "Lillooet Trail", Spuzzum and Upper Similkameen (p. 343). Sproat provided a cross-reference within the book to the covering letter "Fol. 357" [i.e. folio/page 357].

¹⁰⁸ In this letter, among other things, Sproat describes where the Neklakapamuk live. He also states, "[t]hough scattered over this great extent, they are sharply defined as a "nation" or "group" ..." (p. 361)

¹⁰⁹ Sproat identifies the Indians as the "Flatheads of the Lower Fraser." It would appear that this group inhabits the area from Yale to the mouth of the Fraser River and, according to Sproat, number about 1900. Sproat states that these Indians wish "to do what the Nekla kap a muks ... have done. I told them they must not be [in] too great a hurry, they must try to abate the prevalent jealousies among themselves and limit the number of ridiculously small tribes, and then by and by if they showed good sense and business like views, I might write to Ottawa on the subject of their wishes. At present I would not do so." (p. 367)

¹¹⁰ Sproat telegraphs Blenkinsop regarding letters in the letterbook, and requests that Blenkinsop "post all letters immediately." Curiously, Sproat makes specific reference to a letter dated April 29, 1878 to Vankoughnet.

¹¹¹ Sproat informs Mohun that the Upper Nicola Indians have sent Alexander, the son of Chilliheetsa, to advise Sproat that they wish "to surrender the fishing reserve at the mouth of Hamilton's Creek, as their young women are made drunk and exposed to temptations there during the fishing season ..." (p. 368) Nevertheless, Sproat states he cannot accept Alexander's statement and would only accept Chilliheetsa's statement on behalf of "his people." Sproat authorizes Mohun to investigate the matter with Chilliheetsa. There is a notation at the end of the letter that Mohun submitted his report on July 28, confirming that Chilliheetsa wished to surrender the reserve. [See pp. 371-72, this volume; vl. 4/12]

¹¹² Sproat mentions a settler named Ellis. This settler disputed the land allotted at Penticton 2.

¹¹³ Within this letter, Sproat states that Teen-a-melst "one of the most enterprising Indians in the Interior and a man well known to many settlers ... has 18 children and possesses 104 good horses and 13 cattle and is still in the prime of life." (p. 370).

DATE mm dd yyyy	RESERVE	BAND/TRIBE	AUTHOR/ SURVEYOR	TYPE DOC	PAGE
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08 11 1879	Nooaitch 10	Lower Nicola ¹¹⁶	Sproat	Letter	373
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08 17 1879	Survey	Upper Nicola	Sproat	Telegram	377
08 17 1879	Survey	Upper Nicola	Sproat	Letter	378
08 17 1879	Hamilton Creek 7 ¹¹⁹	Lower Nicola	Sproat	Letter	378
08 17 1879	Survey	Lower Nicola ¹²⁰	Sproat	Letter	378-79
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08 29 1879		General	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	379-85
08 29 1879		Williams Lake Dist.	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	382-85
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07 09 1879		Neklakapamuk	Sproat	Letter	385
07 10 1879			Sproat	Letter & Financial Statement	386-89

¹¹⁴ Sproat mentions that Mohun could survey alternate land at "Trout Lake." It is unclear where this might be.

¹¹⁵ In describing Teen-a-melst's tenure on the land, Sproat states: "I have ascertained from many old settlers that the place is his in the full sense in which having reference to the habits of the people, a stock raising place can belong to an Indian." (p. 371)

¹¹⁶ This reserve is currently held by the Nooaitch Indians. Sproat orients the area to the claim of a Mr. Elphinstone, which is 22 1/2 miles from Spence's Bridge.

¹¹⁷ Sproat writes to Chilliheetsa, Upper Nicola Chief, regarding the succession at Okanagan. Interestingly, Sproat notes that he does not have the name of the Chief's son on his census, "[p]erhaps he has two names." Sproat also advises Chilliheetsa that after the death of the "old chiefs", the Indian Act states that chiefs must be elected.

¹¹⁸ See p. 80, this volume; vl. 3, pp. 298-304; vl. 4/9, pp. 22-24; vl. 7, pp. 33-33a.

¹¹⁹ The issue in this letter is Mohun's survey of the area at Hamilton Creek. [See vl. 4/12, esp, pp. 9-10]

¹²⁰ Sproat refers to his instructions to survey "Chilliheesta, Bob Hamiltons Creek, Na-wees-is-ti-kun, Coldwater, Skuppah, Kanaka Flat, Siska, Nicomen." He sends to Mohun instructions for "Mixed Indians" 20 to 23 miles up Nicola and notes that he has already sent Jemmett instructions for the "Potatoe garden Indians". These Indians, as identified by Sproat, now comprise the Lower Nicola and/or Shackan Indians. [See vl. 4, esp, 4/6, 4/7, vl. 4/8]

DATE mm dd yyyy	RESERVE	BAND/TRIBE	AUTHOR/ SURVEYOR	TYPE DOC	PAGE
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09 03 1879		Neklakapamuk ¹²⁵	Sproat	Letter	411-13
09 05 1879		Neklakapamuk	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	413
08 25 1879			Sproat	Letter	414
09 12 1879		General	Sproat	Letter [w/encl]	414-15
09 08 1879		Upper Nicola ¹²⁶	Mohun	Letter	416

¹²¹ Sproat itemizes the cost of certain survey activities in various parts of the province, including Lower Nicola and the Sumas Dyking project.

¹²² Sproat deals with release of the interpreter Michel from his duties as interpreter. Michel does not know the language in the area where Sproat will be travelling.

¹²³ Sproat deals with the issue of his authority to allot reserves and where he should be undertaking his work - in the Interior or on the West Coast. Sproat relies upon the authority given to the JIRC to decide on the movements of the Commission. Given that this Commission was disbanded, Sproat's reliance upon that authority as granting him equal authority is noteworthy. The term "nation" is also cited in the JIRC authority. It is defined as "meaning by nation all Indian tribes speaking the same language." (p. 395)

¹²⁴ Spelled by Sproat "Homalthko."

¹²⁵ Sproat states that the Indians in the Nicola Valley are part of the Neklakapamuk. He also states that the Indians "at the head of Nicola Lake and at Douglas Lake from the tribe of the old chief Chilliheetsa. They are half the Nekla-kap-a-muks with a large mixture of Okanagans and Shuswaps. Chilliheetsa is an Okanagan and one of the powerful old chiefs, and he has not yet decided whether his tribe will join the Neklakapamuk organization or not." (p. 412)

¹²⁶ This letter was clipped to the inside of the last page of the book. It is unnumbered in the original and numbered 416 for the purposes of the index.

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¹²⁷ B.W. Pearse was a surveyor and, it seems, the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works at the time B.C. entered Confederation. He prepared the list of Indian reserves which, theoretically, was intended to identify the Indian reserves established in B.C. during the colonial era. The list was incomplete. Even reserves Pearse himself had surveyed were not included in the list. [See *PILQ*, pp. 103-108, 138-39]

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¹²⁸ Sproat states that Chilliheetsa is an Okanagan Indian and "one of the powerful old chiefs."

¹²⁹ Of this Indian, Sproat writes, he is "one of the old school, and his jealousy of the Adams Lake and Little Lake [i.e. Little Shuswap Lake] people caused the Comsm some amusement - ..."

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¹³⁰ This field cites Sproat's indications of where and when he will travel.

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¹³¹ Mohun is fired.

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¹³² In 1879, Sproat identifies Haynes as the "Dominion Custom House officer" [p. 142]

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THE ORIGINAL OF THIS BOOK IS OVERSIZED. THE COPY OF THE TEXT HAS BEEN SLIGHTLY REDUCED TO FIT ONTO THIS SIZE PAPER. THE SKETCHES ARE THEIR ORIGINAL SIZE.

Letter Book No. 3

Railway land reserve

Letter from Sec 7 of State, Ottawa requesting reserve to be made
referred by L'Sat 22 June 78
by when fulfilled 0

note p. 5

10 April 78

Deer, elk, reindeer, caribou or hare: between 10th Jan'y and 10th Aug

Grouse, partridge, prairie fowl, quail, meadow lark } 20 Feb + 10 Aug

Thrush robin ————— }

Waterfowl known as Mallard Duck

1 March + 15th July

22.
Anderson, A. C. (Hope Res; and Error in Mem. Rec), ^{157.} {Osooyos remainder
excessive claim for pay
161.
(Cheque for 20⁰⁰ & Copy Report re on Osooyos question)

Armstrong H. W. G. (mistakes land on trail ³⁰ from Nicola to Simons)

Advertisements in Colonist & Standard - ²⁵³ - Schedules for Prov. 31 May '79
{ Survey Party or Parties going to Nicola

Airth & Knight - ³⁰⁸ - Stating that strip land between Lot 247
and Old Cham Res. - is now added to it

Amounts due & unpaid ^{387.} 30 June 1879

A
B

Bank Br. Columbia. ^{.13,} (Receipt for 11⁵⁰ ft. Rec. Gen., ^{.58,} No for 1000⁰⁰ }
(Do for \$1500 ⁵¹ 7 Mar. 79) do for \$2700^{245,} 29 May 79

^{.322,} (Receipt for \$1500⁰⁰ 3 July)
Receipt for ^{353,} 5²² Refund. 30 June 79, For 715⁴⁴ }

Plunkensop Esq. ^{353,} Insert date 29 April '78 & root letters to O'Connell

Chief Commissioner of Lands & Works.

<p>36. Refes to questions to be put by Bennett 37, 50, 59. On Similkameen matter</p> <p>43. On Ditto "unofficial"</p> <p>51, 52. Sketches relating to ditches</p>	<p>209. Permission for a person to investigate the d.w. & relating to Comoy R. 211. Authority required to work on the coast</p> <p>214 Roads thro' Reserves Chilliwack</p>	<p>369 Answer to comm^r not to lay off lands Similkameen</p> <p>370 Anderson versus Jennellist</p>
<p>75 O'Keefe's Case unofficial Report</p> <p>87. Convey^r information Indians settled with further authority required for coming work</p>	<p>219 On Indian discontent Northern Interior</p> <p>250 Sketches & field notes of Reserves sent Mr. Copy of letter for Sup. Gen: stating form of convey^r necessary also. Extract letter to Pm Secy 22 April with respect to water decision of the Commissioner</p>	<p>379 On the movements of the Reserve Commission</p> <p>385 Notifying Ch^r Com of intended meeting at Lytton</p> <p>101. On intention of parties to preempt land at Port Simpson &c</p>
<p>108. Reference to Ind: affairs Soda Creek, W^m Lake and N. W. coast, D^r P. and to letter from Mr. Mcason & J. H. G. Gucke</p> <p>110. Informⁿ about Kicosta for Ino Jane</p>	<p>233 Surrey Branch Indian & Bennett to be employed, 1879.</p> <p>235 Is it necessary for land to swear to correctness of Field notes.</p>	<p>233 Surrey Branch Indian & Bennett to be employed, 1879.</p> <p>235 Is it necessary for land to swear to correctness of Field notes.</p>
<p>111. Cap. Hatis's grievance</p> <p>116. Min: Rec^d in matter left from 1877.</p>	<p>239 Memorandum stating to Chief Com^r that authority is req^d. to work on coast or interior</p> <p>242 will telegraph to Sup Gen: wish of Pm: Gov. for Com^r to visit interior</p>	<p>239 Memorandum stating to Chief Com^r that authority is req^d. to work on coast or interior</p> <p>242 will telegraph to Sup Gen: wish of Pm: Gov. for Com^r to visit interior</p>
<p>143. On Osvoys Res: with copy Report relative to land sold to J.C. Harp</p> <p>171. Com^r has to report to Ottawa on all unattended to matters sent to P. Gov: now enclosed.</p>	<p>247. Copy telegram sent from Sup. Gen: stating the Com^r will work in interior if Irrigaⁿ two and other questions are satisfactorily arranged</p>	<p>247. Copy telegram sent from Sup. Gen: stating the Com^r will work in interior if Irrigaⁿ two and other questions are satisfactorily arranged</p>
<p>188. informⁿ C. Com^r Surveys are under Chf. Off-head of Surv^r</p>	<p>258. Ino Jane's attestation to correctness of Field notes sent-</p>	<p>258. Ino Jane's attestation to correctness of Field notes sent-</p>
<p>190. Permission for W. Tucker to copy documents re Marriner's case Com^r</p>	<p>266. Sketch & particulars of Coyon's 12 ac. piece with documents for Chf^r Jennellist</p>	<p>266. Sketch & particulars of Coyon's 12 ac. piece with documents for Chf^r Jennellist</p>
<p>192. Copy sent Mr. Mcason letter on discontent at W^m Lake</p> <p>196. Mr. James letter to C. Com^r stating that plotting re is well adv^d</p>	<p>320 Land at Chilliwack assigned for Indians to cut grass on.</p> <p>323 Land assigned to Similkameen's should not be sold</p>	<p>320 Land at Chilliwack assigned for Indians to cut grass on.</p> <p>323 Land assigned to Similkameen's should not be sold</p>
<p>208. Marriner's case. Corvichan.</p>	<p>324 Indian Lands Osvoys</p>	<p>324 Indian Lands Osvoys</p>

See journal 1879
to Vancouver Jan 1864

X

X

Advised Clapperton Indian en route 20 June

Cash Statement Dom: ^{13.} 31st Jan^r 1879, ^{115.} 28 Feb^r, ^{210.} 31 March
³⁸⁵ April May & June, ⁴¹⁵ Supplementary 30 June 1879

Campbell R^d, On sup^{se} silver lead Ok^{rs}, not on In^r Reserve, ^{164.}

Charters W. (will not give land) ⁸⁰ water question ^{187.}

Clapperton J. have advised D.P. to send Incol: ^{137.} Chill^{ts} ^{185.} Re. early attⁿ survey.

Chadsey W. (On Soma & Landing) ^{163.} ^{224.}

Coxon G. wishing to know how 12 ac piece ^{295.} to be sur^{ve}

Chillikeetva. 310... 374

Derby & Sword Incolⁿ, ^{216.} What reserves likely to be encroached on,
^{216.} Ackn^d letter on subject of claims ass^g by Gov^t
Mem: ^{227.} of additions required for Indian Reserves,
^{227.} List of lands named in letter 8 May, returned

C
D

Edmonds H. V. House not required after present month - May. ²¹⁷

Earl J. Re Alick Inohau, ³³⁹ & Chinaman

Elkins James. Informing him \$160⁰⁰ ³⁴⁰ is due on his land.

E
F

Fox G. B. (claim to land Oyster Harb., ²⁰) (Papers ⁷¹ not sent) His land ²¹⁸ question.

Farwell A. B. (Instructions to proceed to Chilluk ¹⁵⁰)

, Millroad Chilluk ²²⁶ affect Ind. Reserves)

Forsyth J. (a bridge & approaches on ¹⁹⁵ Utoalet; Res. built by him)

Haynes A.C. (stating Report sent to both Gov^{ts} on sale of land. ^{146.} Oregon.)

Gibson - Com^{rs} wishes to see ³⁰⁸ any papers connected
with Mr Gibson's occupancy of Non Lands
on Cultus Lake road.

Govt. Agent. Gale Sketch required ²⁹⁵ Coy on's 12 ac piece Koomen

Govt. Agent. New West, On Harwood ¹⁴⁶ & other Isls,

Govt. Agent. Kamloops. To send ²⁶⁷ Semmet's Tent to Nicola
copy R. Ephemones ³⁷³ prescription
to E. Maken

Greenhow Sho. On settlement of ²¹⁸ W. Keefe matter

Granddier Rest, ²⁴ Refer to Watters Case, H. Thomp. coal cropping
Agents necessary, and timber cult. by Samana
²⁴ Satan's jealousies. Extracts water rights.
Copy Mr. Bryans letter on timber rights.
Louis and Harper. grazing question.

Gillie P.A., Sketch sent ⁴⁵ acreage for Ind's, (⁸⁰ cannot give more land)
(Nicola survey ¹⁸⁶ probably first)

Green Ashdown. Why portion ¹²⁵ Sec 5 given to S. Saanich Ind's?
to examine ²⁰⁹ Comox old Reserve; documents at hand off.

Good Road P., On Indian ²¹⁵ meeting,

Indian Superintendent New Westminster.

<p>10. 'Presents general'</p> <p>31. 'Presents special and list'</p> <p>50. Mr R. Campbell's letter on silver lead</p> <p>124. On seeds & tools Ploughs etc to be sent to Gale</p> <p>128. List seeds further Mr. Smith's roll further on seeds amt. increased</p>	<p>146. Enclosing Mr. Haynes letter on Osageas Pass</p> <p>165. List Inpts. for Inds above Gale</p> <p>177. Priced list ditto</p> <p>213. Copy sent of reply to Mr. Meason. work on coast this season</p> <p>253. Sketches sent of Lands assigned for Indians use New West.</p>	<p>275. Mr. sketches of new Reserves for Indian visiting New West. Mr. dup. Field Books</p> <p>278. Plans tracing of his kahmet for safe keeping</p> <p>289. Indian Reserves near New Westminster</p> <p>307. Copy of letter from W. L. Medoon sent. May 3.</p> <p>321. Census sent 78/79</p>	<p>375. \$500 paid thro Mr. Young & Park. for Chilikotse</p> <p>375. Copy Inskla Kapa muk resolutions sent</p>
--	---	---	--

Indian Superintendent Victoria

<p>2. Faging Indians Copy Letter to Cap. Wate on Indian trespass etc</p> <p>6. To read & forward letters - re Mohun Certificate for 200 mgk 19. 20.</p> <p>Oyster Har. claims of Hughes and Fox 2 mo. ample for plotting</p> <p>21. Conveyance of Reserve</p> <p>22. Letter to a.c.a on Error in Mem. of Decision</p>	<p>57. On Vict. and Esque. Reserve Surveys</p> <p>58. Mr. two telegrams copies, to and from Ottawa 95. E.P.D enclosing signed vouchers for Capt. Jeannett</p> <p>74. Songhees Plan received</p> <p>136. Prod. for Kicsta J. Clt</p> <p>233. Sketches of Reserves sent for use of his Dept. a few copies for Ottawa details.</p>	<p>245. No objection to E Mohun going to Beecher Bay. Procedure for survey parties season of '79</p> <p>262. Copy sent instructions to Surveyors and procedure ditto 1879</p> <p>270. On the new procedure for Surveyors</p> <p>276. To get conveyance for Prov. for Dom. Govt.</p> <p>279. Field Books & Plans of Cowichan Comox in complete and others complete</p>	<p>297. Certificates in triplicate for Mohuns & Jeannett's Janis work - plotting surveys.</p> <p>298. Farwell special work as per telegram from Ottawa. at Chilliwack on re</p> <p>299. Have signed & forwarded Mr. Jones pay account Other some items to be forwarded</p> <p>378. Pay certificate for E. M. work Jan Supel. sent</p>
---	---	---	---

Indian Headmen Supt. (On land matter near Browns),^{6.}

Chief Adams Lake. (Acknow²³⁰ services to Capt. Semmelt)

Chief Wm Okanagan, ²²⁴ O'Keefe question,

Chief Paul, Saanich ²⁴² Mem: to cut cedar Goldstream.

Chief Chulihstsa, ³¹⁰ Should not occupy any land outside of Reserve
Offer of \$50⁰⁰ value of Kekuilly No. 1000
On wish of Moses ³⁷⁴ for his son to succeed him

Jane John (Sketches required to be finished for Com⁴⁰),¹²⁷
(Tracings Sam: Res to be completed and sent back.)¹⁴⁷

Semmelt Capt. ^{Survey-260-Branch} Instructions to proceed to Lytton to commence work
³⁴⁰ Instructions sent regarding Skwis. any Reserve

Jay & Co. List seeds for ¹²⁸ Mr. Supt.

Kipp Isaac, (Mem¹⁵⁰ for Mr. Janville left by Com⁴⁰ last year)

"Jim" (called by Indians, Warning him not ³⁰⁹ to take up land Har⁵ R,

Jones Owen (to inform ³¹⁴ "Cugnots" can't get sketched)

Harrison Ed. (On purchase of In. Res. Cowichan) ²⁰⁴ See Page 198, 225, 326

Morrison Jas. H. West. Sketches of lands assigned, sent, for Ind. & West. ²⁵²

Memorandum, unofficial ^{Survey, 259, Branch} for information E. Mohun & Branch
Survey Branch. ²⁸² Surveys of 1879
Suroyoro. ³¹³ 4th list of Instructions as to Reserves,
Horse Snake sent to Penny's July 30 ³³⁹

Shuman S. W., Answer to appⁿ to purchase ²⁴⁸ Income Reserve,

Miller J. Chilk, To meet him, on occupancy Dom. lands ³⁰⁹
near Live. Kwe, a. Kwi, oval Reserve by him

M^r. Antyre M^r. Syllton. Michel no longer Antyre's ³⁹² but still on pay
Copy Resolutions sent to Challow ³⁹⁸

M^r. Mohun E., Emmett's stores ³¹⁷ sent to Nicola, Chilksetoi's fish station ³⁶⁸ Kame
ton creek. ³⁷¹ Ditto - Rope to Mr. ³⁷⁶ Nicola's arrange^t
Pay Certificate certified, \$500 for Dr. ³⁷⁷ Vining ³⁷⁸ Clerk for Chilksetoi,
Survey Teenone's place, ³⁷⁸ Invoice for mixed Ind^s on Nicola.
Piece Swamp^d land ³⁷² wished for by Armytop, ³⁷⁹ Willie to have hill land

Minute Decision. ^{317 to 320} Muskusam of Burrards Inlet

Mohun Ed: (not to resume work) ^{8.} further correspondence unnecessary ^{12.}
 (question of time plotting etc) rough sketch Nicola to Doug. I. missing ^{18.}
 (Survey Br: ³³ 29 & 30 Jan?) Should have made sketches, ^{34.}
 G.B. (must send sketches and report on Low: Similk^{42.},
 (pay to be stopped) (blunder Comon reserve) (irrigation report wanted) ^{74.}
 (work incorrect & unsatisfactory) (why portion \$5 given to S. San, ^{126.}
 (blunders have been rectified) ^{147.} 2nd time necessary to survey 9th Reserve. ^{256.}
 G.B. (to send in statement of requirements for 1 party surveyors) ^{249.}
 (Mem: explanatory of above & instructions for work 1879) ^{264.}
 (wth copy letter to Chilliksetsa ^{312.} and list conversation wth that chief
 G.B. Gregoria Garcia's Certificate Record & sketch sent, ^{315.}
 Mc Rae R. Sketch sent to be marked with land existed for ^{44.}

In continuation
 see last page

Michel. Instructions ^{133.} reg^d tools etc. Receipt copy, 4th Prov. of Honor ^{393.}

Minister of Finance (Com^{on} claim on P. Gov^t, On refusal to pay Com^{on} ^{140.} ^{162.}

McCreight J.F. Form convey^{ance} necessary ^{109.} Ind: Reserves.

Murray J. J. Cogan. send to E.M. re alteration ^{377.}

Mc Gillivray N. (On 1 ac land for mill site) ^{167.}

Miller D.W. (On petition respect^{ing} sale Ind: lands at Somases) ^{170.} ^{224.}
 (Mr. Sheehan & old Sumases Reserve, ^{341.}

McCure vooker Matsqui. (On Ind: Res. Matsqui) ^{179.}

Meason W.E. (On Dog Creek Ind: matters) ^{183 and 193.}

Mc Guckin (On 17th Lake land matters) ^{184.}

Mr. Millan D. (On ac: land Sku Skayl Res. (On roads ^{194.} ^{173.}

Mr Ronald S.M. On assigned Indian lands taken by him - ^{372.}

Notes on Accounts.

Opfenheimer Bros. Tender for supply ²⁸⁰ 2 Turry parties accepted
~~and~~ Copy of ²⁸¹ Tender, accepted.

NO

Provincial Secretary, Victoria.

94.
For Copies Statutes
and Journals

~~Powell, J. W. Victoria~~

28. 185.
Please P. W. (Inform^t about lands for Reserves to Westⁿ, answer to duty
required received)

Price B. (Copy reply to ^{46.} settlers address Sim^lka,
(On Similkameen land matter ^{152.} w^h Inap)

Pinder W. G. (Questions to be answer^d - ^{189.} Harriner case Cowichan)

Plenny C. To give 14 ^{392.} Gov. horses to Pichele

P
O

Superintendent General of Indian Affairs.

4 Acknowledge receipt of several Communaries and Ref: to heklakopa and meeting	141. Sale of Indian lands by Prov. Gov. Hayes	219 Survey Branch Proposal for survey to accompany Com. on the coast.	325 Mr. Duncan of Comog
5 On plotting field notes with letter to & from E.M. on same subject	148. Mr. Wagners intrusion on Similk. Res. 152 to 159.	223 Ind: des content Northern Interior	326 Cowichan Reserve
12 Apr 31 Jan. bal. 141 25 Ann. saving 78 - 15 to 160	159. Form of Consy. required	225. Marriner case, Con	333 Sub-agency question
14 Report survey matters unsatisfactory 4th copy telegram and letter to E. M. not to resume work	162. C. Com. Letter on Osooyos matter sent in error	233 Power of Prov. Gov. to make highways at will through Reson's District Compendium Survey 240. Branch	342 Indian meeting at Lytton, Resolutions
15 Fraser Supdys Presents	165. Suptdys donations Michels success Michels lists sent	243 Prov. Gov. will accept Surveys 1st. & 2nd. object to natural boundaries	357 Letter on Rules and Regulations
69 Survey Branch procedure for 1879	175 Wagners case settled Inattention Prov. Gov. copy list unsent matter sent.	243 stating the wish of Prov. Gov. for Comm. to work in the interior Map showing districts visited and not visited, sent.	357 General Letter on above
67-70 Similk. matters with Extracts from letters of Bar. Price	180. Survey Branch non settle. O'Keefe question Sale for Osooyos Res. and non adjust. irrigation questions will delay surveys & transfer of lands	250 Survey 250 Branch Two survey parties can work in Nicola. Economy will be enforced. also discipline	358 Letter A on Ind. meeting at Lytton
90 Showing some of Eth. work incorrect	181. Water for irrigation Indian delegation on this subject	255 Survey 255. Branch On tenders for supplies survey parties going to hehola & Lytton. On general instruction sent to surveyors etc.	361 Indian meeting at Lytton description of what took place
92 Ref: to A.C. Anderson's claim for pay Osooyos error	190. Portion of Cowichan Res. sold by Prov. Gov. Report hereafter	259 To confirm by Tel. to Dr. Powell the instructions to surveyors	363 Cenovo heklakopamuka & Bonapartes
95 Copy new Bill 'Dyking' Reson on Fraser Malsqui etc.	191. Disaffection for them Ind	275 Conveying Reserves for Prov. Gov.	366 Proposed organization of 3 Lab. Heads Lower Fraser
100 Bennetts question O'Keefe's case	195. Copy lett. from O'Keefe chief on O'Keefe intrusion	275 1st Field Books & maps to Prov Gov. 158 to Dr Powell for Ottawa - 1 do for Supd.	373 Michels Photo. sent
102 prepared to give explanations of necessary on lands above	197 Superdys donations how tariff will require full sum \$542.00	288 Special case of Reserves near New Westminster	388 to 391. Accounts Vancouver and notes sent April, May and June
104 Anxiety of Inds	198. Have paid A.C. a 1/2 only of \$40.00	300 Agent at Kamloops	393 On protest of Chs Com. against working on Coast
115 Apr 28 Feb. bal 44	198. Fraser Sale of Ind: lands by Gov. Cowichan	301 Subdivision of Reson into individual holdings	394 Transport on Coast
123 Min. Rec. in matter left for 1877	204 Object to protest 'Winter Stock ranges'	307 Have written fully explaining Survey question - Telegraph	398 Tracing sent showing localities Maopopia & other Ind: to be visited this autumn.
138 On Agric. Imp. for Ind: S. Supdys copy instruct Michels	210. Apr 31 March bal 1166	321 Census sent 78/79	402. Mr. Sutton's matter
139 On seeds for 1000 copies Cotton on this subject to Mr. Lemihan	211. stating Prov. Gov. have been informed of wish of Dom Gov for work to be com. on coast Copy letter to P. Gov on this subject sent.	322 Instructions noted as regards Standard	403 School at Lytton
			413 Oh 'old Residents' Letter
			414 Supplementary acc. sent 30 June 1870

Note F Richards 19 June for true sketch Oregon. Caraid.

F. Richter and others (Answer to their ⁴⁹⁷ letter on Ind. Res. Smith?)

Ralph W. (asking position ¹⁴⁰ Haynes Corral on New River)

Seward J. (water for ⁸⁵⁰ Michel Lytton.)

Sproat G.M. Fin. L. VanKoughnet. Form of conveyance of Indian Reserves ²²⁵ re

Hester Jno

2nd 119.

Penning C., New England C., On Microw as a ^{hill} school-field

11
Telegrams. (to Sup^d Gen. E. M's successor) Sup: Gen: Chilli¹⁵² having attention
(Chilli¹⁷⁰ Res: requires about 1000 ac)

to Coron Lytton and ¹⁴⁷ Tuttle Gale for Michel to
meet Com^r at Chilliwaok

to Blankensop for ¹⁶⁴ tracings 144 Chilliwaok Res.

to Sup: Gen: 8 May - ²¹⁴ Mr Darby will not claim
lands assigned to Indians by Com^r under 1847 act

to Sup: Gen 29 May '79 - ²⁴³ Pro: Gov: wish Com^r to visit interior.

to John Murray Sp: ²⁵⁴ Bridge - "Tender for Provisions"

to Cap Semone to - ²⁵⁴ Have list ready Survey party requires

to Oppenheimer - ²⁵⁴ Bro Gale - Tender accepted including

to Emmett - ²⁵⁴ to send requisition to Off: Vict^a for 200 lbs

to Off: Bro Vict^a Tender accepted. 500 lbs supplies ordered

to Off: H. West ²⁵⁵ Ditto Ditto

to Semone to - ²⁵⁵ to order Stationery & other articles for his party.

to Oppenheimer - ²⁵⁵ ^{Victoria} Tender accepted

to Pstr, the Intyre Lytton ²⁶⁸ On Com^r visit

to L Van Koughnet ³⁰⁷ Explaining survey question - handwritten

to Mr Hamley asking if ³¹⁴ American vessels can coast

to Sup: Gen. asking permission for ³¹⁵ do do

to Sup: Gen: further on ³¹⁶ liner vessel for coast work

to Michel at Lytton ³²⁰ Com^r will reach there 14th July

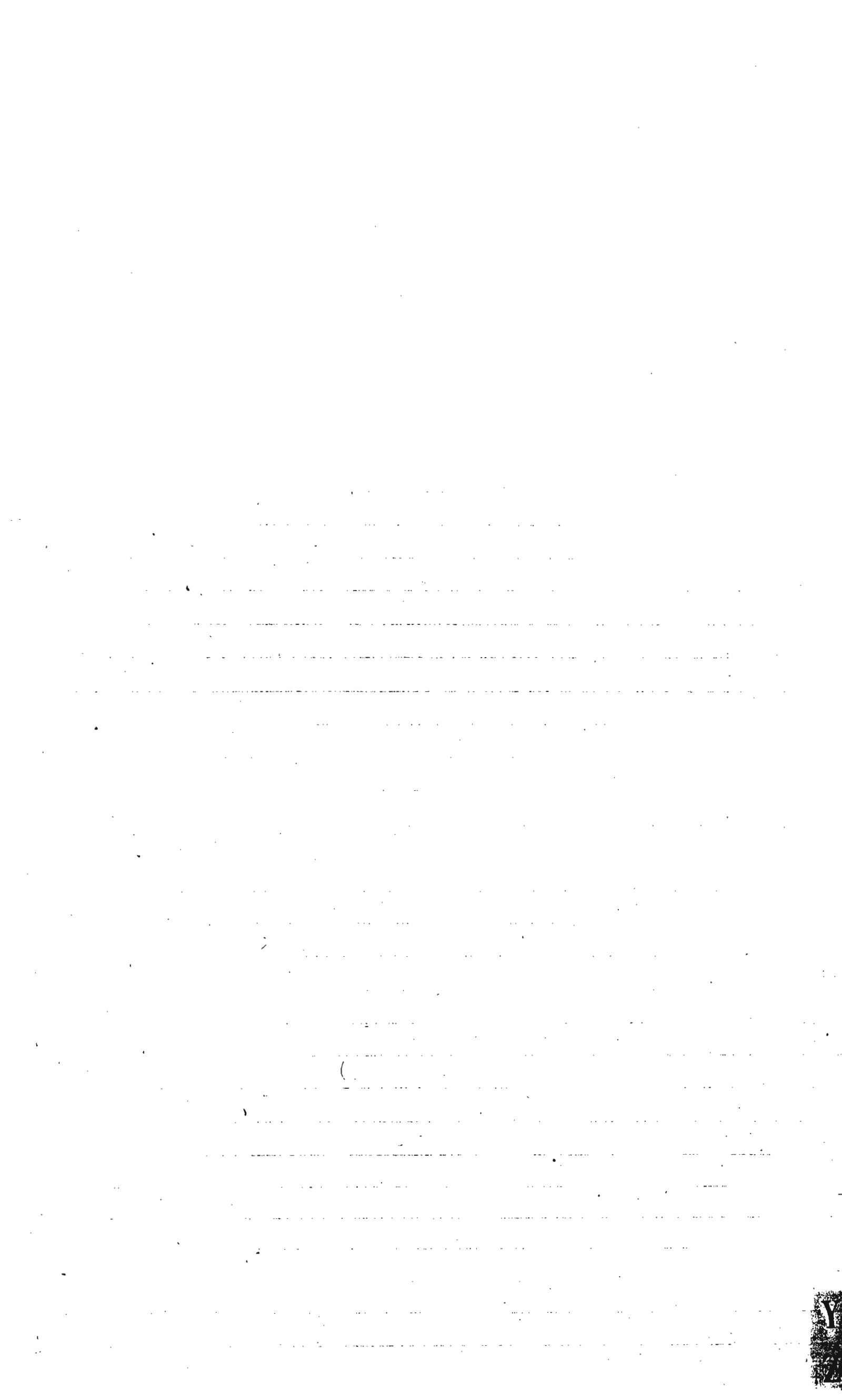
Wake Capt. (Reply to letter³ about Ind's trespass, Answer to friend's complaint⁴⁷)

113.

(Reply to letter 15 Mar. 2^d grievance)

Willis & Walker (additions made to Skel. Kayl. Docten reserve)³¹¹

W
A



Indian Reserve Commission

New Westminster
1 Feb^y 1879

Taxing Indians.

Sir

The Indian "Timothy" of the Sliammow village (near Grief Point) states that the policeman at Kanaimo made him pay road taxes for 2 years, under threat of imprisonment, and that the same has been done to other Indians. Timothy formerly worked at Kanaimo. He gave me the enclosed receipt (no 29 4 April 1872²⁰⁰). I said I would send it to you. He has lost the other receipt.

Captain Wake

has written a note to me. I enclose copy of my reply. I do not understand his statement, but I fear, from what Mohun tells me, that Mr Green has not surveyed Capt. Wake's lots. If not, the work must be done over again. To survey Wake's lots was what Green was sent there for. The north line of the reserve cannot be otherwise defined.

Mohun has not finished the plotting, so I am not yet certain about the matter. I have instructed him to leave Kaituma and work here.

I suppose if Valdez Island reserve has to be resurveyed we shall have to telegraph for authority from the Sup^t General.

Yours &c.

Sd. G. M. Sproule

Col: Powell
Victoria }

Indian Res. Commission

In camp New West 1 Feb 1879

Sir

I have received your letter of the 22nd and in reply beg to say that you appear to have written to me under some misapprehension. I have nothing to do with the matters of trespass which you mention, nor with the management of the Indians.

Colonel Powell has charge of the landed property of the Indians in your district, and if you trespass on Indian land he will cause you to be turned off. If, on the other hand, the Indians trespass on your land, you have the same recourse against them, by Provincial law, that you would have if the trespassers were white men.

The Reserves on Valdez Island were laid off by the former Reserve Commission, and Mr Green was instructed to survey them according to the decision of the Com^{rs}. I called at your place the other day to ascertain what Mr Green had done, but you were not able to inform me. I have instructed Mr broken, the surveyor in charge, to report to me on Mr Green's action with respect to the survey of the Valdez Island reserves, and if there is anything in the report useful to you in the way of information, I will communicate with you, as you were not present at the time of Mr Green's visit to the Island.

Your obed^t Serv^t

J. G. Spruce Com^{rs}

Capt & B. Watson }
Valdez Island }

Indian Res Commission
Artist, Columbia

In Camp near New West
1879 - 1 Feb -

Sir

I have received your letters

- 10692 Dec 16
 - 10185 18
 - 10768 20
 - 10770 21
 - 10769 28
 - 10770 28
 - 10831 31
 - 10691 Jan 3
 - 10348 7
- 1878
1879

And note contents.

No 10185 18 Dec. was replied to on the 27th Dec.

No 10768 20 Dec. I note, with thanks, your observations as to \$1800 paid out by me to settle a question not contemplated by the Parliamentary vote, and will take care that the payment shall not be a precedent. I may mention that the settlement effected has saved the Govt several hundred dollars on survey account.

No 10770 21 Dec 1878.

After consultation with Capt Semmel, the Surveyor, I think that an official letter from me to the Adams Lake chief who was so useful to his survey party last summer will be better than a money present.

No 10348 7th Jan 7

I had noticed the obvious clerical error of Capt Semmel's name instead of that of Mr Moken in your letter of 13 Dec.

No 10692 16 Dec. I will, in

due course, communicate with you respecting the proposed meeting of the Kekla. Kap, a muk Indian, should anything seem worthy of communication, before it takes place, I may mention that it is not proposed that I should convene a meeting, or that it should have such an official character as it would have were I to convene it and preside.

It is an Indian meeting pure and simple, they only asked that I should be there, and I could not accept their invitation without permission from you to leave my ordinary work for a week for the purpose of attending.

The Hon:
The Superintendent
of Indian Affairs, Ottawa.

Yours Sir &c &c
J. M. Spruce Com^{rs}

Indian Reserve Com^{rs}
British Columbia

New West 1 Feb 1879

Surveyors

Sir,

I beg to enclose copies of my letters 16th and 22nd ult. to Mr Graham, and his reply of this date on the subject of the time being occupied in plotting the late surveys of Indian Reserves made by Mr Green and Capt. Bennett.

I cannot, personally, judge of such work, and thus I have consulted with here your different opinions.

It is the first plotting of surveys of Indian Reserves which may go on for several years, and the precedent may thus be important. For the reason I shall be glad to be informed, either officially or privately, whether the Surveyor General is satisfied that 3½ months is a reasonable time for the work now on Mr Graham's hands.

the general nature of which is described in his above letter of this date to me.

My mention of 2 months is an unprofessional view, stated for the purpose of raising the question

I am Sir &c &c

L VanKoughnet Esq;
Chap & Supt. General
of Ind. Affairs Ottawa,

J. M. Sprunt Com^{rs}

Indian Res. Com^{rs}

New Westⁿ 1 Feb^r 1879

Mess^{rs} Casimir
and Coe

Headmen among the Indians
Saugley

Gentlemen,

In reply to your letter of the 31st I beg to say that the land you mention will not be dealt with by me except after full explanation to the Saugley Indians. I will let you know when I wish to see you. I am busy with other matters at present.

Your obed^t Serv^t.

Signed, J. M. Sprunt Com^{rs}

Indian Res. Commission

New Westminster 4 Feb^r 1879

Sir

I beg to enclose, open, my letter with enclosure to the Supt General de Maken and his present work. Be good enough to post it after reading it - the object of your personal being to show you why instead of acceding to Mr Maken's request to pay him up bully, I pay him a sum of \$200⁰⁰ on a/c, or rather I give him a

certificate therefor - pending a reply from Ottawa.

I am Sir etc &c
Yrs, G. M. Spruce

Mr. Proben asks me to certify to an account of his
for some stamps. Have I to do this, as well as
his salary? I have done so -

I am G. M. S.

Col. Powell
Victoria }

Indian Res. Commission
British Columbia

New West 5 Feb 1879

Sir

Our Indians make a very poor show in the
Return E (Agricultural and Industrial Statistics) 1877
wherein only the Indians of the Lower Fraser below
Yale are mentioned. This could not be otherwise, owing
to the want of information possessed by the Govt, and
probably no better statement can be published in 1878.

But I should wish to mention for the information
of the Superintendent-General, and especially as I have
noticed in the Parliamentary discussions that members
speak slightingly of our Indians as wild unimportant
tribes. That since June last I have dealt with 4658
Indians - thus composed -

- 1578 Men
- 1383 Women
- 94 Male Youths
- 171 Female do
- 748 Male Children
- 739 Female do
- 57448 Horses
- 1895 Cattle
- do do do

(Alas! no schools!)
and these people possess

The 1500 Indians of Ontario have only 2100 horses and 1626 cattle, but on the other hand of course, the latter have much cultivated land. Our Indians are far ahead of those in any other province except Ontario, and I should think, might soon beat them.

The 6653 Indians I speak of are only a section of our Indian population, and I think, when a full statement of the whole property and earnings of the Indians in this province can be made, you will be a little surprised at the showing when compared with the condition of the Indians in the older Provinces.

I think that 10 to 12,000 of our Indians at least, must spend yearly pretty nearly half a million dollars in dry goods.

They evidently would be a most valuable part of the population of Canada, could they get their lands adjusted, and be cared for and advised and induced to give up their nonsensical practice of 'pollotches' or distributions of property among themselves.

L. VanKoughnet Esq;
Dep. Supt. General
of Indian Affairs, Ottawa

I am Sir &c &c
J. D. McSproul Comr

Indian Reserve Commission,
British Columbia,

New Westminster,

5 Feb. 1879.

Sir,

In reference to my letters of the 16 + 28 ult. and your reply of the 4th inst. I beg to say that upon a general review of the progress, condition and management of the Indian business under your care, I do not feel myself justified in asking you to resume

the work which, in my above letter of the 16th ult., I requested you to stop. Be good enough, therefore, to hand over all Government documents in your charge to Mr. Blenkinsop for custody until your successor is appointed, and, do the same with any Government property which may be in your possession.

Hereafter, your account will be brought to a point, and a Salary Certificate issued, for the proper time.

In terminating your employment in work for which I recommended you, it is unnecessary to say that I feel regret; but, my duty to the Com^d Government does not permit me to take any other course.

I am desirous of explaining to you, in conclusion, that the ceasing of your present temporary employment is not to be considered as reflecting, in any degree, upon your professional abilities, of which I am not a judge, nor upon your willingness to do what is in your power to forward the Gov^t work.

The Indian business in this province is peculiar and largely concerned with details, and you do not, in my judgement, possess the forethought and mental grasp of necessary details that are required in one in your position; and, the effect is, that, I am hampered in my more important work, and that thus, unnecessary delay and expenditure are caused, which the Government expect me to prevent.

It is due to you that I should make this statement to you frankly, and I beg to remain,

Sir,

Your obed^t Serv^t!

Edward Mookun Coy, C.S.,
New Westminster

Sd, Gilbert Malcolm Sproat
Commissioner

Indian Reserve Commission
 District Columbia

New York 5 Feb 1879

Presents general

Sir

I have pleasure in mentioning, at your request, my opinion as to the policy of giving presents from the Govt to those Indians of the Interior among whom I have been working for the past two years.

I do not think the system is a good one, as it tends to make the Indians lean too much on the Government, and lose the habit of self reliance in which is our main hope of ultimately improving them.

I really believe that the Indians care little about these presents. Some of the tribes, as you know, have a singular suspicion that the acceptance of presents from the Govt compromises their independence, and have, in consequence, refused to accept them.

I think it would be well to find what quantities of intended presents, if any, are lying unaccepted in various parts.

As some of the tribes have, only, now got land and are poor, it might be kind and useful to lend garden tools here and there among them, provided some good principle of distribution were adopted to ensure that those who needed the help really got it, and, provided, that supervision were exercised afterwards to see that a proper use were made of the tools by the proper persons. In this respect I would regard the list which you have prepared.

But, speaking generally

I would submit to you whether the system should

not be abolished in the near future, and some way substituted of helping the Indians by good advice and visits, and by giving assistance towards the provision of schools and medical attendance for the Indians. They themselves showing willingness and ability to do something for themselves in these matters.

I have not yet finished my examination of land matters on the Lower Fraser, but, so far as my experience has enabled me to form an opinion, I would say the same of the effect of presents, in that district, as in the interior.

James Lenihan Esq.
Indian Super.
New West

I am Sir,
Yours obed^t Serv^t
G. M. Sprout Com^{rs}

Copy
Telegram

New Westminster 5th Feb 1879
sent 1.30 P.M. 5th

Sup^t General of
Indian Affairs, Ottawa

Surrey Branch

Mohini's management unsatisfactory. I have suspended him. please authorize substitution of Surveyor Jarwell or Surveyor Lane to finish plotting and mapping
G. M. Sprout.

Copy
Original for Depositor,
Bank of Brs. Columbia

No 1903,

\$11⁵⁰

Victoria 2 Decr. 1878.

Received from G. M. Sprout Ind. Rev. Com^{rs} Victoria B.C. the sum of eleven dollars fifty cents to be placed to the credit of the Rec^d Gov^t of Canada on a/c of Revenue.

Signed in triplicate
G. M. Sprout
Manager

Entered
S^d Geo. Gillespie accountant.

Indian Reserve Commission,
British Columbia,

New Westminster.

6 Febr. 1879.

Sir,

I have handed your letter of this date to Mr. Blenkinsop for an examination of the statement of account which it contains.

You are in error in supposing that I wished you to understand that I was satisfied with your verbal explanations; or wish you to withdraw your letter of the 22nd. A copy of it was sent by last mail to Ottawa.

As I have expressed no opinion as to your professional qualifications, but have been obliged, with regret, to act simply on the grounds stated, which are not, in my judgment, either "vague" or "ambiguous", I hardly think that you will desire me to follow you into an argumentative correspondence on that subject.

Edward McKim Esq. C.E.
New Westminster

I am Sir &c &c
J. G. McSproul, Comr.

Indian Res. Commission
British Columbia

New West. 7 Febr. 1879

Sir,

Following my letter of the 27th Jan. I now beg to enclose, in duplicate, account and vouchers for January showing a balance in hand of \$141²⁵ which agrees with the Bank balance at 31st January.

As this is the beginning of the year, I may respectfully take the opportunity of reminding you that since I became Single Commr.

in March last, I have reduced the expenses of the whole work by about \$1500⁰⁰ to \$1600⁰⁰ a year, principally by myself assuming the duties of Attendant Surveyor with unprofessional assistance, and the aid of a regular surveyor, only, when necessary, as already explained in correspondence.

Though a little in doubt, at first, I think I may say that the reduction has not lessened the efficiency of the Commission.

I am Sir,

Your obedt Servt.

The Hon:
The Supr Gen: Indian Affairs
Ottawa

S^r

G. M. Sprout Com^r

Copy

Cash Statement to 31 Jan^y 1879.

10⁰⁰ Cash _____ Contra _____
Indian Res: Com^r in Ac with Dominion Gov^t _____

1877
Jan^y 1 To Balance \$1443.25 - 1879
Jan^y 31 By paid

G. M. Sprout
Commission

Field allowance in
full for month
of January

31 d^o @ 42⁰⁰ p^d 1302.00

Balance 31 Jan^y 1879 141.25

\$1443.25

\$1443.25

Feb^r 1 To Balance 141.25

New Westminster B.C.

31 Jan^y 1879

G. M. Sprout

Indian Res. Commission
British Columbia

New Westminster

1879 Feb 7

Surrey Branch

Sir,

Looking reference to my letter of the 1 Feb 7, as to the time being occupied in plotting by Mr. Mohun the surveys of Cap. Semmett and Mr. Green, I have now, further, to say that, having, since my return from the Coast, looked into the survey business, I do not find matters satisfactory as regards the business management, and I have accordingly sent you a telegram, as per annexed copy, and have addressed Mr. Mohun as per annexed copy, dated 5th inst.

My action is not based on any judgment assumed to be formed by me on strictly professional matters, but on the laxity and unbusinesslike weakness, which I notice, outside of professional work. Instead of finding, on my return from the Coast, matters in a smooth and forward state, I find pottering, and questions left open ahead, which would be sure to crop up, probably at a time when I might be absent, or about to go to a distance.

I cannot quite yet say, but I shall not be surprised if some, at least, one, survey has to be done over again. The Commission at great cost, and with almost excessive care, determines on the ground what has to be done, and somebody must be responsible if the surveyors do not do what was decided.

To prevent mistakes, I have been careful, on the ground, to write elaborate minutes showing, not only what was to be done, but the reasons, and now that I come to examine things, finally,

It is unsatisfactory and of course simply means extra cost to the Government to find things in a loose and backward state, and to have to spend time in remedying this that should have been devoted to my more important, direct work.

I have therefore taken the steps which, I am sure, will most rapidly get the plans finished in a form justifying my signature at the earliest date, so that the reserves can be conveyed to the Dominion Government.

The Department, I regret to think, will experience sufficient delays in this Indian land business owing to the inaction of the Poo' Goo' without any addition thereto, arising from the indiscipline of persons directly employed and paid by the Department. And, in so important a work as the surveys, it is well that this should become clearly understood, at once, in the Province.

I am Sir Y. K. K.
 R. G. Sprout, Com^r

The Hon.
 The Sup. Gen. Indian Affairs
 Ottawa.

Indian Commission

British Columbia

New Westminster

1879 Feb 7

Private

Froese Superintendency Presents

Sir

I have, in writing, and also in conversation, stated to Mr. Enikow my views as to Indian presents in general, and as to a list for some of the tribes which he showed me, in particular, which list I have amended by reductions.

I have said that in this and other matters, I would recommend the Department to adopt the grouping of the Indians ascertained by the Indian Reserve Commission, as that grouping exactly follows the people's wishes and in fact is their own divisions.

The list shown to me is inaccurate and framed on no principle.

The Hon:
The Sup. Gen. Indian Affairs
Ottawa

I am Sir &c &c
J. M. Sprout Com. en

New Westminster

13 February 1879

Sir

In reference to the account which you have sent in against the Dominion Gov^t. with a request that I should certify as to the time, it thinks you have changed for time when, so far as is known to me, you were not engaged in plotting the surveys of Captain Emmett and Mr. Green. I accordingly request that you will explain if I am wrong in stating that it is not likely that you began the work until Monday the 25th Nov. at Katoe, if then.

I have also to remark that it appears from your own letter to me (see my reply dated Chilliwack 23 Dec last) that at some time though for what time I do not know, subsequently to the above date of the 25th Nov. you were engaged at Katoe on other work than the work of the surveys.

I requested you to stop work in a letter which you received on the 22nd Jan^y.

You say you have acted under the impression that on the 30th Jan^y, I told you, in conversation, to resume work. This is erroneous but I am willing to certify from the 31st to the 5th Feb^y.

when you ceased to be employed as well as to the periods above mentioned when exactly determined on hearing your further statements.

It will be necessary that you divide the time for work done in respect of each Superintendency and that you make an account for each, and also that you make a report as to the progress and state of the work -

I beg that you will attend to these matters soon, so that there may be no delay in issuing the certificates of time.

E. Proker Esq. C.E.,
New Westminster

I am Sir
Yours truly
S. G. M. Sprout

Indian Res. Commissioner

New West 13 Feb. 1879

Sir

Survey Branch

In reference to the charge which you have made against the Government from 17 Nov to 5 Feb. for work in plotting the field notes of Cap Semant and Mr Green I beg to call your attention to the fact that in reporting progress to me 29th Nov. you wrote -

"I have two sketches from Lyton to Hat Creek ready whenever you want them, and am now making one from Spruce Bridge to Osoyoos, as soon as that is done I shall begin the field notes"

I do not know when you actually did begin work on the field notes, but on your own showing, it was not before December ~~but on your own showing~~

My Collier requesting you to stop work and repair yourself was, you state, received

on the 22nd Jan^r.

It is further stated by you that you have acted under the impression that on the 30 Jan^r. I told you, in conversation, to resume work. This is erroneous, but I am willing to certify from the 31 Jan^r to the 5 Feb^r, at which latter date you ceased work.

It is desired by the Dept. that you make your ac. up separately, for the work done for each Superintendency -

You will, of course, send with your accounts, a report of the state of the work when you left it, and copies of your letters to the two Surveyors, with their original replies.

I beg that you will attend to the rectification of your statement of account, without delay, to enable me to certify for the time.

I am Sir ve ve &
 E. M. Sprunt Com^o
 S^d

E. M. Sprunt Com^o

P.S. I do not address this letter to Chaix having been told that you have gone to Victoria. I give it to Mr. Blenkinsop, on whom you will probably call, on your return.

Int^r G. M. S.

New West 14 Feb^r 1879

Dear Sir,

I cannot find the plan which, as the product of rough sketches, you made from mouth of Keelaw to Douglas Lake. Have you omitted to enclose it with the others? Your package was opened in my room, and none of the contents have been removed, so that I think you must have omitted to enclose it.

E. M. Sprunt Com^o

Yours truly
 S^d G. M. Sprunt

Indian Res. Commission

New York 14 Feb. 1879

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 6th. I would recommend you to attack the Collector and not the Govt. about the taxes.

Robert Hughes, Oyster Harbour.

^{200 June 1877} The Com^{rs} on the 20 April 1877 mentioned this matter to you in a letter which contained a copy of their to the Govt. on the subject.

I have, at intervals, both written to, and talked to, the late and present Govt. without being able to get any attention paid to the above letter to the Govt., and I have so advised the Com^{rs}.

My impression is that Mr. Hughes has no legal claim, for the reasons stated in the above letter of the Com^{rs} to the Govt.

Mr Fox.

The Com^{rs} used every care, but did not find that this gentleman had any claim at Oyster Harbour. They did not hear his name mentioned. I enclose a letter for him. Will you address it if you know Mr Fox's address?

I agree with you in the importance of the boundaries of reserves being known to everybody and will do my best to see that this is so, but the surveys are more trouble, at present, to me than all my other work. Mr. Ashmun wishes me to certify for survey work from the 17th Nov., though he was then otherwise engaged in Victoria and reported to me from letters of Nov. he had not then begun the field notes. It is impossible that I can certify for more than the proper time.

I am more & more convinced that for plotting and mapping the eight months work of the two surveyors, with field notes of average correctness, 2 months is a sufficient time, and it is as well to establish this at an early period of the survey work connected with Indian Reserves.

Even as it is, Keeping God's hours, Mr. Mahan will have pretty well got through the work in that time, but though keeping God's hours is all very well in towns, such hours are not recognised on the Reserve Commission, for obvious reasons.

Col. Powell
Victoria

I am Sir &c &c
S. G. M. Sprunt Com^{rs}

Ind. Res. Commission.

New Westminster. 14 Feb 1879

Sir,

It has been stated to me by Col. Powell that you consider you have a claim to land near Oyster Harbour, with which the Indian Reserve as laid out by the Reserve Com^{rs} may conflict.

Notwithstanding inquiries made on the spot, the Com^{rs} did not hear of you as a holder of land in that neighbourhood.

May I ask you to let me know, as soon as possible, where your land is, and send me copies of the documents which you have to substantiate your claim, so that the facts may be known and any necessary rectification made?

I am Sir

Mr. J. J.
Chermaines

S. G. M. Sprunt
Com^{rs}

Ind. Res. Commission.

New York 14 Feb 1879

Sir

Conveyance of Reserves.

I am desirous of getting as many surveyed reserves as possible into such a business position as will enable the Hon. Gov^l, soon, to apply for a conveyance of them from the Prov. Gov^t.

There will be only a few of Capt. Emmett's. As to Mr Green's, there should be more in number, but if there is anything wrong at Beecher Bay, Chatham Id. or Baldy Id. there will be a poor showing for the 1878 work.

I have to sign the plans after careful examination with the Minutes of Decision which latter, of course, are the essential documents. I wish to get all necessary documents together so that I can ascertain what is possible, and what is not, this spring, in the above matter. Can you send me the surveys of the Esquimaux and Victoria Reserves? These have not been surveyed, and I should suppose the old surveys will do when signed. I will keep them with the rest of Mr Green's work.

I have taken on myself to suspend Mr Inkum, as his want of fore thought and grasp of business details were hampering work in general, and, in my opinion, he was letting the performance of his professional work too easy, and thus causing delay and needless expense. As to how he may do his professional work, I am of course no judge.

I am Sir

X O X
Saml McSpreat Com^{rs}

Col. Powell
Victoria }

Indian Res Com^{rs}

New Westminster

14 Feb 1879

Sir,

Will you oblige me by reading the enclosed open letter to Mr Anderson and then posting it? It is not a matter that concerns you but I avail myself of your office as a place of custody for the scroll book mentioned and herewith sent, and I ask you to send me the book back as soon as Mr. Anderson has seen it, unless indeed, he is not coming to town and then if he asks to have the book sent to Saanich good and well. Perhaps in that case you will return it to me when you get it back from Saanich.

I may mention that you have, I think a full copy of these 1877 Minutes though only a bit of them - the addition to Victoria Indian also concerns your Superintendency. The copy was made, and I think sent ^{in full} to your office. Would it not be well to get the Osoyoos blunder amended in your copy also, so that no incorrect copies shall exist. I am afraid that the Dominion Govt will think little of us for such a blunder. Pardon this trouble.

Yours &c
S. F. M. Sprout

Col. Powell
Victoria

Indian Res Commission

New Westminster

14 Feb 1879

Dear Sir

Hope

I thank you for your note about Indian matters at Hope. I have since found

a letter of instruction from Gov. Douglas to Col. Proby instructing him to lay off an Indian Reserve in the town so that general inquiries such as I was making when I took the liberty of troubling you, are no longer necessary.

Error in Minutes

You remember the copying and reading over of the Minutes for 1877, which were signed by the three Com^{rs}. I am afraid there is a serious blunder in the part relating to Osage. Who made it is of little consequence. The point is to rectify it.

In the rough scroll book kept by Proby (which I have sent to Col. Powell for your inspection) page 21 which, after I carefully went over it with you and Mr. Kinlay, became in fact the rough original, you will find at the top of the page the following

" All the vacant lands in townships "L" and "L1" and four lines down township "L1" is again mentioned. This is correct (see map on previous page with scroll books)

That in copying and reading over, the L and L1 which are of course 50 and 51 have been taken as "5 and 6" townships which are I don't know where, but which are not at Osage.

Will you call at Col. Powell's and see the book (which I wish to get back very soon) and on being satisfied as to the blunder give me your ideas of how to rectify it. I hope it is the only one.

My action would be to get back Leitch's copy, that sent to the Prov. Ex^{rs}, and that sent to the Dominion (not the whole Minutes but only the particular page) and that you might (after you and I had signed the changes) send them to Mr. Kinlay who no doubt on your statement would be satisfied.

and also would sign, without further inquiry.

I find that Mr. Lenihan's copy is wrong, and I am assuming that the others are so too.

A. C. Anderson Esq.
Saanach.

Yours truly,
J. S. M. Spruce,

If you are not coming into town this winter weather Col. Powell on your writing will send the book to Saanach but I suppose you will come in to see the Prov. Gov's copy of Minutes.

Incl. Re Commission

1879 Feb. 14 K. W. W.

My dear Father Grandier,

I have the pleasure to acknowledge receipt of your two letters of the 3rd and 8th Jan^y.

It is very difficult to get the Prov. Gov^t to do anything even in what concerns themselves, and I do not know what has been done in Mr. J. Walker's case.

He has certain legal claims which the Commission had to recognize, but I asked the Elliot and also the Walker Gov^t to give Mr. Walker land elsewhere, and give his piece to the deserving Adams Lake Indians. I am afraid they will do nothing in the way of giving land to Indians.

We visited Andrew's coal cropping and gave him a considerable piece of land round it. If he had taken us to another and better cropping we should have given him the land at that place, but I am sorry it cannot be done now. His people have a fair chance of benefit from coal if there is any there, and it is ever likely to be in demand, and it is impossible to judge from a mere outcrop. The piece they have

may be the most soluble; it is a chance which can only be proved by working, and of course the Indians never can work coal. They would have to get it leased through the Department.

Capt. Jemmett says he does not think that Barnard's people have cut timber, written the reverse, but if this has been done, the fact should be established and Mr Barnard will have to pay. I will try to see Mr. Hunter on the subject.

The question of Agents in localities has been often named to the Hon^{ble} Sec^y, but I have no information as to their intentions. I feel much what you mention in your letter of the 28th. If the Hon^{ble} Sec^y authorizes me, or consults me as to the appointment of Agents, I would certainly deem it most essential that you and all who are doing similar good work should be unofficially consulted and should approve the selections. I have strongly placed before the Hon^{ble} Sec^y, in my confidential letters, the necessity, in all administrative effort, of helping and not of hampering missionary effort, and this from my conviction that the Churches are the only Agencies that have done or are doing the Indian good. Still you need Agents to help in matters somewhat outside clerical duties.

Capt. Jemmett reported to me the great kindness of the Adami Lake Chief in helping the survey-work, and I mentioned it to the Lt. Col. General who has authorized me to send his acknowledgment to the Chief which I do in a letter sent to your care by this post.

"Laton" has good points, but is one of the old school, and his jealousy of the Adami Lake and Little Lake people caused the Com^{rs} some amusement. The only lands that the three tribes have common and equal rights in are at Salmon River (said to be a good hay place)

Their other reserves are distinct, and 'Satan' must attend to his own and not interfere with other people. He is far better off than the Adams Lake people, and he and all his people will find work enough on their own reserve, as agriculturists and stock raisers.

14 Feb 1879

Kindly explain to 'Satan' that as regards water courses there is, in the case of white men, a right of entry on and through the lands of others, and that the same rule applies as between Indian and Indian. His own good sense will show him that this is for the public benefit in a country like ours. At the same time there would be compensation for damage, if it amounted to anything.

I find from Cap. Semmett that the line of the Adams Lake ditch will just, for a short way, come within 'Satan's' reserve, and this up on the mountain, so that practically no damage will be sustained, but if so, Cap. Semmett tells me that one of 'Satan's' people, who has a piece of land at the head of the Lake will probably want a little water from the Adams Lake ditch, and the one could be put against the other.

The Indians must help one another and an end be put to tribal jealousies. How can they ever rival the whites if they maintain their intertribal jealousies? However 'Satan' is too old to change - What it is necessary for him, and other Indians to know is that once a reserve is assigned and surveyed and subdivided the law is as stringent as regards the trespass of an Indian upon another Indian's property, as in the case of white men, and the penalties are fines and imprisonment, both of which will be enforced, and I should be sorry to find my good friend 'Satan' within the grasp of the law at any time. Let him

be forwarded.

The water question in his neighbourhood may yet in some seasons, be attended with difficulty, Satan is all right, for as the oldest occupier his tribe will have the first claim, but (as we explained to the Adams Lake people) Satan and also the white people who had existing records would come before them, still I hope there will be enough for all. Great care should be taken to avoid waste. Something by and by might be done by damming. Satan should have too much Indian feeling to allow himself to be impelled by these difficulties in the Adams Lake people's way.

I enclose extracts from the Minutes of Decision of the Commissioners as to water rights at that place.

With respect to Satan's timber, you are right, and he must know it for he went over the ground with Cap. Bennett, who showed him the limits of the spot on which the whites are from time to time from 1 July 1878 to have the privilege of cutting timber. The boundaries are blazed.

I enclose for your information copy of my letter as to this matter to Mr Mc Boyan and others 1 July 1878, also a sketch by Cap. Bennett showing the piece of land. The soil is the Indians. I don't know where the 3000 rails idea originated. Satan asked that steps should be taken to prevent disputes between himself and the whites as to this timber matter, hence I decided on having a piece surveyed off, as the simplest and clearest way.

I write to you separately about the Wiketse and with many thanks for your good wishes which I cordially return -

Believe me yours very truly
S. E. M. Spout

P.S. When Louis was in Victoria he said he was 'dead broke' but Mr. Harper owed him \$200⁰⁰. I inferred that Mr. Harper had been grazing cattle on the reserve. If he pays Louis, and the facts of grazing can be ascertained, he will again have to pay the Department.

This would be a good way of ending these trespasss, but that is Agents' work.

Indian Reserve Commission
Oxbow Columbia

New West 14 Feb 1879

Sir,

I have been asked by the Indian Superintendent here to make Indian Reserves for the resident and visitant native people who are about who come at certain seasons to the neighbourhood.

There is a reserve composed of two pieces of land marked Herring's place across the river from New Westminster (above Mr E Brown) but the extent is small and I wish to find if it can be extended.

I enclose a sketch of the above two pieces of land marked I.R. and of the immediately adjacent lands.

Can you inform me what pieces of land there are Dominion property, and so at my disposal, if necessary, for Indian purposes, and may I ask if any Dominion lands there are likely, so far as you know, to be required by the Dominion for other than Indian purposes.

No 2 lot coloured yellow is, I am told, the property of Mr. John Herring, father of Mr E Herring.

No 1 is Government

(I? - Dominion or Provincial) except a portion of it which is I.R.

A and B together said to contain 32 acres are occupied and appear to have been improved by Mr. S. Herring.

Are these lots A + B Dominion or Provincial property, or are they Mr. S. Herring's? I cannot understand from him exactly what his position is and he says Mr. R. Robertson Victoria has all his papers.

If he is a lease, to whom would the improvements belong by the lease, if it should be terminated?

No 8 and No 5 are these Dominion and or Provincial property, as also 17 and 18.

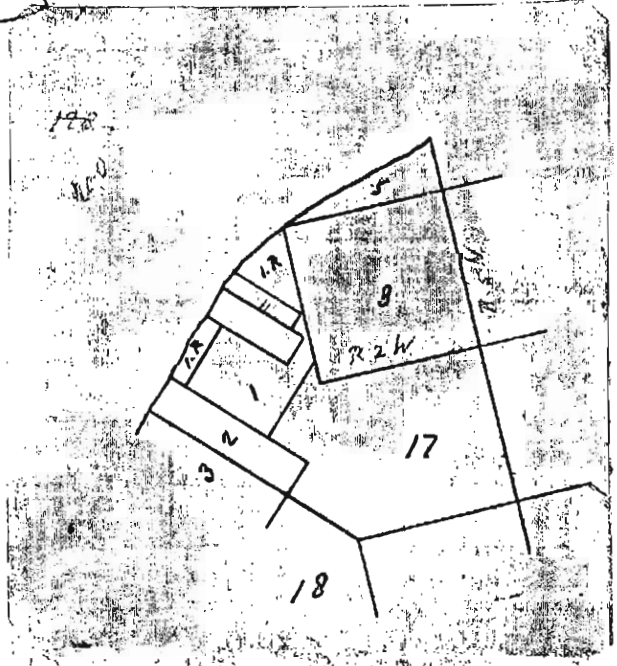
When I say in the foregoing "Dominion property" I mean not-until the railway land comes away.

I trouble you with these inquiries, as I am told you are likely to know the facts, and I shall be obliged by a reply at your convenience

Yours truly

J. M. Sprunt Comr.

B. W. Pearce Esq;
Dom. Gov. Works Office
Victoria



Ind. Co. Commission.

New West 15 Feb. 1879

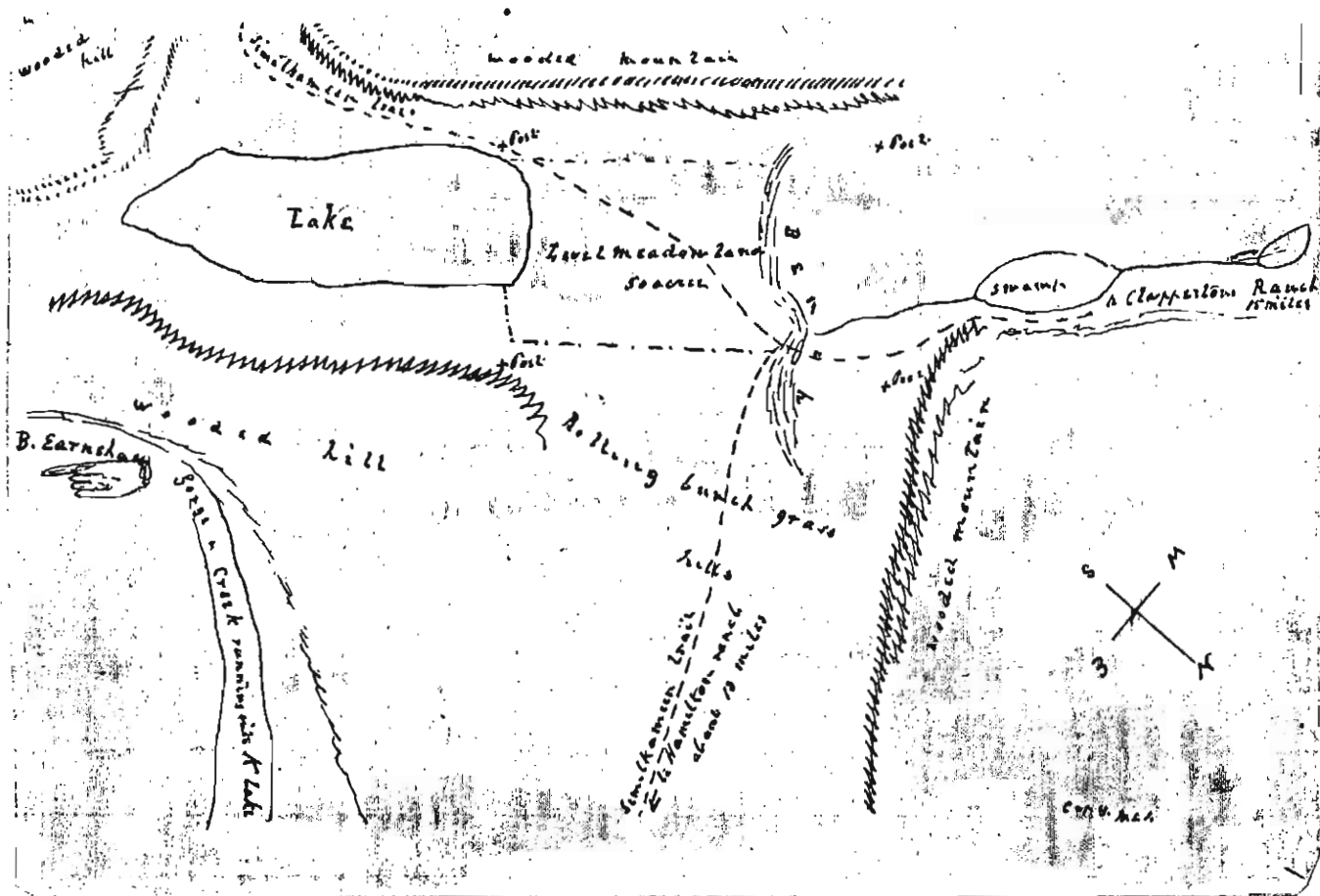
Sir,

The piece of land marked "level meadow land" in your pencil sketch on the other side of this page was much wanted by the Indians but I did not include it within their lands.

Your obed. Servt.

H. D. Green Armstrong Esq.
Nicola Valley

Sr G. H. Sproule, Comr.



Ind. Co. Commission
British Columbia

1879 - Feb. 13 - New West

Sir

I have received instructions from the Hon. the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs to convey to you his thanks for the proper assistance which you gave to Capt Semmett, who was employed by the Government to

Survey your reserves.

The Sup. Gen. will always be glad to hear of the welfare of yourself and people, and has been pleased with the report which has reached him of your endeavours to promote habits of industry and sobriety in your tribe.

I have the honour to be Sir,

The Indian Chief
of the Adams Lake Tribe
Chilli, Kow't, Kun

Sh. G. M. Spruce Esq. M. P.

Indian Reserve Commission
British Columbia

Presents Special.

Sir,

In reference to the list of proposed presents to Indians, which you asked my opinion about yesterday, I mention in a separate letter, of this date, what I think about the system of presents in general, and I now make some remarks on the list, and submit them respectfully for your consideration.

My work has necessarily made me acquainted with these people; the comparative condition and ^{requirements} conditions of the different tribes; the nature of the various reserves and deficits; but, notwithstanding this - such are the varying features of the case on which you ask my opinion - that neither I myself nor any more experienced assistant Mr. Blew King, can state, at present, the most judicious and effective plan for distributing these proposed presents.

I think that if presents are to be made at all, the principle of distribution can only be decided upon after an exposition to the Indians of the views of the Govt, and after obtaining the views of the Indians themselves upon the whole question.

I have been told that this is one of the subjects which the Indians propose to discuss at the meeting

in the spring, which most of the tribes of the Kekla Kap. a. muk Nation proposed to hold when I last heard of their intentions.

In the meantime, considering that some of the tribes are at present poor, and looking to the fact that many Indians will wish this spring to break up some of the land I have given them, I think it might be well for you to consider whether you would not ask the Department for supplies, as per annexed list, which I think would be sufficient.

I would only propose that a few of these Articles should be given, absolutely, unless some sound principle of distribution can be discovered.

I think that the Indians should pay for the use of most of these Articles, or should buy them from the Gov^t, though without local agents it is not easy to see how this can be done arranged.

I would further propose to make known to the Indians that the present year would be the last year of gifts, unless for some special meritorious service.

Any presents that have been offered to the Kekla Kap. a. muk people, and now lying in local warehouses, unaccepted by the Indians, should be deducted from the annexed list, and should be regarded as no longer under offer to the particular Indians who have refused them, but should be considered as part of the general stock.

I believe that the Kekla Kap. a. muk Indians are very well disposed both to the Gov^t and the white people, but the continued inaction of the Provincial Gov^t in taking steps to help the adjustment of questions respecting water for irrigation, makes it necessary to use much judgment in offering presents to the Indians, owing to the light in which they regard them in connection with their relations to the Government.

Geo. Lenihan Esq:
Ind. Cap^t:
San West^m:

I am Sir
Yours
St. M. Sprout Com^r

over

List

18 grass Scythes, w th snaths,	24 Hay Forks
36 Shovels	36 Axes
4 Cross Cut Saws	10 Augers
18 Hand Saws	36 Mattocks
12 garden Rakes	3 Ploughs
3 Sets Harness, 1,	

New Westminster B.C.

5 Feb 1879

Indian Res. Commission

New Westminster

19 Feb 1879

Sir

I cannot make out from your sketch where your lead is and until it is known whether or not it is on the reserve of the Indians it is not necessary to write to the Supt. Gen. on the subject.

I annex a rough sketch of the west side of the Reserve. If you can find on the ground the dividing line of Townships 11 and 7 you may make something out of it. If not, the surveyors next summer can show it to you.

I am Sir, &c &c &c
S. J. G. & Co. Surveyors

Ronald Campbell Esq
O. Kamagan }

Indian Reserve Commission

New West 19 Feb 1879

(Suroey Branch)

Sir

Those to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 17 inst relating to your work, under the above head.

As already explained to you, you are entirely in error as to my being satisfied with your explanation, but as you might be considered as on service on the 29 & 30 Jan. I will certify for those days.

Your other remarks under this head do not require any comments from me,

E. Proctor Esq. C. E.
Katsie }

I am Sir &c &c
J. G. M. Sprout Com^{rs}

Indian Res. Com^{rs}

New West 19 Feb 1879

Sir,

(Attendant Surveyors Plans)

I have received your letter of the 17 inst. and in reply I have to state that one of the principal duties of an Att^d Surveyor with this Com^{rs} was the making of sketches of the country visited, and that no orders to make such sketches in particular districts were required to be issued. Nevertheless I frequently told you by way of reminder to be careful as to Nicola district - that being a district where no help from the railway maps could be expected, and I several times dispatched you, alone, to visit localities for the express purpose of making sketches.

I had not the slightest idea that you were not doing your duty in this respect, and supposed that all sketches would be forthcoming when required.

This expectation was strengthened by your writing to me on the 11 Jan. that you had sent me with other sketches a sketch from "mouth of Nicola to Douglas Lake and Hamilton Creek to Osoyoos" which would be of "great service". I did not open

your packet at that time, and when I did so found no sketch of the above locality, nothing but the Land Office map with a few pencilings at one end of it.

In your above letter of the 17th inst, now under consideration, you tell me that you, in fact, never made the sketch which nevertheless you stated in your letter of the 11th Jan^r. you had forwarded to me as a sketch" in fact, the product of the rough sketches".

It is impossible for me to know what you mean by making two such antagonistic statements, but I am only concerned with the fact of your not having furnished the Com^{rs} with the necessary sketches for the Kicker Valley, which should have of course have been furnished before you received your pay from the Com^{rs}. but for my confidence at that time reposed in you.

In my letter to you, of the 4th Nov^r I begged that by the 16th Nov^r you will send in all "necessary documents or sketches to the Com^{rs}." Nevertheless in your letter of the 17th now under consideration, you tell me that in a matter which did not require any orders at all, you had not acted because you had no orders.

This statement is of the same character as that mentioned in the preceding paragraph, and I have only to say in conclusion that these circumstances justify me on a wider acquaintance with the facts, in forming a similar judgment on your actual performance of duty as Attendant Surveyor to that formed with respect to your business management of the work entrusted to you, beyond my eye, since your leaving the Com^{rs}.

I add further that as my time is at present much occupied, and as an argumentative correspondence on matters which so far as I am concerned have no practical bearing, takes up time which I am not justified

in bestowing upon it, I must decline any further correspondence with you except on the one point of the time for which you are entitled to a pay certificate in respect of work done in connection with the plotting of the Survey, and I think I have clearly explained what I felt justified in doing in the matter.

It is a waste of time on your part to write letters in the hope of inducing me to sign certificates of your employment for time when, by your own showing, you were not employed on Survey work, or when I know well you were not so employed.

Recalling your attention to the practical bearing of the contents of my letter of the 13th inst.

E. M. M. Esq. C. Esq.
Latter

I am Sir &c &c &c
Sd. J. M. Sprout Com^{rs}

Indian Res. Commission

New Westminster

19 Feb^r, 1879

Sir,

Having seen in the newspapers a notice of question to be put to you by Mr Bennett, from which it might be inferred that the Indian Reserve Commission has assigned for Indian purposes lands held legally by settlers, I beg respectfully to express a wish that, when it may be in your power, you will have the goodness to cause me to be informed of the particulars of any case to which Mr Bennett refers, so that any mistake may be promptly rectified.

The Reserve Com^{rs} has no power to do what Mr Bennett complains of, and no attempt has been made to exercise powers which the Commission does not possess.

Though the total cost of the Commission is paid by the Dominion Government, fully one half of the whole time of the Com^{rs} is spent in examining, and protecting not only the rights of white settlers, but the customary advantages and fair expectations of their position as settlers.

When doubtful questions arise, or questions of extreme difficulty, such as are some of those which now have for a long time been before the Provincial Government, it is the practice to refer them to both Governments for an authoritative opinion.

I am Sir &c &c
 The Hon. }
 The Chief Com^r of Works }
 Victoria }

J. M. Sprunt Com^r

Indian Reserve Commission
British Columbia

New West 13 Feb 1879

Sir,

In reference to my letter to you of the 27th Jan^r, having now had the Kerevens sketches made, I reply to your letter of the 14th ult. and to the copy enclosed in it of a letter from several Similkameen settlers to you dated 2nd Decr last on the subject of Indian Reserves at Kerevens.

The British Columbian Indians living near the frontier along the rivers Okanagan and Similkameen consist of the Osoyoos and Lower Similkameen (Kerevens) tribes. They number together 253 Indians.

In 1877 the Indian Res. Com^{rs}, on visiting the locality, found that the only land assigned for the Osoyoos tribe was a vaguely described piece comprising a small area of cultivable land, which a Mr McConell had

presumpted and was endeavouring to hold. No water had been provided for irrigation purposes.

The Com^{rs} adjusted the Osoyoos Reserves, but were prevented by the snow from dealing with the land affairs of the Kerevens Indians. They, however, invited the Chief to their camp and explained to him why they could not visit his place that season, 1877. These proceedings were reported to both Governments.

In 1878 I visited the Kerevens district as soon as it was possible to reach that somewhat remote place in carrying out the programme of work for the year.

On making inquiries on the spot it appeared that the Kerevens Indians numbering 136 were in a worse plight than their neighbours the Osoyoos Indians had been; for, between Ashnola and the frontier not a single acre of land had been assigned for their use, nor had any water been provided for irrigation purposes.

The above mentioned letter from the Similkameen settlers which you submit for my report is signed by seven gentlemen including Mr. Raignault a trespasser on Indian lands. Two other signatures are those of gentlemen who presumpted their land when the Reserve Com^{rs} was on its way to Kerevens in 1877. The remaining names Mess^{rs} Cole, Mendoza, Barcelo and Richter are older settlers and the letter may be regarded as stating their views. I may remark in passing that it is stated in the letter that Mr. Cole, one of these four gentlemen was absent at the time of my visit to Kerevens - This is erroneous. I conversed several times with Mr. Cole and he was good enough to give me much information, as also did Mr. Barrington Price an old settler and large landowner at Kerevens.

The Indian Reserve runs along the entire southern boundary

of Mr Price's land but he has not signed the letter.

The views and wishes of the above four gentlemen Messrs Cole, Mendoza, Barcelo and Richter are perfectly plain, and while I receive their statement with unforgotten respect they will not expect me to believe they are disinterested.

The position of the two Govts in reference to the adjustment of the Indian Land Question is not always well understood or recognized by white settlers or Indian tribes yielding naturally to the influence of local and personal interests and considerations.

The presence of the Indians - they number 136 (one individual having seventy head of cattle) on the Lower Similkameen may be a danger and an inconvenience; some of the Indians in their present condition may be a nuisance to white settlers, but, on the other hand it has to be borne in mind that the white settlers came to them, they did not come to the white people.

The Government do not propose to remove these Indians by force to another part of the country; they wish them to get land within the limited agricultural and grazing area upon the Lower Similkameen.

The facts are that the Indians in question have had no land assigned for their use. They have been put on one side entirely for 20 years past. The pre-emption record book has been freely open to the white settlers during that time. The white settlers have had the pick of the limited area available in the valley, (one of the signers of the letter having secured as much as 1000 acres of free land) They have been permitted free of charge to graze their cattle on the Crown Lands in the valley, and, in some places, to damage the grass beyond their recovery. Notwithstanding all this, the signers of the letter, though it is not proposed to attempt to disturb any one of them (except the trespasser Mr. Beigneault) in his holding,

nor to inquire whether the lands are held legally or not, make objection, now to the assignment of a reserve based on the necessity for giving to each of the Indians out of such scattered portions of good soil, the white settlers have not taken a moderate area of agricultural land, and as regards grazing such a quantity of grazing land as the Indians are likely to need for their cattle in the not-distant future. These gentlemen, further, propose, in a small valley valuable chiefly as a place of winterage for cattle, the Indians should be confined to a portion of it not suitable or not adequate for that purpose.

The following remarks, respectfully offered for your information, together with the sketch of the locality, herewith sent, will explain the ^{above} statement of fact.

The Similkameen valley in general as you are aware, is narrow and gravelly. There is not a white settler engaged in cultivation on any part of it until you get to Keremeus, nor is it likely there ever will be. At the latter place as the sketch sent herewith shows, the Similkameen bends ^{first} to the east then south and the valley opens a little. The tributary stream Keremeus flows in from the north, and two brooks (sometimes dry in a summer) come from the hills north east.

The effect of these waters meeting at this small widening of the valley has been to form a light but excellent soil which is found among the prevailing gravelly ridges. These tracts of good soil are mostly upon the east side (left bank) of the Similkameen, in the angle between it and the Keremeus and along the Keremeus just before it joins the Similkameen.

On the west bank of the Similkameen at this portion of its course, the mountains come close down leaving in parts a gravelly strip of land, or only small patches here and there watered by snow torrents except

opposite the site of the old Custom house where there is a good piece of land.

It is not, however, the agricultural capabilities of the locality which constitute its chief value - these indeed being unimportant in themselves where scarcely any market for produce exists. The fifteen or twenty miles of the Similkameen valley from about Keremeus to the frontier form a small but excellent winter range - that is to say chiefly on the east side of the River. The snowfall is light and there are feed and shelter on the slopes and along the river bottom. The agricultural lands at Keremeus are valuable principally for producing hay and in connection with wintering stock generally.

These facts in all their bearings are as well known to the Indians of Keremeus as to any of the settlers and the Indians say they are unable to reconcile what they have heard of the justice of the Gov^t with the fact that during 20 years past, since white men occupied the country, no land whatever has been assigned for the use of the Indians on the Lower Similkameen - they themselves have been prevented from acquiring land, and year after year they have seen white men taking the choice portions of the very limited area in their own valley available for settlement, they have seen these settlers increasing their possessions from time to time and using for irrigation the scanty supplies of water which exist on the east side of the Similkameen.

I found the Indians in a state of discontent and dejection.

They contrasted their position, as having no land, with that of the American Indian who have an extensive reserve immediately beyond the boundary. They refused at first to shake hands with me or to permit me to take a census saying that I was an officer of the Gov^t, and they could not understand their past treatment by the Gov^t. I left them in a better frame of mind, but I am afraid indeed I know that they have been disturbed since my visit by the reports of Mr. Daigneault

and by the action taken by the designers of the letter now under consideration. I shall not be surprised if bad news should at any time reach the Govt from that quarter.

I respectfully submit that these Indians are entitled to consideration as an omitted group of the native population which for some season which I am unable to understand ^{have} ~~has~~ during 20 years had no land assigned for their use; and it is unnecessary for me to say to you in conclusion, that it is important both for provincial and international reasons that Indians who live on the frontier should have no reasonable ground for complaint.

I respectfully submit this brief statement and shall be glad to give you any further information which you may desire.

The Hon:
The Chief Com^r Lands & Works
Victoria

Yours Sir &c &c
J. H. M. Sprunt Com^r

Indian Reserve Comm^r

New Westminster 21 Feb 1899

Sir,

I am desired by the Commissioner, in reference to his letter to you of 4th Nov last, to request that the complete sketches of your work as Attendant Surveyor, and, in particular the sketch from Spencer's Bridge to Osoyoos, may be sent in without further delay.

The report of your reconnaissance, from the Lower Similkameen toward Osoyoos, and toward Princeton, describing the country which was to accompany your sketches of the Steveston district, has not yet been received.

I am desired to say in reference to your request that Commission documents should be sent

to your private house up the river to enable you now to make sketches which you have not made is contrary to Gov's practice and cannot be entertained; but you may have access to them here.

E. M. E. C. E.

I am Sir Your Obedt Servt
 J. P. B. B. B. B.
 Secty to J. R. C. C.

P.S. Statistics
 The Prov. authorities press for the
 Nicola sketch in order to release
 the public lands S.B.

Indian Reserve Commission

New Westminster 19 Feb 1879

Sir,

Simon Kameen

I avoid, in official reports, as far as possible, what might, if published, cause feeling among the scanty population in the valley of the interior; otherwise, I might have quoted in my official letter the following extract from a letter of Mr. Kameen to me dated 9 Decr. 1878.

"The settlers had a meeting Decr 2 at Woodstock to petition against the Indians having any land in the white settlement, I did not attend, having before argued with them upon the injustice of such a step, and that, taking into consideration the number of the Indians, and the small quantity of land fit for agricultural purposes, your decision was one which no reasonable man could find fault with."

Mr. Price is, I believe, a magistrate, he is one of the oldest settlers and largest landowners at Kameen, and the Indian reserve touches the whole southern line of his land, yet you see a good what his opinion is.

The real question raised by the remonstrating gentlemen is whether the Crown will continue to permit them to use, without cost, and largely to destroy the grass lands, and will continue to refuse the assignment

of a portion of these grass lands for the Indian stock now and to be.

It is a pasturage question and how to arrange it in the best way for all has cost me many days and nights of anxious thought.

Some of my easy critics would be less inclined to criticize, if they tried to adjust matters, even in one such place as that.

My great hope, as a British Columbian, was, that the distressful condition of affairs on the frontier in regard to these particular Indians should not have to be made known at all to the Dominion Govt., and I thought I had succeeded, when this petty but embarrassing Act of Mr Blair's representing I do not know whom - has taken place.

I am Sir &c &c
J. G. Sprunt Esq.

The Hon.

The Chief Comr. Lands & Works
Victoria

Indian Reserve Commission

In camp. New West 19 Feb 1877

Sir,

Having arrived from up the coast I give your wishes my attention which it was not in my power to do sooner.

Please mark in black ink on the enclosures, as nearly as you can, the piece of land you would like, and send the sketch back to me.

The yellow pieces are occupied - the 119 Lot Group, Township 93 being for instance G. Cafferata and the 121 Lot Group, Township 91 being I think P. Ryan's.

The dark green strips round some of the yellow ones show land applied for which cannot be had.

Yours

For your general guidance in finding places on the map I may tell you that 117 is Mr. Capper's the magistrate (brother of Mr. George).

In addition to marking the piece on the enclosed describe its size and shape to me fully in a letter.

What are called the plains is shown generally by a dotted line. These are useful at present to the neighbours in winter. I do not make a point of it but avoid, if you can, much encroachment on that triangular piece within the plains shown in pencil.

R. M. Cove Esq;
Kivula Valley, Douglas Lake

I am Sir &c &c
S. J. M. Sprout Com^{dr}

Indian Reserve Commission

In camp New West 19 Feb 1879

Sir,

I have been continually moving about and have just returned from a trip up the coast, so that my correspondence with the interior has fallen behind.

I am now making my general reports, and will attend to your matter with the others; in the meantime kindly say by return of the enclosed sketch (which please return) shows where you wish to have the acreage.

You will, I think, act kindly, and without any risks by yourself if you allow the Indians concerned to begin work.

It is distinctly agreed that ~~the~~ shall have no rights until the Government side of the bargain is carried out, as it will be, on my papers going in.

Paul S. Gillis Esq;
Kivula Valley

I am Sir &c &c
S. J. M. Sprout Com^{dr}

Indian Res. Commission

New West^{on} Feb 4 19. 1879

Sir,

I annex for your information copy of my letter of reply to the address of the settlers in your neighbourhood.

Kindly tell Mr Corry that Mr O'Grady will be removed, and it depends on the particular action which the Gov^t may decide on taking, whether he will not be subjected to penalties.

I will advise progress generally to you; meantime, thanking you for your kind attentions.

I am, Sir, &c &c

Barrington Place Esq
 Kilmacneil

Sd, J M Stewart Com^{rs}

Indian Res; Com^{rs}New West^{on} 19 Feb 1879

Sir,

In reference to the question of reserves for the Shiammo Klatooe and Tomalko Indians which is partly examined, I see enough to prove the urgent need of begging you not to permit, for a time until my work is closed, lands to be acquired on Harewood, Savary and Bernando Islands.

I was successful in arranging to have Cortes Island left free from Indian claims except as to a small herring fishing settlement at Squirrel Cove. Cortes Island is large and has harbours, and will by and by be used for cattle, no doubt. Harewood & Savary are without even decent boat harbour. Bernando has a harbour, but the island seems of small value. Possibly it may not be wanted.

There are

a number of small fishing and hunting settlements in Toba, Longborough, Bute Islets and their neighbourhood, but there was so much snow that the Indians could not come with me, to point them out. These places of course cannot be recorded in a valid manner.

The above three tribes propose to winter together opposite Harwood Island, and have a settlement on it.

The great disappointment which these Indians have experienced as to timber land induces me to request that you will do your best to prevent anything further of the same kind occurring, until I am permitted to complete my examination of their requirements.

I am Sir &c &c

Edw. M. Spruit Com^{dr}.

J. C. Hughes Esq:
 Pro. Agent - New West

Ad. Res. Commission

New West^{on} Feb 19. 1879.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 11th.

I have referred to the Minutes of the Decision of the Com^{dr} &c. and find that you were not to be disturbed in the land you had applied for - namely, pre-emption of 160 acres and 600 acres Naval Grant - though the Indians much pressed that you should be removed.

You will get your 760 acres at the north end of the Island and will have to take it as it is - rocks and all - as the survey line shows - that is to say provided the land does not extend so far south as to include the previously existing Indian cultivation at Skouch coas.

Our surveyors opinion was that your land would not reach that place, but I have not yet received the particulars of the survey made by Mr. Green of the actual measurement.

Wherever the doubt line of your 700 acres comes, there will be the north line of the Indian Reserve.

I have no discretion in the matter, and merely tell you plainly the facts of the decision of the former Reserve Commissioners, who settled the question, but I may remark, that you provided you get, as it is proposed you shall the total quantity of land which you were entitled to, I do not see what you complain of.

I quite understand from your statement, that you would have wished land left open between the Indians and your 700 acres but the Commissioners were not able to do so, indeed they considered that they were fortunate, after some trouble, in making a settlement of the matter not involving any disturbance to you; in respect of the 700 acres.

The truth is the Indians would like you to be further away, indeed not on the island at all, and you would like them to be further away.

But this was not permitted in either case, and it remains for you and them to get on as neighbours, and I should think they would soon learn to appreciate you, and be benefitted by your presence and example.

Yours Sir

Cap. M. Wake R. N. }
Valley Island }

J. M. Sprunt
Esq.

Indian Reserve Commission

New York Feb 19 1879

Gentlemen,

I have had the honour to receive a letter from you, dated the 2^d Decr last, on the subject of Indian Reserves on the Similkameen, and have given the serious attention with content which any expression of opinion from you deserves, but as you also have written to the Prov. Gov. on the subject and a copy of your letter has been sent to me and duly reported on, it is probably unnecessary for me to enter at length into the reasons why I am unable, on the part of the Gov^{ts} concerned, to agree in your opinions as to what should constitute suitable reserves for these Indians on the frontier, who up to this time have not had any lands assigned for their use and benefit.

I have pleasure, at the same time, in assuring you that all the circumstances which you mention were fully known, and, I hope, appreciated by me, and that I very anxiously considered what would be best for all, and how to avoid disturbing the settlers who believed they were occupying lands in a legal manner.

The point of view of the two Gov^{ts}, I think you will, on consideration, admit, cannot in all cases be the same, in these Indian questions, as the points of view of gentlemen influenced naturally, though perhaps unknown to themselves, by personal and local interests.

I am sorry to notice among the signers of the letter to Mr Walker that of Mr Daigneault who, as a trespasser, on Indian land, is about to be removed.

If the Prov. Gov. should not send you a copy of my report, I can make a copy for you.

Mrs Richter & Co
Similkameen

I have + + +
Sd J M Sprat - Com^{rs}

Ind. Res. Com^{rs}New West 13 Feb^y 1879

Sir,

Referring to my separate letter of this date as to Similkameen Indian Reserves I make now a supplementary statement for the information of the Prov. Gov. on matters relating to these reserves which it was unnecessary to include in the above separate letter, commenting as it did simply upon the complaint made by settlers in the Similkameen valley.

You will I think admit that there are obvious inconveniences in the practice of District Land Records accepting pre-emption applications for lands in places where serious Indian land questions which are about to be considered by the Indian Reserve Commission, exist. This is done, no doubt without the sanction or wish of the Prov. Gov. but ~~without the records so accepted~~ (to embarrass whom might in some cases be the object of the records) but unless the records so accepted are cancelled the effect is the same as if the sanction of the Prov. Gov. had been obtained, and it might in some cases reluctantly compel the Dominion Gov^t to complain that, in practice, the agreement between the two Gov^{ts} as to Indian lands was not being acted up to.

Notwithstanding the state of affairs described in my separate letter of this date as existing in the Lower Similkameen valley, the number of Indians left entirely without land, the small area of agricultural land and so forth, it does not appear that any restrictions were placed upon the acquisition of land by white settlers and the fact is that lands have been acquired since Confederation, and indeed in 1877 at a time



Scale: Two Miles to One Inch.

The green is the piece
on which Mr. Dargueault
has trespassed.

It is not
the height
to the
which is
28 miles
from the
- scale shows
wrong.



Scale. Two Miles to One Inch

when the Reserve Commission was on its way to Kereameus.

I need not however dwell on these events, because seeking means of smoothing difficulties and avoiding questions and correspondence, I at last devised a method, as I hoped, of adjustment under which it would not be necessary to disturb a single white settler in any land he occupied nor indeed to inquire (and I have not inquired) whether the lands were legally held or not.

This determination so displeased the Indians that at one time I thought it would be impossible to negotiate with them at all and I should have to retire after the heavy expenditure caused by visiting that remote place; however, finally, I succeeded in effecting an adjustment.

The difficulty about the water for irrigation was to some extent got over by my assigning lands on the river bottom and particularly the piece marked green on the sketch herewith sent as this piece (judging from what had been done by white settlers on similar pieces) would probably produce crops without irrigation.

This piece may be regarded as the pivot of the adjustment which after extreme difficulty I thought myself fortunate in effecting whether the interests of the two Soots or of the white settlers in the valley were regarded.

Now, this very piece of land, subsequently to my having reserved the lands generally for Indian purposes was preempted by Mr E. Waigneault and his application (as per enclosed copy) accepted by the Land Recorder Mr Vernon, though that gentleman knew that the Reserve Commission was working in the Shivilkameen valley

and encamped at the place.

On learning the above fact I left a note for Mr Daigneault, who was absent, explaining that the record was invalid as the land had been given to the Indians.

Mr. Daigneault went to Victoria and saw you on the subject but I do not officially know what took place, though perhaps I may be permitted to say that I understood you in conversing with me on this subject to express an opinion that Mr Daigneault under those circumstances could have no claim to the land.

Mr Daigneault called at my hotel in Victoria and told me that he was going back to Similkameen and intended to occupy and hold the land and that the Hon^{ble} Gov^t might do what they pleased. I told him in reply that I thought he was acting illegally and was probably wasting his time.

I have learned since that Mr Daigneault has actually occupied the land and that the Indians, with that respect for the law which they so generally show, have not forcibly resisted his occupation.

They are however extremely dissatisfied, and I fear the circumstances may largely destroy the effect of my visit and of the adjustment.

In the event of the Indians minds being disturbed and of the adjustment proving nugatory in practice, the cost of my again visiting that remote place which is quite out of the line of any future work of the Commission would not be less than \$1000⁰⁰ and it would be useless to go there while Mr Daigneault continued to occupy the land.

There is, as you know, a summary remedy in the hands of the Indian Department in cases of trespass on Reserves under clauses 11 to 19 of the Indian Act 1876, but considering the general position of the whole Indian land question in the Province, and the possibility of some portions of the act being changed, I have not in a single instance, recommended the Superintendent to seek any other means of redress in cases of trespass than through the ordinary authorities and regular tribunals in the Province.

It is however surely hard upon the Hon^{ble} Gov. that they should have to contemplate a tedious, expensive and cumbrous experiment suit to remove a trespasser such as Mr. Daigneault.

I respectfully express regret that when Mr. Daigneault, and Mr. Vernon the Land Recorder, and myself were in Victoria you did not see your way to examine the question raised by Mr. Daigneault and cancel his record, which I am advised is within your power as Chief Com^r and within the practice of the Land Office.

I hope you will now do so and thus end a dispute which otherwise seems likely to produce nothing but embarrassment and loss to all concerned. Should you still not see your way to act, I shall be glad to have your views on the subject for communication to the Sup^t General in order to assist the Hon^{ble} Gov^{ts} in considering what will be their course in reference to the trespass of Mr. Daigneault.

The Hon
The Chief Com^r
Lands & Works
Victoria

I am Sir &c &c
J. H. Spruit
Esq^r

Copy
Land Act 1874

District of Yale (Osoyos Division)

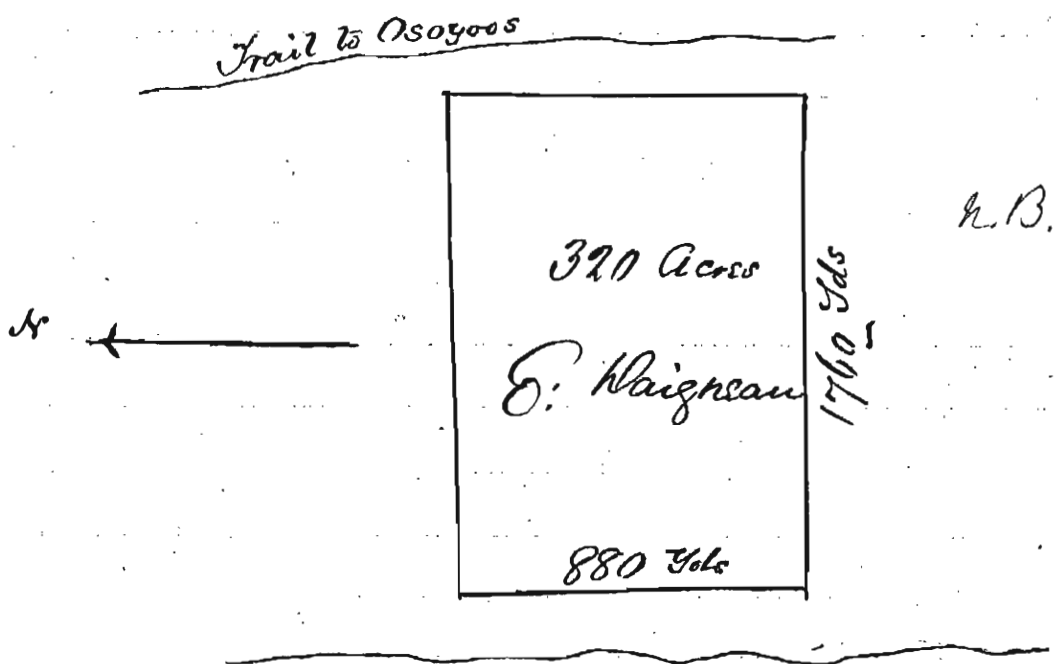
Edw. Waigneau

Date of Record - Oct 3. 1878. 320 acres
Similkameen

On the West by the Claim of Francisco
East trail to Osoyos
West Similkameen River

Sd. Charles Vernon

Application Sep 24. 1878
Form, No 2, declaration
Sep 25. 1878



***THIS NOTE WAS ORIGINALLY GLUED TO PAGE 56.
IT IS WRITTEN IN PENCIL ON BOTH SIDES OF THE SHEET.***

Stock

Richter	about	600
Manuel	-	200
Spot Bell	-	150 { American no land
Francisco	-	60
Tom Cole	-	35
Shullemert	-	10
Total		1055

Summer Range

A few stay about 1/4 in valley and benches from Karamene down to old Custom House -

The remainder 3/8 feed along valley and side hills from Karamene up after 1 or 2 months they reach Hayes. The remainder 1/8 or rather 1/4 stays Karamene in summer on Karamene or to Panicton way

Winter, all, mostly in Valley on then benches and low ground - down towards old Custom House and then across the line

Haynes

Sends 500 to feed on Hayes in summer - then driven back to his own place in winter -

Bottom land extends about 1 1/2 mile below Francisco - then brush commences - of the same quality generally as Richters - not quite so good

Curry will be down this evening - Price speaks well of him, has applied for Naturalization papers - 14 Nov - hence

~~A San Antonio~~

Dark note commences with

Indian Res. Commission.

New Westminster

21 Feb 1879

Sir,

Mr. Proker informed me, and as I supposed, after ascertaining from your goodness, that the Department had such proper surveys of the Esquimaux and Victoria Reserves as made it quite unnecessary for Mr Green to survey them last year, and that he had not instructed Mr Green to make fresh surveys.

I thought no more of the matter, but now it appears that Mr Proker did not make proper inquiries.

It is obvious that under these circumstances, and as you state that the only existing surveys are "very imperfect" it would be impossible for me to sign them as Reserve Comr, unless assured of their correctness by professional advice.

Perhaps meantime, you will oblige me by sending the tracing you mention, and I will consult Mr Lane who has succeeded Mr Proker, and afterwards consult you as to what the occasion requires.

Col. Powell
Ind. Res. Superintendent

I am Sir &c &c
J. G. McSproul Comr

Ind. Res. Comr

New West 21 Feb 1879

Sir,

I beg leave to annex copies of my telegram to the Supdt Genl dated 5th Feb 79 advising that Mr Proker's management of business was unsatisfactory; and of

Mr. VanKoughnet's reply dated 17th Feb^y authorising me
to appoint whom I pleased as his successor and
afterwards to inform you. I have employed Mr. Jane.

Col. Powell,

Ad Superintendent Victoria

I am Sir

Sd S. M. Sprout

Coman^{er}

For Copy of Telegram to Mr. VanKoughnet
see Page 11

Copy Telegram from Mr. VanKoughnet

Ottawa 17th Feb^y 1879

To S. M. Sprout

Use your own discretion
selecting Surveyor. Replace Prokin - advise Powell

Sd L. VanKoughnet

Indian Reserve Commission P.C.

Dominion of Canada

\$1000⁰⁰

Victoria B.C. 14 Feb^y 1879

Received from the Receiver General of Canada
through the hands of the Bank of British Columbia
at Victoria the sum of One thousand dollars
being on account of Expenditure for the Indian Reserve
Commission

Signature: Sd S. M. Sprout

Office Commissioner

Indian Reserve Commission

New West B.C.

23 Feb. 1879

Sir

I beg to enclose a letter to me from Mr. R. Campbell Okanagan 26 Jan^r last and of my reply of the 19th Feb^r.

I send the above to you, as the issuing of a licence to prospect or work a silver mine on a reserve will be, I presume, a Departmental affair, but you will notice that I cannot as yet say, from Mr. Campbell's sketch whether the place is on the Okanagan Reserve. The surveyors next summer may have an opportunity of determining this essential preliminary.

I am Sir - Your obed^t Serv^tS^d. S. M. Sprout Com^r

Jas. Buchanan Esq.
Ind. Supt New West

Indian Reserve Com^{rs}
British Columbia

New Westⁿ 22nd Feb. 1879.

Sir

Siméon Kamsee

I omitted to state in commenting on the letter of Mess^{rs} Richter and others, in mine of the 13th inst. and that of the 6 signers of the letter (Mr. Daignault the trespasser not counting as a settler) there are three, whose individual number of stock is less than the number owned by one of the Indians in the valley; and one of these three settlers is,

I believe the oldest scatter in the place.

Of the 3 remaining
 signs, one has no value at all, according to my notes
 of information obtained on the spot.

An American, who
 has no land there, owns about 150 head in the valley.

Be good enough to attach this letter to my
 report.

I am Sir - Your obed^t serv^t
 Wm Sprunt - Com^r

The Hon^r
 The Chief Com^r
 Lands & Works Victoria

Indian Res. Com^r
 British Columbia

New Westminster

25 Febr 1879

Jursey Brand

Sir

In accordance with authority given to
 me Mr Vancouver's telegram of the 17th Feb^r
 in answer to mine of the 5th Feb^r on the subject
 of a successor to Mr Ingham, I have appointed Mr.
 John Lane, on the same terms as his predecessor,
 and have, as you requested, informed Dr Powell Victoria
 for his government as Paymaster of the surveys.

The weather in three weeks time from now
 will probably enable survey work being done in
 the Kamloops and Nicola districts, and as it is a
 great matter to get an early start you will
 probably send the necessary advices as soon as
 possible to put the two parties in the field again.
 If the two

parties are employed again I would recommend that work should be done in the above districts, including Okanogan and Similkameen, and the reason for starting them out early is to make an effort to close all the work towards the frontier, for if this is not done, but on the contrary small parties left for another season, the expense of a party travelling specially to these remote places would be very heavy compared with the amount of work to be done.

How best to avoid this would have to be considered in giving detailed instructions to the parties.

The fact is now evident to me that a surveyor following the Commission to survey reserves requires other than professional abilities; he requires an acquaintance of the position and good judgment.

It will be a serious matter, if reserves have to be resurveyed, or a fresh visit of the Com^r be necessary, through the omissions or acts of a surveyor.

I do not know Mr Green personally and my opinion is unbiassed, assuming that his professional work has been first rate, nevertheless I could not recommend him to take charge of a party in the Southern Interior. From his reports and letters addressed to Mr Moberg describing what he had said to the Indians and how he acted when practical judgment had to be exercised, I form an opinion that, though by and by he may do again for coast work, he would not suit for charge of a party in the Southern Interior, a district, moreover, with which he is unacquainted. A special man is required in the present position of Indian affairs in that district, a quiet, discreet man who will not worry settlers, nor alarm the Indians, but allow matters to rest as the Commissioners left them.

Mr Moberg has shown so

many peculiarities of late - since entrusted with work beyond my own eye - and has expressed himself in a manner showing so much that he does not enter into the spirit of the work to be done, that he would not be suitable, even had he the necessary physical vigour which he has not.

Capt Semmett, I think will do, having now had a little experience in the interior. Mr. Lane has to report to me upon the nature of his professional work, and, thereafter, I will examine as to the degree of judgment & which he has shown in regard to questions that have arisen, but so far as I have already discussed these latter with him I cannot much blame him for a new hand at the work.

The House of Assembly here has passed a resolution that the Local Gov^{ts} shall gazette the Decisions of the Revenue Com^{rs}.

The Gov^{ts} have had decisions for nearly two years in their hands, and have not made them public. I believe they have never themselves looked at them.

It occurs to me, on reflection, however, that for the future, I should change the procedure of the Commission a little as regards decisions. The actual written decision of the Commissioner is the important document - the survey sketch being merely explanatory -

Now if I deliver my decisions, now, in writing, and they are gazetted, and afterwards there should appear to be the slightest want of correspondence between the surveys and the decisions, there would be room for cavil, or well founded objection, perhaps, and the survey might go for nothing.

I propose to follow my present practice of preparing at all places a Field Minute which being dated and signed is

really a rough Minute of Decision.
 (Properly I should copy these and send one copy for custody to the Departmental Offices, but hitherto I have never been able to keep up the clerical work without large arrears, do what I will, - still as these papers might be lost by being on mules which might be drowned, or in boats that might be wrecked, both of which have happened (though without losing the papers,) I must endeavour to get copies made in the field somehow.)

The next papers which I will prepare will be "Instructions to Surveyors" - one for each reserve - a copy to be kept by me - and a copy to be given to the Surveyor, who after completing the particular reserve will immediately send his copy back to me with his notes on the backs of the pages left blank for these purposes, and in particular, an exact description of the course of the boundaries by survey, and of the water supplied for reserves in irrigating districts - together with any other comments he may please to make.

I would then sit down, and knowing my own action and the action of the Surveyors, and having regard, perhaps, to what was best for all (without however altering anything understood by the Indians) prepare my formal Minute of Decision, which on being gazetted here, would correspond exactly with the surveys, and facilitate the Conveyances from one Sew to the other.

If I should leave the service before preparing the formal Minute there would be the "Field Minute" and the "Instructions to Surveyors" which would answer every purpose with the advantage of explanatory details.

The object

of the whole work being to do justice undoubtedly in a scene of indescribable confusion and neglect, the growth of many years. but yet to make a comfortable adjustment in a matter which admits of no settlement but a compromise, there would seem to be advantages in the above procedure, which avoids premature finality in some matters - which lessens the danger of want of correspondence between the Surveys and the Decisions - and gives a little time to the Gov^{ts} to discuss open questions.

In saying the above, I do not mean in any way to undermine the absolute need of having the principle maintained that decisions in general should be on the spot. In no other way can you hope to see the end of the work soon (the Provs Gov^{ts} have had important letters lying before them for 18 Mo. and two years unanswered) but there must be some open questions, and I think that the above procedure would be an amendment of a detail.

In delivering the "Instructions" to each Surveyor I would go over them personally with them as to each reserve, and ascertain that he thoroughly understood every point, and the reasons for and meaning of the Decisions.

I copied out the decisions for the Surveyors with my own hand last year, but did not converse with the individuals as I did not know that they were to be under me (which they were not but under Mr. Proker) but the arrangement has not worked well, and in fact, though you may believe I do not seek any addition to my responsibilities, it is manifest that I should have charge of them (except as to money matters) as they simply are supplementing my own work, and I have to certify on their plans that what they have done is correct.

Subordinately, as to professional work in the field, as to what is really necessary for the same - as to number of men employed - and how best to move about, and divide the work in a district conveniently between two parties, so that no little bits requiring future disproportionately expensive visits should be left - for these and other purposes not necessary to mention. I think one surveyor of one of the parties employed should be the head surveyor - Capt. Demme to, though willing and hard working has hardly had experience for this, in the interior part of the country.

I would suggest that the surveyors be instructed to have their field books well up, nearly complete in arriving from the field in town, and that this should be required without their stopping the field work for the purpose. Some surveyors do this by working over hours, and all can do it I am informed. It will never do for surveyors to bring into town large arrears of that work to be done leisurely, and then another man take a winter to plot it.

I have been obliged to certify to Dr Powell for some work of this kind, but I have done so unwillingly.

- It is difficult, perhaps, during a first season, to see the bearings of all the kinds of work, and to know what is reasonable and possible -

With respect to accounts and monies I would respectfully suggest that, on appointing the parties, it would work well if you requested Dr Powell to confer with me thereon, which we could do in conversation with the surveyors in charge of the parties and afterwards, Dr Powell, on being satisfied that the best was to be done to conform to official requirements,

could prepare an official memorandum of what the Surveyors had to do in this essential matter, with a view to the correctness and regularity of the accounts, which memorandum should be embodied in the general instructions to the Surveyors, or separately given to them by Dr Powell as he pleases.

I have taken an hour from other work to write to you to the letter on the subject of the surveys, as the season will very shortly open, and after you appoint the Surveyors for next season, it will take me sometime to go carefully over their instructions with them as to each reserve, and if this is left much later I myself shall have resumed work in the field and may not conveniently be able to give to this vital requirement, suitable attention.

I am Sir
Yours
G M Sproule Com^{dr}

P.S.

Upon consideration I think that of the head Surveyor (having himself one of the parties) were paid \$15⁰⁰ a month extra for superintendence, instead of \$30⁰⁰ a month extra, as hitherto paid, a saving would be made to that amount, on reasonable grounds. The basis of this recommendation is that a man would not be required to spend over hours in this superintending work during any one month more than the equivalent of 3 whole days which at his pay of \$5⁰⁰ a day would make the \$15⁰⁰.

In D G M S

The Hon

The Supdt Genl

Ind. Affairs - Ottawa

Copy

Extracts from Amos Price Esq. Simonsen
to Indian Res. Commissioner dated 9 Decr 1878.

"The settlers had a meeting 2 Decr at
Francis Ricketts house to petition against the
Indians having any land in the white settlement.
I did not attend, having before argued with them
upon the injustice of such a step, and that,
taking into consideration the number of the
Indians and the small quantity of land fit
for agricultural purposes, your decision was one
which no reasonable man could find fault with"

"As regards Mr Daigneaud I need hardly
add how important it is there should be no
ill feeling existing between the whites and Indians.
Such is certain to be the case of the latter
are not put in possession of the land given them -
News has lately come from Colville that the
U.S government have refused Prosser his land,
and they expect trouble next spring. This would
bring the war right on the border."

"The Indian John of Achnota spoke to the settlers
who attended F. Ricketts meeting; his remarks were very
moderate and sensible, but the meeting has evidently
caused a feeling of distrust among the Indians
who fancy their land will be taken away from them"

Indian Res Commr.

Brexit Columbia

New York Feb 25-1879

Sir,

In my letter of the 1st Decr last I said that
the Provincial Govt had not submitted to me a

single complaint from any white settler, though, owing to the nature of my work, many such might be expected.

They have now sent me a complaint by white settlers, in Similkameen valley, described in the correspondence of which copies are sent herewith as per annexed list for your information.

I may remark, shortly, that this complaint is the occasion of disclosing one of the saddest pieces of mismanagement and neglect of Indian affairs which has come to my knowledge.

A number of Indians whom I was not surprised to find in a sullen, dejected condition, have been left for 20 years without either land or water being assigned for their use, and this, though they lived actually upon the frontier, and as they confessed to me, had been in constant communication with the American Indian lately in incursion.

My adjustment, made after great difficulty, did not disturb a single settler in the lands he occupied, though in some cases, these holdings might have been open to criticism.

You will observe that the Local Magistrate McNeil has voluntarily written to me to say that no fair-minded man could object to my decision.

Of the seven segments of the letter of complaint 1 is a trespasser on Indian land, after I had given it to the Indians. 3 more are gentlemen who individually own less stock than is owned by one of the Indians in the valley, while of the three remaining segments, 1, according to my notes of information taken on the spot has no cattle at all.

The two remaining gentlemen have called in the valley, but I respectfully submit that the views of the Gov^t with respect to the requirements of 136 neglected Indians on the frontier, need not necessarily correspond with the views of these gentlemen, who, indeed, would not pretend to be disinterested.

One of these gentlemen has been permitted to acquire 1000 acres of the finest of the scanty good land in the valley, but as above said, my adjustment was based on a desire to let bygones be bygones. indeed my hope was that I should not, as an inhabitant of the province, be compelled as I now am, to disclose to the Dom Gov^t the miserable history related in these papers, and for this reason I made the best of things as I found them and did not raise questions as to whether the settlers held their lands legally or not.

There are 300 renegade American Indians watched by troops at a camp just across the frontier who are within half a dozen miles of these lower Similkameen Indians.

If there should be any further trouble in that quarter on our territory in the spring, the enclosed papers will show that the Dominion Gov^t in so far as the Beane Commission represented it, have done everything that justice and prudence required in the matter.

The Hon^{ble}
The Secy^r of War,
Indian Affairs
Ottawa

I am Sir
Your obed^t Serv^t
Edw^d Speer Gov^r

Indian Res. Commission
British Columbia

New West

25 Febr. 1879

Sir,

I beg to enclose copy of my letter of the 13th. and to the Chief Com^{rs} of Lands & Works, relating principally to a trespass by a Mr. Ed. Waigreault on land assigned to the Indians in the Lower Similkameen valley.

The effect of the trespass is very serious, but as the above letter explains the circumstances I need not further advert to the subject, except to say that I cannot too strongly urge that matters should not be left in their present position in that locality beyond the spring -

The Hon^{rs}:

The Sup. Gen. Ind. Affairs
Ottawa

I am Sir & on
Sd, J. M. Stewart
Com^{rs}

List of Copies

(mailed 25th Feb 79)

Letter Chief Com^{rs} of Lands to J. R. Com^{rs} dated 14 Jan 1879
Reply of J. R. Com^{rs} to Chief Com^{rs} 13 Feb. -
(with sketch of the Lower Similkameen valley)

Extracts letter of Mr D Price. J.P. Similkameen
to J. R. Com^{rs} dated 9 Dec 1878

Indian Reserve Commission
 British Columbia
 New Westminster
 1879. 1st March

Sir

I have received your letter of the 25th ult and note contents.

In my letter of the 14th ult I asked you to send me copies of your papers. I can do nothing without these, and information as to whether McPage fulfilled the conditions of his pre-emption and whether you have done so; also if yours or his position was that of a squatter on the railway lands or a pre-emptor before the land was locked up.

On being put in possession of the required facts I will lose no time in letting you know how the matter stands so far as the Indians are concerned.

I am, Sir,

Yours truly,
 G. M. Sproat
 Commr.

G. R. Foxley
 Chairman

Ind: Des: Commr BC
New West: 4 March 1879

Sir

Sirrup.

I beg to enclose to you, by request of
Cap Jemmett a certified voucher for \$34.⁷⁵
which I have signed on the faith of his
statement that he was ordered to Victoria
by you on necessary business connected with
the survey.

I also enclose a certified
Voucher for \$87.⁰⁰ signed by me very
unwillingly as the work should have
been done in the field and not left over
however there is no doubt that Cap Jemmett
was actually employed on the work after his
return and it may not be fair
to visit upon him the effects of mismanagement.
I have explained to him that the payment is
not to be a precedent.

Yours
J. M. Hood
Com

Col Powell Ind: Supt
Victoria

Indian Reserve Commission
British Columbia
New Westminster
1879. 4 March

Sir

I have your letter of the 28th ult. and am sorry to notice that you do not feel disposed to take advantage of the opportunity which I thought it right to afford you of furnishing the government with proper sketches to be made by you as Attendant Surveyor with this Commission during last season particularly of the Valley of the Nicola and of the portions of that district which you were sent alone to examine.

I hoped that a sense of duty connected with the performance of professional work which you were well paid for doing and have had ample leisure to do would have made you seize an opportunity of putting yourself right in the above matter.

As however you appear to be content to leave matters as they are it only remains for me to say that I have requested D^r Powell to withhold payment to you of any monies that may be coming to you from the Dominion Government under any head until you have completed the work connected with your duty as Attendant Surveyor which that government have paid you for doing but which you have not done properly, or completely.

I beg to state to you further that I shall recommend that the above balance (if any) shall be held against the cost of sending a surveyor if required during the season now opening to do what it was hoped you would have been able to have done. You will admit on reflection I feel sure that it would not be right for the Government to pay twice for doing the work.

E. M. L. K. K. K.

[Signature]
W. J. Powell

Ind: Res Com: New West.

4 March 1879

Li.

I have rec^d yr letter of y^{es} day with
the plan of the Victoria Res: but the
book of tracings said to be enclosed
with it is not in the envelope.

I note that you do not think
this plan is correct, and that I should
not sign it - as such.

The tracings
came separately

I am, Sir

Yours truly

J. M. Sprout
Com

Col. Powell, Victoria
Ind: Sup:

Indian Reserve Comm:

New Westminster

7th March 1879

Dear Sir

Mr Sprout has asked me to do
some work based on an irrigation report
of yours which he says was made last
year. Can you tell me where I shall
find it? It doesn't appear to be in
the box.

I remain dear Sir

Yours truly
John Lane

Errolmoy C.E.
/ Kati

Indian Reserve Commission
 New Westminster
 5 March 1879

Sir

Okeefe's Case

I beg leave respectfully to mention that in preparing instructions for the Dominion Surveyors of Indian Reserves during the coming season I am embarrassed by the position in which I find the adjustment of the Okanagan reserve owing to the Provincial Government not having taken the necessary steps to complete the adjustment.

As you were not in office when the question with Mr Okeefe originated and have no doubt lately had much to attend to, I may be excused if I at this time restate briefly how the two governments respectively seem to me to be placed at present in the matter of the Okanagan Reserve.

The Dominion Government is concerned only indirectly with what is known as the Okeefe question. What the Dominion Government wishes is that the Okanagan Indians should have such a reasonable portion of land as will afford no ground for complaint on their part and will enable the Indian Department to subdivide the agricultural portion of the reserve into individual holdings secured to the occupiers. This is the first step in the management of the Reserves and a step which must be taken to ensure contentment and progress on the part of the Indians. It is the opinion of the Dominion Government that the Provincial Government should provide the required quantity of land for the above purpose. To determine what that quantity should be was the duty of the Reserve Commission on which the Government of the Province was fully represented.

The opinion of the Commission as regards the Okanagan Reserve was that, in addition to what otherwise could be provided, 300 or 400 acres of agricultural land were still required to make up a total area of cultivable land without possessing which it would be useless for the Dominion Government to attempt to subdivide the Reserve or to accept the adjustment as complete. The Commission assigned land which seemed to be vacant and suitable for the purpose. The only suitable land, indeed, in the locality. To this land Mr. O'Keefe set up a Claim. The Dominion Government is not at present concerned with the justice of Mr. O'Keefe's Claim.

That is a matter for the Provincial Government to consider. The Dominion Government ~~recognises~~ is well aware that the Provincial Government recognises its obligation to provide the required land, and regrets only the delay which has taken place—a delay which prevents the survey of the Reserve at Okanagan, and which, owing to the central position, connections and importance of the tribe concerned, ties the hands of the Indian Department with respect to the extension of useful administrative effort among various important tribes in the Southern interior of the Province, so long as the Okanagan tribe is left with its land questions not completely adjusted.

It is now 16 months since the Reserve Commission made their decision from which, though it is in your possession, I may here copy the following extract—

" Mr. Cornelius O'Keefe at the head of Okanagan Lake has since the decision of the Commissioners as to the above lands made a claim to 320 acres of them under a pre-emption record of his dated 29 April 1873 .. The Commission is of opinion

" that the land is an old Indian settlement
 " which could not be legally preempted or
 " purchased and moreover that Mr. Okeefe has
 " not complied with the pre-emption law as to
 " this land. If he has a title to it, the Provincial
 " Government will be under an obligation to obtain
 " the land for the Indians, as they require it to
 " make up a reasonable area of arable land for
 " their use and there is no other such suitable
 " land adjoining their Reserve.

There not being any question between
 the two governments as to their respective
 obligations in relation to the Indian Land
 question I need not advert further to what is
 the position of the Dominion Government at
 present in reference to the Okeefe matter except
 to say in passing that the question has originated
 since Confederation and that so far as I can
 ascertain no restrictions were placed by the
 Provincial Government upon the acquisition
 of lands in the neighbourhood of the important
 Okanagan Indian Settlement at any time.

The above is the position of the Dominion
 Government as regards the Okanagan Reserve

The position of the Provincial Government
 is that it is under the obligation of providing
 300 or 400 acres of arable land required for that
 Reserve which it can do either by cancelling
 the Pre-emption Record of Mr. Okeefe or otherwise
 as may be possible subject to the approval of
 the Dominion Government if it is thought
 politic or necessary to override the decision of
 the Reserve Commission

It is extremely improbable that the
 subject could be more fully examined
 or an opinion more carefully and impartially

formed than by the Reserve Commission which represented both Governments and investigated the whole question upon the ground.

So far as I know supposing that Mr. O'Keefe makes good his claim to the 320 acres there is no other course open to the Provincial Government than to purchase the land from him for assignment to the Indians and as the House of Assembly is now sitting and delay is attended with great inconvenience to all concerned and as moreover delay will probably increase the difficulties in the way of the Provincial Government the present appears to be an opportune time for bringing the question of the Okanagan reserve again before you for consideration and for obtaining any legislative authority necessary for its adjustment. In my former position of Joint Commissioner specially instructed to have regard to the interests of the Provincial Government as well as to those of the Dominion Government I foresaw the difficulty in which the Provincial Government would be placed as now described and believing that Mr. O'Keefe had really no legal claim to the land but had probably occupied it mainly for the purpose of making terms with the Provincial Government I have spared no pains to bring the facts of the case to the notice of your predecessor and yourself so that the interests of the Provincial Government should not suffer from any failure on my part at least to give information.

I am Sir

Your Obedt. Servt.

Gilbert Malcolm Sproat

Commissioner

The Honourable signed
The Chief Commissioner
of Lands & Works
Victoria

Indian Reserve Commission
 British Columbia
 New Westminster
 1879 March 4th

Survey Branch

Sir

Among the sketches prepared by you and submitted to me for signature is one of the Goose Spit reserve at Comox purporting to be made after the field notes of Mr. Green for this reserve had been plotted by you. The shape of the sketch at once shows me that it is not the reserve laid off by the Commissioners and in plotting the notes of Mr. Green Mr. Jane finds they make quite a different piece of land from your sketch but a piece which is more like what the Commissioners assigned.

I shall be glad to receive any observations you may have to make on this very grave matter on the face of the papers it would appear as if you had simply copied the old reserve without any reference to the decisions of the Commissioners or to Mr. Green's field notes. If this is so it is obvious that confidence in the sketches you have submitted is destroyed and the field notes must be replotted by Mr. Jane at your cost.

I am Sir

Your Obedt. Servt.

Gilbert Malcolm Sproat
 Commissioner

signed
 E. Mohun Esq. C.E.
 Katsi

Indian Reserve Commission
 New Westminster
 1879. 4 March

Sir

Having been travelling about and up the Coast I am only now able to reply to your letter of the 8th Nov last I do not think your proposal for an exchange of land against water could be entertained It will be necessary to ascertain on the ground the facts as to the water and then to consider the question of title to it and this as you are aware I have not had an opportunity of doing as yet

I am
 your Obedt Servt-
 signed G. M. Sproat
 Commissioner

W. Charters Esq.
 Nicola

New Westminster
 1879. 4 March

Dear Sir

My letter of the 19th ^{ult} to you will have crossed yours of the 22nd I am glad to know that you are easy with the Indians The truth is that equitably they have a claim to the land you occupy only it is unnecessary and would be very tedious and expensive to proceed to establish an equitable right and it would be hard on you an innocent holder to attempt to do ^{the}. The compromise I think is fair enough but I do not think more hill land could be given

Yours Truly
 signed G. M. Sproat

P. J. Gillie Esq.
 Nicola

original
 Dominion of Canada
 Victoria B.C. 6 March 1879

\$1500

Paid from the R. Genl of Canada through
 the hands of the Bank of British
 Columbia at Victoria the sum of
 fifteen hundred dollars, being amount
 advised per telegram from Ottawa

J. M. Spence
 J. R. Connor

sent by post to
 W. C. W. and
 Messrs. West
 1879-7 March.

Indian Reserve Commission
 British Columbia
 New Westminster
 5 March 1879

Sir

Okanagan Reserve

Cancelled

A question was asked in the House of
 Assembly here lately as per annexed newspaper clipping
 respecting the case (already known to the Department)
 of Mr. Okeefe at Okanagan whose claim to a portion
 of land there delays the complete adjustment of that
 very important Indian Reserve

As there appears to be on the part of the
 questioner and on the part of the Provincial Government
 some want of appreciation of the real position of the
 Provincial Government in this matter and as the long
 existing inaction of that Government with respect to
 what is necessary to complete the Okanagan Reserve
 adjustment is very embarrassing and likely to cause
 needless expense to the Dominion Government by
 interrupting surveys and otherwise and as moreover

the Indians are complaining of what to them appears a fruitless attempt to adjust their land questions. I have thought it well at this time when the Provincial House of Assembly is in session again to call the attention of the Chief Commissioner of Lands to the case as per enclosed copy of my letter to him of this date which explains my view of the positions of the two Governments respectively.

The Reserve Commission knowing the many demands on the Provincial purse has during the last 2 1/2 years exhausted every effort of ingenuity to adjust Indian land questions without the necessity for asking the Province to spend money.

The success met with has exceeded anticipation though I doubt if any person in this Country appreciates the motive or the fact. In this case of Okeefe I have assisted the Provincial Government to understand it and have shown his weak position so that even in this case money expenditure by the Provincial Government might be avoided but it appears all to be to no purpose. The public and the House of Assembly and the Government seem penetrated with the belief that in showing the weakness of Mr. Okeefe's position I am arguing in favour of the Indians and not (as the fact is) in order to help the Provincial Government against the necessity for expenditure which their obligations to the Dominion Govt. in respect of the Indians will entail upon them should they yield to the view of Mr. Okeefe. I need not defend in detail the adjustment made by the former Reserve Commission at Okanagan until that is questioned but I may remark for your information at present that the arable land assigned provided the piece in question is included with Mr. Okeefe is included will not give over 20 acres a head of fairly good cultivable soil.

per male adult and surely a little farm of that size is not excessive for an Indian to have in his own country. It may be said will they use such farms if they have them I can only say in reply that 4 of these Indians alone have fenced 300 acres and cultivated a large portion. Supposing the Indians get every rood of the arable land assigned by the Commission I have often reflected upon the difficulty there will be in providing arable land for all however nothing more could be got for the land either did not exist or was legally held.

A considerable portion of the 20 acres per head would have to lie in fallow the soil being light and I am not sure that water for irrigation could be got upon all of it.

The practical question however is what ^{can} the Dominion Government do in such a matter. Sixteen months has passed and the Provincial Government do not seem to have yet mastered the question sufficiently to know their position in the matter. I am justified in saying so because so shrewd a man as Mr. Wallum otherwise would not publicly express even a hesitating opinion (as the annexed clipping shows he has done) in favour of the view of a man with whom if he had examined the question he would know that the Provincial Government must negotiate for the land if it is his.

It is extremely improbable that the Provincial Government will do anything in the matter during this session. If not and correspondence ensues between the two governments in the course of the summer on the question of the Okanagan Reserve the Provincial Government will finally discover as the fact will be that they require legislative authority from the House of Assembly of 1879 x 80.

Whether this authority could be obtained is

doubtful for Government and opposition would join against any proposal to spend money for Indian purposes. A knowledge of this truth has as above said impelled me to seize any way of adjusting Indian land questions on the spot but in a scene of such difficulty and confusion it is impossible to do this in all cases.

What can I do for instance in such a case as the irrigating water question I do not believe that that question has advanced a bit yet surely it might as well be frankly and boldly dealt with.

The Indians must have their share of land and of water and it would be well if they could see some practical steps taken to aid them soon for with the thorough appreciation which they have now of all the bearings of the land question they cannot understand why they should not have some redress.

In some Indian questions that arise the old Colonial Government was to blame but in such a case as Mr. Okeefe's (originated since confederation) the Provincial Government surely knowing as every one knew the dissatisfaction of the Okanagan Indians might have taken the ordinary business precaution of reserving a piece of land near the Okanagan reserve until the complaints of the Indians could be heard and examined.

My observations are not directed against Mr. Walker's government any more than Mr. Elliott's government or any preceding Provincial Government I am afraid ^{but} the facts are stronger than any individual's opinion that all our governments are influenced by the deep subtle race prejudice which saturates the whole of our now Indian population and from which I myself am not exempt though in my case it is probably controlled by a sense of

direct official duty

The Honourable
The Superintendent General
of Indian Affairs
Ottawa.

I am Sir
your Obed. Servant
Gilbert Malcolm Sproat
Commissioner

Indian Reserve Commission
New Westminster
1879 March 6th

Dear Sir

If you can let the Indian Chief Michel
at Lytton have some water to irrigate his land
this spring which he is extremely anxious to get in
order to grow a little crop it will be distinctly
understood that it is a matter of grace on your part
for this year and will not in any way prejudice
your rights or be quoted in support of any Indian
Claims.

I am
Yours Truly
Gilbert M. Sproat
Commissioner

J Seward, Esq. J.P.
Lytton

Indian Reserve Commission
British Columbia
New Westminster
March 10. 1879

Sir

I have received a letter from you dated
the 6th inst.

I have no knowledge of the complaint you

make with respect to papers which you wish to be returned to you Mr^s Blinkinsop as you know has charge of these matters and unfortunately he has had to visit Victoria on sick leave but he will send you any papers of yours which we have on his return

I am sorry to say that on a further examination of your work as Attendant Surveyor and your subsequent work in plotting the surveys and after having heard all that you have to urge in your very voluminous letters I must request you to consider as cancelled anything I may have officially stated as to my satisfaction with your performance of duty in either of the above positions
(Attendant Surveyor)

It is unsatisfactory that your sketches should be both incorrect and incomplete for work done so many months ago

(Surveys)

I am awaiting your explanation of having submitted for my signature a sketch purporting to be based on an examination of field notes which it would appear you had not in fact examined

I am Sir

Your obed. Servt.
signed G. W. Sprout
Commissioner

E. Mohun Esq. C.E.
Kater

Bureau Reserve Commission

(Care of Dr. Towell)
Victoria

1878. 17 March

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that subject to several open questions which are known to you the question of the Indians' lands has been examined and adjusted in the large extent of country south from Cache Creek and Lytton, and on both sides of the Gulf of Georgia up to and including Jervis Inlet and Comox.

Since taking the field as single Commissioner in the middle of May last, I have dealt with about 5000 Indians, and have thus largely advanced the work in hand.

I am authorised and required by the Dominion Govt to carry on the work without relaxation shaping my routes as circumstances dictate, so long as the principle of adjustment now established is maintained, and no change of policy is adopted towards the Indians.

I beg to ask if the Provincial Government desire that any particular portion of the still unexamined country should be first examined.

My purpose is to adjust Indian land matters in the Douglas-Lillooet country and then to work northward through the Lillooet district - either this or to continue the work upon the coasts of the mainland.

and Vancouver Island.

I have the honour to request that, in pursuance of the existing arrangement between the two governments, embodied in the Order in Council under which I, lately, have been acting, and of which a copy is annexed, (for your convenient reference to it) you will cause me to be furnished with the requisite authority from the Provincial Government, so far as they are concerned, for prosecuting the adjustment of the Indian Land question in the districts not yet examined.

Requesting your early attention to this matter, as there is a good deal to be arranged before starting out, and as the season is opening, and delay will cause unnecessary expenditure by the Dominion which, as you are aware, now pays the whole cost of the adjustments.

I have the honour to be
Sir,

Your obedient
servant.

(17) John A. Macdonald
Commissioner

The Hon.
The Chief Commissioner
of Lands and Works

Vancouver

over

Copy of a Report of a Committee of the
Hon. the Executive Council approved by
the Executive, W. A. Garrison on the
26 April 1878.

On a Memorandum
from the Hon. the Chief Justice of
Canada Dated the 23 April 1878
recommending that all Mr. Sproat's decisions
regarding the Indian Land question in
the electoral district of Yale be
regarded as final excepting those of
which he shall have received
notice from either Mr. Teague
or Mr. Usher, for a purpose, to lay
over.

The Committee advise
that the recommendation be
approved. J. L.

Ind. Res: Commn, B.C.

New West:

1879. 15 March

Sir

(Survey Branch)

Mr. E. Moham, lately employed on work for the Govt in connection with this commn, writes me to certify that he was employed on survey work during time when by his own showing in his reports to me, and to my certain knowledge he was not so employed but was occupied with his own affairs.

I am unable to accede to his desire, but have expressed my willingness to sign a pay certificate for the proper time.

Among the maps of the reserves made by this gentleman lately, & purporting to be based on an examination of the field notes, was one which did not appear to me to be of the shape given by the Commission. Examination showed that the field notes made a piece of land of a different shape and of a shape that agreed with the Commission's decision. Mr. Moham has not been able to explain this matter satisfactorily, and my impression is that he simply copied an old map, without examining the field notes.

This destroys confidence in his work, & it has been necessary to instruct Mr. Lane to replot some of the more important reserves.

Yours,

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs

I have told Mr. Moham

that I think it right that this replotting should be at his cost.

I have to add that in the scrutiny necessary in preparing "instructions for" surveys for the coming season, I find some of Mr Mohun's field sketches incomplete, when tested by my own notes.

My mentioning these facts, as was my duty, to Mr Mohun, has caused him to write a number of long letters of an argumentative character but they fail to alter the above facts.

He will probably send copies to Ottawa, and I therefore take leave to mention the business points at once.

I am Sir,

Yours truly
 J. M. Mead.
 Commr

Ind: Res: Commr 186.
 New West: 1879
 15 March.

fr.

In referring to the Minute of the Decision of the former Commr in 1877 respecting the Osoyoos reserves, I found two townships described as "5" and "6" in the copy given to Mr Leeman, which should have been "4" and "5".

I wrote to Mr Anderson who lives 22 miles along a good road from Victoria to inform him of the fact, as he had been a Commissioner and his son was the copyist, and I asked him to be good enough to find if the copy given to the Prov. Govt contained the same blunder.

The original draft made by Mr. Proctor and myself was correct.

Mr Anderson replied that he would take steps to see the copy at the Land Office, but that, as it was the winter season, I should have to pay the expense of his journey to Victoria.

I did not reply, as he said he, again, would write to me, but, in my own mind, I thought it reasonable that carriage here each way & perhaps 1 or 2 days board & lodging might be paid.

Mr Anderson has sent me an act of check the amount

The Sup^y Genl I have referred to pay it.
 of Indian Affairs Ottawa.

I am sorry to have to report so often
 from my own province a want of appreciation
 of what is reasonable and just as regards
 expenditure.

My blunder was found also
 in the Provincial copy.

I am - Sir

Yours obed. servt.

(?) fold. in report
 Commr

8 Apr 1855

£ 40

Tud. Resv. Commission
19 March 1879

Dear Sir/

Will you have the goodness
to cause Mr Wolfenden to be authorised
to give to me for the use of this Commission
2 copies of the statistics since the
consolidation.

3 copies of "Journals" 1876, 1877, 1878

Yours truly

J. M. Sproul
Commr.

J. Clarysley

Deputy Provost Secy.

Indian Reserve Commission
 British Columbia
 New Westminster
 17th March
 1879

(Chilliwack, Louisa and Matsqui
 Reserves)

Sir/
 Since addressing you on the 25th
 January last on the subject of these Indian
 reserves, I have not heard anything further
 about the matter, but having seen in the
 newspapers a notice of the introduction into
 the Provincial Assembly of an Act to amend
 the Louisa Dyking Act 1878, I have obtained
 a copy of it, and now enclose it for your
 information.

This Amendment Act, so far as I can
 judge of it, is merely declaratory of the existing
 law, for Indian lands, already are protected
 by the "Indian Act 1876" from all kinds of
 taxation.

The Amendment therefore may be said to
 leave the matter precisely as it was when
 I wrote my above letter of the 25th Jan'y, with
 only the change that the present Session of
 the Provincial Assembly, and the time
 within which the original "Louisa Dyking
 Act 1878" may be disallowed are approaching
a close

It still remains for the Government
 of the Dominion to consider what they will
 do in the matter, and the position in which
 they

The Honorable
 The Superintendent General
 of Indian Affairs
 Ottawa

they will be placed if the original Act is not disallowed.

Disallowance of such an Act would be a strong measure, but this is a case in which my reminder as to Indian interests was totally ——— disregarded in the passing of the original Act, and it is a case, also, in which the amendment (made, I presume on your own representations as to the ——— general case) appears to be of an illusory character.

The Indians who number nearly $\frac{1}{3}$ rd of all the Indians on the Lower Fraser, send weekly messages to me to know when I shall visit them.

It is now more than seven years since Confederation and these Indians, who live on a convenient water highway in the most thickly settled district in the Province, have been passed over by the Reserve Commission during two seasons under the circumstances stated in the memorandum enclosed in my letter of 25th Jan'y last.

That they should be again passed over, and that no possibility of adjusting their reserves until the year 1880 shall be well advanced, is a proposal or rather a view of the case which is of a very grave nature. I myself should hardly know what to say to the people.

It might perhaps be argued by the Provincial Government that the original "Somerset" Act 1878 sufficiently provides for the assignment of lands for the Indians as an honourable construction of clause 13 would be that Mr Derby's selection of lands held by the Crown could properly refer only to those lands of the Crown that were free from all equitable claims, and lands required for the Indians were not in that category.

But why then was not this made clear in the original Act and why was it not dealt with in the amendment Act instead of the latter.

latter being confined to a declaration of what did not require to be declared?

Why should this question, with which successive Provincial Governments and different persons representatives or assignees of Mr Derby may possibly be concerned, be left upon the unstable platform of an "honourable understanding" and the Dominion Government be asked to take the risk of assigning lands to the Indians, to which by and by Mr Derby or some one regarding Mr Derby's rights as a matter of strict law, may set up a claim.

My opinion as to the matter in general, and particularly as to the rights of Mr Derby under Clause 13 of the original System Act, is only the opinion of an unprofessional man, but it appears to me that Mr Derby has the first selection, and it is doubtful, if there will be much excess of acreage over the 45000 acres in the Townships named.

If the Dominion Government, on examining the matter, are of opinion that it will be safe for me to deal with these reserves, under the circumstances that now exist, I shall be glad to be informed soon that I may proceed, and inform the Indians that what they get (if they get any additional land) they may regard as their own.

I attach great importance to the question whether some of the reserves, cannot be reshaped to lessen the risk of ignorant and careless Indians being exposed to the very heavy penalties of the Act on conviction before two rural justices.

This is a matter I could judge of, but it might be desirable were I authorised to obtain an Engineers opinion as to the probable effect of

of diverting streams which is an important ^{part} of the scheme. Here, again, (see clause 3) Mr Derby has great powers, without any restriction as to the effect on Indian lands.

The truth is that Mr. Derby should, simultaneously with his application to the Provincial Assembly, have made an equally full and formal application to the Dominion Government, and thus have given them a reasonable opportunity of assisting the undertaking with proper knowledge and due reference to their responsibilities.

I do not know what information is in the hands of the Department at Ottawa, but at present, I have not a scrap of information before me relative to Mr Derby's scheme, except the "Dyking Act"

It is extremely difficult I should think, for the Dominion Government to act, satisfactorily, when they are, so to speak, hustled into a corner, and required suddenly to form opinions relative to a scheme affecting for good or ill, a large number of reserves and 521 Indians.

I may remark, in conclusion, that the Provincial Government does not appear to have become bound in the Dyking Act to withhold from sale - or - pre-emption any lands within the Dyking district, but, in fact the Provincial Government soon after the Act was passed, gazetted the following notice.

Copy.

" New Westminster District.

" Notice is hereby given that all the vacant
 " unoccupied land included within the
 " boundaries of Townships Nos. 13, 14, 16, 17,
 " 19, 20, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 29 and 30 is
 " hereby reserved until further notice

" J. G. Vernon

Chief

"Victoria" "Chief Commr Ldo & Mako"
 " 13 April 1878.

I do not think it is necessary to add anything else at present; for your information on the subject of the position of the Chilliwack, Sumass and Matsqui Reserves

I am Sir

Your obedt. Servt.

By Gilbert Malcolm Sproat
 Commissioner

HON. MR. WALKER.

No. 26.]

BILL

[1879.

An Act to amend the "Sumass Dyking Act, 1878."

HER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, enacts as follows:—

1. Nothing in the "Sumass Dyking Act, 1878," contained, shall be so construed as to render, or to have rendered, any lands vested in or held by Her Majesty, or any other person or body corporate, in trust or for the use of any tribe or body of Indians, and lying within the boundaries of the dykes or other works erected, or to be erected, by virtue of the said Act, liable for any contribution or payment whatsoever for any benefits accrued or accruing to the said lands by reason of the same being within the line of dykes established under the said Act.

2. This Act may be cited as the "Sumass Dyking Act Amendment Act, 1879."

Indian Reserve Commission
 British Columbia
 New Westminster
 1879 10th March

Sir

("O'Keefe's Case"
 "Kanagan Reserve")

A question was asked in the House of Assembly here lately, as per the annexed newspaper clipping, respecting the case — (already known to the Department) of Mr O'Keefe at Kanagan, whose claim to a piece of land there delays the complete adjustment of that very important Indian Reserve.

There appearing to be a want of appreciation on the part of the Provincial Government of their real position with respect to this matter, I have thought it advisable, while the Provincial Assembly is in session, to call the attention of that Government, again, to it as per enclosed copy of my letter of the 5th instant.

I hope that the view which I take of the position of the two governments respectively may be found to be correct.

It is for the Provincial Government to act, and though 16 months have passed since the question originated, it does not appear that anything has been done, or is likely to be done.

I enclose also, copy of the reply dated the 13th instd from the Commissioner of Lands & Works stating that he does not see anything in the case to warrant him in placing it before the House of Assembly.

The

The non-adjustment of this Reserve is a most serious matter. The Dominion Government have fully done their part, and have now only to consider what means can be taken to induce or compel the Provincial Government to abandon their passive attitude of resistance.

The reserve as laid out is of a suitable, fair area, but the arable acreage (which is that portion the Department has to subdivide) is incomplete without the piece in question, and there is no other available land near the reserve.

I am Sir

Your Obedt. Servant
 Wm. Gilbert Malcolm Sproul
 Commissioner

The Honourable

The Superintendent General
 of Indian Affairs

Mr. Bennett asked the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following question:—
 In the matter of the grant by the Indian Commissioner to the Okanagan Indians, of certain lands at Okanagan, occupied and used by the Indians, (Correspondence, 1884, p. 100) which was laid before the House of Commons in the intention of the Government to take any action to effect a settlement of the disputed title to said lands, the Chief Commissioner reported that he had inquired into the titles of the lands, which would take some time. He was of opinion, however, that the Indian Commissioners had no authority to deal with the lands.

The non-adjustment of this Reserve is a most serious matter. The Dominion Government have fully done their part, and have now only to consider what means can be taken to induce or compel the Provincial Government to abandon their passive attitude of resistance.

The reserve as laid out is of a suitable, fair area, but the arable acreage (which is that portion the Department has to subdivide) is incomplete without the piece in question, and there is no other available land near the reserve.

I am Sir

Your Obedt. Servant

Wm. Gilbert Malcolm Sprot
Commissioner

The Honourable

The Superintendent General
of Indian Affairs

Mr. Bennett asked the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following question:—

In the matter of the grant by the Indian Commissioners to the Okanagan Indians, of certain lands at Okanagan, occupied and claimed by Mr. C. O'Keefe (Correspondence concerning which was laid before the House last session), is it the intention of the Government to take any action to effect a settlement of the disputed title to said lands?

The Premier replied that a full answer to the question would necessitate an inquiry into the titles of the lands, which would take some time. He was of opinion however, that the Indian Commissioners had no authority to deal with the lands.

Indian Reserve Commission
 British Columbia
 Vancouver
 1879 March 15th

Sir

I respectfully beg leave to say that if representations should be made to the Dominion Government from any quarter respecting an alleged excessive assignment of lands in this Province for Indian purposes, I am prepared to give any explanations that may be required as to assignments by the former Reserve Commission, or by myself acting as sole Commissioner.

As however, the time of every one connected with the Commission is, with its reduced staff, very fully occupied. I hope that any objections may be made in a definite business like form, with specific allegations as to the reserves complained of, and not vaguely as the result of mere impressions and hearsay.

I may remark that no one can form a correct opinion without having first, before him a census of the Indians, and their stock

In the next place it is essential that the character of each reserve — the acres of different kinds of soils which it contains, and the nature of its surface generally — also whether the reserve, in whole or part is for one or more tribes and so forth — should be known as the result of actual examination and estimate upon the ground.

The above information is possessed only by the Reserve Commission, neither the Provincial Government, nor anyone has asked to be furnished with an abstract of the Census, nor can they possess the

The above knowledge of the surface and character of the reserves. You are well aware of the time and expense required to obtain such information in this extensive, mountainous country.

No criticism of my assignments as sole Commissioner can be made as yet, because the facts are at present unknown. I have not yet made detailed reports.

I stated in a printed memorandum, before taking the field last spring, the principles of assignment which had been, and would be followed as regards the Indians of the interior. This memorandum is in the possession of the Department, and it was sent to the Provincial Government and distributed among settlers many of whom expressed agreement with it. I have not heard any objection to its facts or principles.

The reserves made by the former Reserve Commission, both upon the Coast and in the Interior, were moderate, and were assigned with due regard to the habits and pursuits of the people.

They might have been made more suitable, had the work been done ten or fifteen years ago.

I am Sir

Your obedt servt.

(By) Gilbert Malcolm Sprot
Commissioner

The Honourable

The Superintendent General
of Indian Affairs
Ottawa

Indian Reserve Commission
 British Columbia
 New Westminster
 1879 17th March

(Anxiety of Indians)

Sir/ I beg to enclose copy of a letter just received from Mr Lang Treason J.P. dated Dog Creek 7 March, showing the discontent of the Indians in the northern portion of the Interior of the Province, and their anxiety to know when I shall visit them to adjust their Reserves.

I have letters from others within that District to the same effect (that is all over District)

There is no doubt that these Indians are dissatisfied and doubtful of the good faith of the Government, but, despite my utmost exertions, continued through the winter, until the Indians themselves would not accompany me. I cannot undertake the work that ought to be done on the mainland.

On the other hand as regards the Coast Dr Powell urges me to arrange immediately for visits to that region or he says that there is certain to be trouble ~~between the Indians and the whites~~ between the Indians and the whites on the northwest coast this summer.

It is, however, entirely impossible for any representative of the Dominion Government to pass, again, the New Westminster District without adjusting the Indian Reserves, and, unfortunately when about to use every effort to do this on the opening of the year, so as to leave a long
 Season

season for work elsewhere, I am hampered and may be altogether baffled by the effect of the proceedings of the Provincial Government in the "Tomass Dyking" matter, again referred to in mine of 17th March upon that subject specially.

Supposing that I were enabled to complete the New Westminster District, I have to consider, in reference to the northern district of the interior, inhabited by the Indians of whom Mr. Laming Neesem speaks whether in view of the past inactivity of the Provincial Government to give any attention to the important questions of ~~water~~^{water} for irrigating the Indian lands, I should be justified in undertaking an adjustment which must necessarily be incomplete, as I am told these water questions exist all up the road.

I believe that no restrictions whatsoever have been placed upon the acceptance of land and water records, by the local Meanderers throughout the country. Such records will probably be accepted up to the hour of my assuming Reserves, and you can understand how difficult it is to carry on such work as mine under these circumstances, in districts where the supplies of water and the quantity of land are very limited.

The longer the adjustment is delayed the more difficult must it be still it is a question to be considered whether, in view of all the circumstances and despite the agitation and discontent of the Indians, in the Northern Interior of the Province, I shall not be justified in recommending that work in that region be stopped altogether and proceeded with along the coast until the Dominion Government understands with the Provincial Government what is to be done

as

as to water for irrigation, more particularly.

I do not consider that I am justified in undertaking adjustments on behalf of the Dominion Government which must necessarily be so incomplete as to require fresh visits of the Reserve Commission, but this is a matter which of course I must very gravely consider in reference to Districts where great discontent exists.

In order to advance matters somewhat, I have today written to the Provincial Government requesting — authority (as far as they are concerned) for me to act in the District north from the Yale District, in which during the the past season, I have been chiefly acting.

They give your attention specially to the contents of my letter to you of the 29th April 1878 describing the negotiations which ended in my obtaining the Provincial Order in Council under which I have acted in the Electoral District of Yale.

You will probably in a matter of so much importance obtain my opinion as to any change which the present Provincial Government may propose, if they do not at once ~~the~~ give the requisite authority.

As I understand the view of the Dominion Government: it was in fact said to the Prov. Government.

- (1) There must be no change in the policy of adjusting reserves already established.
- (2) You suggest to us a single Commissioner to save money and we the Dominion Govt. say "well, we shall pay all expenses if you will give ample power and afford help to the 'bureau': so that the work shall not be incomplete and shall not drag: otherwise let your Chief Commissioner —

"Commissioner, or let the Provincial Government
 "appoint a representative, as at first, paying
 "their share of cost!"

"We are not prepared to change the policy
 "of the Commission before the Indians by sending
 "a man round merely to report especially
 "after our experience of your dealing with the
 "few matters already referred to you some
 "of which have for 2 years remained without
 "the least attention. Adjustment must be on the
 "spot"

I am not really at a standstill for want
 of the authority asked for in my letter to the
 Provincial Govt, but I wish to bring all these
 matters to their notice while the Provincial
 House of Assembly is in session.

The plain truth, is that now that there
 is no supposed immediate danger of an
 Indian outbreak and now that the Provincial
 Government pays nothing, they not only do not
 help, but they oppose by an inactive attitude,
 by neglecting correspondence, and neglecting
 doing what ~~they~~ might to enable the Dominion
 Government to save money by timely arrangements
 and in two cases - Cowichan and Osoyoos the
 Provincial Government have sold lands previously
assigned by the Commission to the Indians.

I am Sir

Your obedient servant

Wm. Gilbert Malcolm Smith
 Commissioner

The Honourable

The Superintendent General
 of Indian Affairs
 Ottawa

Indian Reserve Commission
 British Columbia
 (Care of Mr Powell)
 Victoria

1879 20th March

Dear Sir

Referring to my letter of the 13th May last to the Provincial Secretary as to Indian affairs at Soda Creek and Williams Lake; and further, to mine of the 17th instant, to you, reporting progress. I beg now to enclose, for the information of the Provincial Government, copy of a letter addressed to me by Mr Sam-Measem Sr. Lesser Soda Creek showing the desire of the numerous Indian Tribes in the Northern Interior of the Province to have their land questions adjusted.

Father M^r. Quetin Williams Lake, writes me to the same effect, and other Indians in that quarter have sent me a similar communication through Chief Justice Begbie.

I think it highly desirable that the New Westminster District Indian questions should be adjusted before work is undertaken in any remoter District, and you will oblige me much by informing me how I may consider myself now placed with respect to the Bullinack Soms and Matsqui reserves mentioned in my letter of 27th Jan^y.

I communicate for your information Mr Powell's opinion that there is great probability of trouble between the Indians and Whites in the Nass Skeena region during the coming summer if their land questions are not adjusted. The Reserve Commissioner wrote to your predecessor on this subject on the 27th April

1877

The Hon^{ble}
 The Chief Comm^r of
 Lands Works
 Victoria

I am Sir
 Your Obedt Serv^t
 Gilbert Malcolm Sproat
 Commissioner

Indian Reserve Commission
 Victoria
 1879 March 20th

Sir

I shall be obliged by your opinion as to the kind of conveyance that will be necessary in order to convey from the Provincial to the Dominion Government - the Indian reserves which have been assigned by the Indian Reserve Commission in trust to the Dominion Government for the use and benefit of the Indian Tribes in pursuance of the agreement or arrangement between the two Governments as to that matter.

I am about to send to the Dominion Government the Commissioners Minutes of Decision and the surveys of certain Reserves and should wish to send with them a statement of your opinion.

Without knowing anything about legal matters, I may venture to say, suggestively, that it is not clear that an ordinary Crown grant would suffice in a case which would be a transfer in fact, from the Crown to the Crown, and besides a part of the arrangement between the two Governments is that if the Indians should so diminish as to make the area of reserves disproportionate to the existing numbers, the excess of land shall revert to the Province.

I forget whether the Land Acts give any authority to the d^{ty} Gov. in Council to convey lands for Indian purposes. I believe they give power for their reservation as required.

Will not Acts be required to be passed, from time to time, by the Provincial House of Assembly, to convey or authorize the conveyance of these reserves to the Dominion - or could the d^{ty} Governor in Council be empowered by some special Act

Act to do so. If so, I would like to try to get one passed during the present session of the Provincial House of Assembly, as it is important that the Dominion Government should have legal possession of the Indian Reserves as soon as possible.

I am Sir

Your obedient servant

(Sd) Gilbert Malcolm Sprout
Commissioner

J. F. McCreight Esq 26
Victoria

Ind. Res. Comm. to Mar: 1879

Sir,

Mr Lane who is in charge of the Indian Surveys, wishes some information about the title to complete sketches.

Will you have the goodness to permit W. Fawcett to copy what is required from the Land Office?

Yours truly

J. M. Sprout
Commr.

W. H. A. S.
Chief Commissioner

Indian Res. Commission

Victoria 22 March 1879

Sir,

I have received several letters from Capt. Wake of Valdez I^{le} on the subject of his land there but neither his letters nor conversation with him when I lately visited his house at considerable inconvenience and expense have enabled me to understand what he complains of.

The former Res. Com^{rs} (whose acting at Valdez I^{le} are fully described in the Joint Com^{rs} Report dated Jan^r 1877) spent a good deal of time in arranging matters in the interest of Capt^m Wake. They did not interfere either with the extent or the shape of Capt^m Wake's claims to the acc^{pt} and a booe, Naval Grant though he did not appear to be occupying either of them at the time.

I have an impression that the root of Capt^m Wake's alleged grievance is a notion, derived so far as I could understand him, from correspondence conversations he had with Mr. Sawcett of Nanaimo - that the law permitted him to take him-land for the rock on his claims.

He says that he has had an interview with you. If you can tell me what his grievance is, I shall be glad to know it so that I may judge if it is a matter calling for any action on my part.

I fear the truth is that Cap^t Wake has made a bad selection for his land claims - there being scarcely any agricultural soil in them and the island having no suitable harbor.

He writes to me, further, respecting the survey of his claims - not being aware, apparently, that the Reserve Commission has had

nothing to do with surveys of Indian Reserves, but that these are made in pursuance of arrangements made between ~~the~~ yourself and the Com: officer in charge of the Surveys.

I have asked Mr. Proben, lately holding that office, what his instructions to Mr. Green the Surveyor were at Valley Id. and he says that Mr. Green had, so far as Cap. Wake was concerned, simply to give effect to the decisions of the Com:rs and that Cap. Wake was first to have his full claim of 760 ac. - and his south line was to be the north line of the Indian Reserve.

There was no question of altering the shape of his claims, for the sea bounds his lands on three sides. The Surveyor had merely to draw a line across the island, so as to give 760 ac. - beginning at the north of the island where Cap. Wake's house and harbour are.

It is of course possible that the Surveyor may have made a mistake, but Cap. Wake should not impugn a professional man's work without giving good grounds for his belief in its inaccuracy. That is, if he does impugn it.

The land of Cap. Wake being at the north end of the island, and being bounded on the west, the north and east by the sea, the effect of removing the south line of his 760 ac. - further south would be to cut off from him the land at his house and his harbour at the extreme north of the Island - If continued considerably further south, it would include the cultivated lands of the Lyackson Indians which I presume neither a pre-emption nor a Naval Grant could have covered, even before the Reserve was defined.

It is possible that these Indian lands may be what Cap. Wake desires

to possess, but, as above said, I do not know the subject matter of his alleged grievances.

Both the Provincial and the Com^{rs} Com^{rs} when they visited Valdez Id took a lively interest in Cap. Wake's position and wishes, and after an interview with him did everything they could to assist him.

I am Sir &c &c &c
J. G. Spruce - Com^{rs}

P.S.

I enclose copy of my letter of this date to Cap. Wake

Int. L. M. S.

The Hon^{rs}:

The Chief Com^{rs}
of Lands & Works Victoria

Indian Reserve Commission

Victoria 22 March 1879

Sir

I have received your letter of the 15th inst. You will oblige me by noting that the Reserve Com^{rs} have had no official charge of the surveys of Indian Reserves. They have nothing to do with the management of Indians, nor, directly, with trespassers whether by Indians or by white settlers.

The remarks which you have made to me on these subjects should, consequently, not have been made.

The Commissioners did not mark any post on the R. W. boundary. They found many boundary marks which it was said the Indians, or their friends, had placed, but they took no notice of them.

I have no information that the Indians are begging for lands on Valdez Id. other than what was assigned for them two years ago.

You will not I hope think me wanting in respect if I say, frankly, that I do not at this time know what is the subject matter of your grievance, notwithstanding your letters and my conversation with you; nor do I understand, with what object you address me about the land on Valdez Id. as I, of course, have no power to reverse or change the decision of the former Commission, finally made.

Acting, however, as I have to act in the general interests of all concerned in the Ind. Land question, I beg you will understand my willingness to do anything I can to furnish you with information, if you will have the goodness to recognize the limits of what I am able to do in assisting you.

I am Sir.

Your obt. Serv.
Sd. Wm. Spruce Com. Sr.

Cap. Wake
Valdez Id.

Cash Statement to 28 Feb 1879

1879		1879		
Feb 1	To Balance	141.25	Feb 28	By paid
14	Remitt ⁿ for Ottawa	1000.00		
				<u>G. M. Spruce</u>
				Field allow ^{ce} in full
				@ 42 ⁰⁰ per di
				<u>Less</u>
				Transport not
				incurred as <u>G.</u>
				was laid up for
				repairs - 17 ⁰⁰ per di
				28 d/ys @ 25. 700.00
				Bal. 28 Feb 1879 441.25
				<u>\$1141.25</u>
March 1	To Balance	<u>\$1141.25</u>		
		\$441.25		

Voucher 207

New West 19 March 1879
 Ed. G. M. Spruce Com^{rs}

Indian. Res. Com^{rs}
 British Columbia

15. March 1879

Sir,

I beg to enclose in duplicate account and Vouchers for the month of February showing a balance in hand, at the end of that month of \$441.25 which agrees with the Bank Balance.

I am Sir &c &c &c
 Ed. G. M. Spruce Com^{rs}

The Hon.
 The Superintendent
 of Indian Affairs
 Ottawa

Indian Reserve Commission
 New Westminster
 25 March 1879

Sir

I beg to enclose minute of Decision by the Reserve Commission during the past season in matters left over for adjustment by the Reserve Commission during the previous season

If you will attach this as a supplement to the 1877 decisions I will in due course furnish you with succinct descriptions of the reserves for each tribe as soon as the maps now being prepared from the actual surveys are made and thus you will be enabled to gazette the descriptions (should you wish to do so) in a more simple form than in the descriptions of what was done in successive years

I am Sir
 Your Obedient Servant
 signed G. M. Sproat
 Commissioner

The Hon.
 The Chief Commissioner
 of Lands & Works
 Victoria

NOTATIONS IDENTIFYING RESERVES WERE ADDED AT A LATER DATE IN RED BALL POINT PEN. NOTATIONS SHOULD NOT BE RELIED UPON AS AUTHORITATIVE.

ALSO, WHITE-OUT HAS BEEN USED ON PAGE 117 TO AMEND RESERVE IDENTIFICATION; IT DID NOT SHOW UP ON COPIES.

British Columbia
Indian Reserve Commission

Fraser Superintendency

1878.

Minute of Decision in the matter left by the Commission in 1877 for further consideration and adjustment by the Reserve Commission as soon as possible

North Thompson River and
Canoe Lake

North Thompson and Canoe Lake
Indians which tribes agreed to have reserves
in common

It has not been found possible yet to visit the old Indian settlement at Canoe Lake and the definition of its boundaries must therefore again be left over until the Commission can visit that place

Kamloops

Kamloops Indians

The lands left undefined in 1877 owing to the presence of snow on the ground are now defined as follows

Fishings stations adjoining and near to Bartlett Newmans pre-emption about fifteen miles up Campbell's Creek beside the Kamloops Nicola Waggon Road

No 1

Kamloops #2 Begins on the south boundary of Bartlett Newmans pre-emption at a post on West bank of stream at north end of small

lake thence West to Campbells Creek thence down
 Campbells Creek to include a piece on both sides
 of the Creek with a total area of three claims long
 by a chain wide thence (that is from South West
 corner of last mentioned piece) ten chains West
 to post thence southerly and westerly to a point
 which is twenty chains in a straight line from
 last named post thence about four chains
 easterly to shore of lake thence along shore of
 lake and along stream to point of starting
 No. 2

Hand paper #3
 Division July 1870
 Hand paper #4

is situated between the Wagon road and the
 above lake its North boundary being in a straight
 line about thirty three chains South from the
 Southern boundary of the No 1 Station

The beginning is at a post on West shore of lake
 thence two chains 77 links to Wagon road thence
 along Wagon road to a point which is Eighteen
 chains in a straight line from the last point
 thence easterly one chain to lake thence along
 shore of lake to point of starting.

Timber Land

The South East corner post stands on the right
 bank of a branch of North Thompson river which
 forms Gilead Island about twenty three miles
 north of Kamloops thence due West thirty nine
 chains 58 links to a post at base of a steep rocky
 mountain thence follow base of Mountain north
 ward for about forty five chains to a post then due
 West twenty nine chains 72 links to a post then
 northward along the base of Mountains to the right
 bank of the Thompson where the Mountain
 abuts on the river at a distance of about one and
 two quarter miles in a straight line from last
 point thence southward along the right bank of
 north Thompson river and along right bank of

above branch to the point of starting
Heffleys Creek

Handbook #8
Fishing Station This lies between two lakes
and is about eight miles up Heffleys Creek (a tributary
of the north Thompson on its left bank)
The south east corner post stands near the lower end
of the eastern lake of the two lakes at foot of Mountain
on its southern shore distant from ^{outlet of} Heffleys Creek
six chains in a straight line thence the lines run in
a westerly direction keeping along the base of hill south
of Heffleys Creek to the shore of the upper end of the western
lake of the two lakes at a point five chains in a straight
line from the Mouth of Heffleys Creek at this portion of its
course thence across Heffleys Creek along the upper end
of the lake to base of Mountain at a point twelve chains
in a straight line from south west corner thence in an
easterly direction along base of hill to the lower end
of the eastern of the two lakes so as to strike its north
western shore at a point twenty two chains in a
straight line from the right bank of Heffleys Creek at
its outlet from the eastern lake of the above two lakes
thence follow the lower end of the ^{eastern} ~~eastern~~ lake across
the outlet of Heffleys Creek and round to a spot on its
southern shore about a chain ^{north} from starting point
thence south to starting point.

The strip at Louis Lake ^{St. Paul} begins at a post on the line between
townships 109 and 111 placed 411⁰⁰ chains due north from
the post at the angles of townships 107, 109, 110, and 111.
Thence due east (passing to the south of Louis Lake)
and in an easterly ~~direction~~ and southerly direction
along the base of hills keeping south and west of
the stream flowing from Louis Lake into St. Pauls Lake
to its head thence about 5 chains mouth of said stream
thence follow in an easterly and southerly direction
the northern shore of St. Pauls Lake to its head thence
about 5 chains S. 45⁰⁰ E. to right bank of Creek flowing

into St. Pauls Lake thence follow up right banks of said creek in an easterly direction to a point about 90 chains in a straight line from last point thence N. 44 W. across a valley for about 14 chains thence in a westerly and north westerly direction along the base of the hills to a post about 2 3/4 miles from last point thence due west to the township line between townships 109 & 111 at a point 27^{1/2} chains north of starting point thence south to starting point.

South Thompson River and
Salmon Arm (Great Shuswap Lake)
South Thompson or Niskahnilth
Indians

The timber land ^{within the reserve} for the use of the white settlers is marked off about quarter of a mile from left bank of South Thompson river and fifty chains below eastern boundary of reserve. It is thirty chains long and eighteen and a half chains wide. The arrangement is stated in the following letter.

Copy
Indian Reserve Commission
In Camps near Lytton
1st July 1878

Gentlemen

The Indian Reserve Commissioners last year assigned a piece of land for the Indians near Mr. M. Bryans farm subject to such provision as the Indian Reserve Commission on further examination may make to enable neighbouring settlers to obtain timber free of cost for use on their farms for farm buildings fences and fuel and for these purposes only. Such further examination having been made with the result of ascertaining that

the wood on the reserve is not of much value to any of the neighbouring settlers for fencing and fuel but that a portion of it might be useful to several settlers in the construction of Buildings I have the honour to inform you that during two years from this date the Indian Department will not charge anything for such logs to be used in buildings on your farms as the Indian Superintendent may on your application sanction being removed from the Indian Reserve on the south side of the river

This arrangement appears to meet the circumstances of the case as far as they are known to me but I shall be glad to hear from you if any more convenient arrangement can be proposed

I am Gentlemen
 Your Obedt. Servt.
 signed Gilbert M. Sproat
 Indian Reserve Commissioner

Messrs Mc Bryan, Chase
 and Williams

South Thompson

Okeagan Lake

Indians head of Lake
 (Commonage area)

The northern boundary starts from Okeagan Lake and runs due east along the northern boundaries of sections 19, 20, 21, and partly 22

(township 9) as far as Long Lake stream thence
up left bank of said Stream to Long Lake

Osooyos No. 1

In this case the Indians had urged
the Reserve Commission in 1877 to amend their
decision by assigning for their use a more
extended frontage alleging that Mr. Haynes
had been permitted to acquire their land
included within what Mr. Cox had given them
particularly on the Okinagan river near the head
of Osooyos Lake

on the other hand Messrs Haynes and Lowe
submitted a request to the Reserve Commission that
their decision should be amended so as to leave
open for purchase a more extended frontage on
the east side of the Okinagan river

After considering carefully the history circum-
stances and requirements of the whole case. I
decided that neither the request of the Indians
nor that of Messrs Haynes and Lowe could be granted
and I formally notified the Indians to this
effect and Mr. J. C. Haynes also for Messrs Haynes
and Lowe. The Osooyos reserve is to be as follows
all the vacant land in townships L and L1 lying
east of the Okinagan river and Osooyos Lake also
a strip bounded on the south west by Osooyos Lake
on the North east by the Mountains on the North
west by the Southern boundary of township L1
and on the south east by Mr. Trugers pre-emption

Also a fishing station at the foot of
Dog Lake about 20 chains wide extending from the
foot of the Lake so as to include both sides of the
Okinagan river as far south as the Creek the northern
boundary of Mr. Keagans pre-emption claim

These Indians are to have whatever water

Review 9 Oct 1878
Deam 16 Oct 1877

They require for irrigation or other purposes
from all available sources of water supply
subject however so far as the extension of their
reserve is concerned to any legal rights to irrigation
water acquired by other persons before the date
of the decision of the Reserve Commission as to
the Cooyos Reserves

signed Gilbert Malcolm Sproat
Commissioner

2
1879

British Columbia
Indian Reserve Commission
New Westminster

1879 26 March

Sir

(Fraser Superintendency)

In the Minutes of Decision of the
Reserve Commission for 1877 certain matters
were left over for examination and adjustment
by the Commission in 1878 or as soon as possible

I now beg to enclose my decisions
as to those matters in a minute which will be
as a supplement to the decisions of the Reserve
Commission in 1877 which already is in the
possession of the Department

I am Sir

Your Obedt. Servt.

signed Gilbert Malcolm Sproat
Commissioner

The Honourable The Superintendent General
of Indian Affairs
Ottawa
Canada

New Westminster

28 March 1879

Sir

If you will kindly write to Mess^{rs} Jay or to the person from whom you desire to order the seeds giving me authority to select for you what is required I will give the matter attention immediately on arriving in Victoria and thus time will be saved as the season is advancing

I will report to you what is done

The question of tools and implements is mentioned to me by Mr. Bankoughut in a letter 1st March in which he asks me to advise with you thereon which I shall do with pleasure but it is so difficult a matter that I shall have to think over it particularly as to whether the list we agreed upon cannot be further reduced and as to the principle of distribution

In the meantime I would recommend that those should be sent immediately to the care of some one at Yale

2 Ploughs

2 sets harness

1 x cut saw 6 feet

1 do do longer

All to be handed or marked with a broad arrow and to be addressed as follows

1 Plough

1 set harness

the shorter x cut saw

2

Indians of Lytton

1 Plough

1 set harness

the longer x cut saw

Indians between Yale and
Jackass Mountain

I do not think the Government should deliver those articles except at Yale

The Indians should send for them to that place and as a convenient means of ensuring delivery to the proper tribes or tribal representatives I suggest that you might instruct your agent at Yale to deliver to the Indian or Indians who would accompany the interpreter Michel on his way back from Supton to which place he is about to proceed by my instructions

This will save your Department some trouble and expense

I am Sir
Your Obed. Servt.
G. M. Sprout

James Lenihan Esq.
New Westminster

Indian Reserve Commission
New Westminster
28 March 1879

The Indian Reserve Commissioner will thank Mr. Green to say under what authority he included within the survey of the South Saanich Reserve the point or piece of land in section 5 see enclosed sketch

The minute of Decision of the Commissioners mentions only sections 6, 7, and 8

Ashdown H Green Esq. C.E.
Maple Bay
Vancouver Island

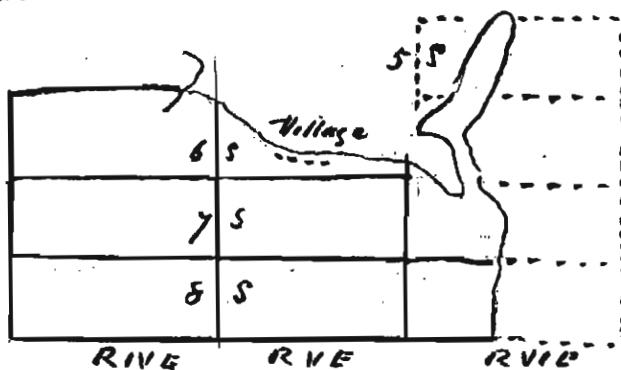
see tracing attached
to letter of the date
to E Motion

Indian Reserve Commission
 New Westminster
 28 March 1879

The Indian Reserve Commissioner will thank Mr Mohun to say under what circumstances he has submitted the South Saanich sketch as per copy enclosed as a correct sketch for the Commissioners signature when the Minutes of Decision gave the Indian only sections 6, 7, and 8
 The sketch includes portion of section 5.

E. Mohun Esq. C. E.
 Katsi
 Fraser River

South Saanich Reserve



New Westminster
29th March 1849

The following sketches can be completed
and sent to me immediately - if not
otherwise advised

Nanase

Qualicum

Sooke — If I send you required information

Cowichan

Penelakuts

Hatalt's

Seanich

North Thompson

Kamloops

Deadman's Creek

and if you have time, Nistkamilt's,
the following, viz

Chemamoo Bay

Sickameen

Comox

Beecher Bay

Esquimalt

Victoria

By actions (Valdez Island —

must stand over as incomplete

J. M. S. /

L. G. M. Sprunt

Victoria 31 March 1879

Gentlemen,

Mr. Lenihan has asked me to mention to you for him what seeds he wished sent to him at New Westminster for distribution among the Indians in his Superintendency.

I beg to enclose the list showing the packages and addresses. Mr. Lenihan did not say you had to send them to the proposed recipients; therefore I presume you had better send them all to him by Tuesday's boat.

Mr. Lenihan hopes you will send good seed and at the lowest prices.

Thos^{rs} Day & Co
Victoria

Yours &c
S^t J. M. Spruce
for Mr. Lenihan
S^r Supdt

S. Res. Commission

Victoria 29 March 1879

Sir,

I beg to enclose a list of seeds which I would recommend as donations to the tribes therein named within the Fraser Superintendency.

I also beg to enclose for your consideration some suggestions as to what might be written to the gentlemen who may be entrusted with the distribution.

I have asked Messrs Day to send these seeds to you as soon as possible.

I return herewith the list of last years expenditure which you sent to me.

I think the Lower Fraser Indians have had an ample share

of the bounty of the Department in time past, and do not require any further help by donations.

I will let you know for your consideration, my views on implements as soon as possible.

I am Sir &c &c
St. G. M. Sprout Comr.

Mr. Lenihan Esq.
Int. Superintendent
New West

Copy

Factor Granddies Kamloops
Carrot + Turnip seed \$50.00 in 1 package

for Kamloops
R. Thompson
Kiskabinech
Adam Lake
Shuswap Lake
Dealmari Crest

See Letter
to Mr. Lenihan of
3rd April
Page 140

Mr. Foster Clinton
Carrot + Turnip seed \$50.00 in 1 package
for tribes in his district as before

Factor Mr. Suckin Williams Lake
Carrot + Turnip seed \$50.00 in 1 package
for tribes in his district as before

Factor Pandroy The Mission Okanagan Lake
Carrot + Turnip seed \$40.00 in 1 package
for the Indians at
Penticton, Osoyoos
and Keremeos

Mr. Fortune Speluncbeen

Carrot & Turnip Seed \$100⁰⁰ in package

Speluncbeen and
Head of Okanagan Lake }

Seather Lejacq Stewart's Lake,

Carrot & Turnip Seed \$200⁰⁰ in package

for Indians in
his district }

Mr. League Gale

Carrot & Turnip Seed \$100⁰⁰

For Indians Spuzzum
to Jackson Mountain } half \$ in package,

For Indians of the
Reklakapamuk people on
Brazon road above Jackson Mt. } half in package
also around Lytton as the
people may appropriate them }

Copy. Rough Scroll

Gentlemen,

It is not the intention of the Govt. to make gifts to the Indians in future, as they are able to get what they require by industry, by avoiding whiskey, drinking and gambling, and the pernicious practices of "pachacking".

They should work like white men and buy what they need at shops.

But as the Indian at Leekitwa, Osoyoos and Keremeus are remote, and might be inconvenienced this spring by being without seeds, the Govt., out of kindness, has authorized me

to entrust to your good care a packet of carrot seed and turnip seed for such poorer members of those tribes as in your judgement may require help. They go by Barnard's stage in one package which please divide as you think fit.

I shall be obliged by your doing the needful in this matter, and by your explaining that this is an offered bounty to the poor, which will not be repeated.

The Indians next year should in good time tell the storekeepers to get seed for them, and should be prepared to pay for what they want, or should make a seed bed, and save seed for use.

I may mention that as Spellumcheen is distant from you I have sent some seeds to Mr. Fortune for distribution to the Indians of Spellumcheen and Head of Okanagan Lake, not for the tribe but for the poor.

The Rev. Fathers

Pandoy & Pandre

The Mission Okanagan

St

I am Sir &c &c

J. L.

Copy

To Mr. Fortune Spellumcheen.
in similar terms.

But mentioning to him that as the Spellumcheen people are poor, probably they should have a good share. The head of the Lake Indians may not accept any. The gifts should not be pressed on them, and in any case it should be clearly stated they are not meant for the tribe, but for the poor.

Factor Lejacq

I don't know what it is needful to say anything special in this case.

Kamloops

I would recommend that the seeds be sent to Factor Grandin and the policy of the Govt. stated as in letter to Factors Pansey and Baudre.

Mr. Foster
 Mr. Fortune. Clinton
 Factor Mr. Guckin. Williams Lake.

As the Indians in these districts have not yet been visited by the Rev. Com^{rs} and considerable discontent exists, I would simply send the seeds without announcing the future policy of the Govt. This can be done better after their lands are adjusted.

Mr. Teague. Galt.

It is not necessary to say anything to him as to the policy of the Govt., as the Indians know it. I would simply send the two packages and request him to deliver them to those Indians who may be deputed by the people to come to Galt for them. which deputies will be identified to Mr. Teague by Griebel.

These people can distribute the seeds among themselves without the intervention of any white men.

Copy

New Westminster

26 March 1879

Michael,

You will proceed to Yale and thence to the principal village of the group of the Kikila, Kap. amuk Indians who had their names taken together in our Census book.

You will remind the Indians of what I said to them with respect to my desire that they should not appear before the white people in the light of children or beggars, but should be proud and independent, as their friend Sir James Douglas wished them to be.

Now that they have land, let them work it; let them walk about feeling like white men. That is what the Govt. wishes. If the Indians choose not to work, but lie about doing nothing and drink and gamble and "puttack" they will become poorer, and suffer and die off the face of the land.

The Govt. can only see that they get their rights as to land and water, and the proof of this is in the Commission going about and being followed by the Surveyors - The Govt. cannot have officers living in the village to see that the Indians work and behave themselves. The Indians must manage their own affairs.

The Govt. have found, as the Indians well know, from what has taken place in New West district, that presents do no good and cause jealousies and quarrels.

Looking always to the good of the Indians the Govt. will not give

presents. The Indians are strong; why should they get presents like beggars?

But as the *Hekkatap-* amuks have had few presents, and have behaved well, I have asked the Govt to give them something, and the Govt have said they would, if I could say how the things could be distributed.

Now this I cannot say, and no white man can. If the presents do not get into the right hands and cause jealousies, then the Govt will say, I am a foolish man, and this will hurt me much, after trying to help the people.

I therefore wish you and the head men of each group to sit round the fire, and discuss the difficulty in which I am and help me out of it. White men say the Indians can do nothing. Show that they can. Bring back a list of what implements the poor women or poor old men in each group need for their gardens. Talk the whole matter over. This is the first business ever left entirely to the Indians. The Govt tells its mind to the Indians - let the Indians do their part.

No strong, lazy man is to have a tool. The Govt kindness is, merely, on this last occasion towards the really needy. Some Indians dress in rags, and have pots of gold in the ground. Look out for them. The Govt cannot be cheated. It will all be inquired into.

There are not many poor after you pass Jackass Mountain.

The Queen's Mark will be on each tool and no man can keep it without using it.

All I have said is about the poor.

Now as to the people in general who lately have got lands. The winter has been hard and stock has died.

I will ask the Govt to put a plough harness and a cross cut saw at Lytton, and the same at a place between Yale and Jackson mountain -

This is to help the Indians in cultivating their new lands.

The Indians must arrange among themselves for the use of these ploughs by different tribes and men, as they think fit. One must do his piece and then another. Everybody says the Indians are fools and cannot do this and will quarrel who is to have the plough first. When people say so I tell them I know the Indians and that I am sure the Seklaka miks can manage these matters.

If I hear of any quarrelling the ploughs will be at once removed.

Before they are sent, I must know what the Indian propose, and who is to take care of the articles. They must submit some business proposals - no nonsense - There are many Indians in the country, and they need attention, and when some are foolish, I turn my eyes to the sensible ones.

Come back quickly,

Ind. S. M. S.

Indian Res. Commission
British Columbia

31 March 1849

Sir,

Mr. Clapperton S.T. of Nicola Valley writes to me 19th inst reporting on Indian matters generally, and mentioning that a few Medicines are much wanted there, in cases of illness among the Indians caused, he thinks, by their leaving their underground houses and living in tents, as is usual with them at this season.

There is, as you know, no druggist nor doctor within reach of that place, and I think it would be a reasonable kindness to furnish Mr Clapperton with a few Medicines for these Indians.

I have not included these tubes in the list of proposed donations by Mr Penhau for either seeds or implements.

I have strongly urged the Indians everywhere to give up the use of these underground houses, but changing the habits of a people is a slow process.

I have found Mr Clapperton a fair dealing, considerate man, and I think his recommendation is true to the

Col. Powell
Victoria

Your truly
J. S. P. Grant

Victoria 31 March 1879

Dear Sir

I do not quite know how the
 medicinal question is at present arranged in
 the Ind. Dept. in this Province but I have
 seen Dr Powell on the subject of your letter
 of the 19th and I think he will, under the
 circumstances you state, send you some
 Medicines, trusting for the approval of the
 Ottawa Dept.

Ans Clapperton Esq, SR
 Kiewa Valley }

I am Dear Sir
 Yours truly
 J. G. Sprunt

Victoria 31 March 1879

Sir,

I have to acknowledge receipt of
 your letter of the 4th with amended pages for
 the Osoyoos decisions. I have sent these to
 Mr McKelvey for his signature and return.

The blunder is not of much practical
 account, as the lands are clearly described,
 and as, moreover, the decision was to be reviewed
 by me next season, and in my minute there
 is no error.

The Prop. Gov^t have sold lands in
 Township 6, since the decision.

Assuming that
 the Com. Gov^t will eject Mr Hayes.

I am sorry that I cannot pay you up for 8 days @ \$500
 as I think it doubtful if I have authority to
 pay money to amend our own blunders, and as the
 amount charged is excessive, even had I such authority.
 It was only necessary to call at the Law office to
 ascertain if the blunder was in the minutes
 there.

I will take the risk of paying \$20⁰⁰
which I think would be quite sufficient

A.C. Anderson Esq:

Yours truly
Sd. S. M. Sproul

Indian Reserve Com^{rs}
British Columbia

New Westminster
31 March 1879

Sir

Superintendency Donations

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt
of your letter of the 1st March No. 10 273 on the
subject of proposed donations of agricultural
implements to certain tribes in the Fraser
Superintendency of an estimated value of \$542⁵⁰

After much reflection upon a suitable
means of distributing these presents I cannot
say that I can quite see my way.

I have, however,
adopted a plan which perhaps may ensure the
maximum of good result and which I anticipate
will not necessitate the whole of the authorized
outlay.

It is described in the enclosed
copy of instructions to my interpreter a Kekla Kupa-
nuk Indian whom I have sent on a mission
up the river to report to me from the groups
of Indians what they really need for their
poor, before ordering the implements -

The Hon:
The Sup: Genl:
of Indian Affairs
Ottawa

I am Sir your
Sd. S. M. Sproul Com^{rs}

Indian Co. Com^{rs}
British Columbia

New West^{ry} 29 March 1879

Superintendency Donations

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 1st March No. 10.724 as to proposed donations of seeds in the Isaacs Superintendency.

Having obtained from Mr. Lenihan a list of donations made in past years, I have to express my surprise at the expenditure under this head, and my opinion that it has been excessive and pernicious contrary to the interests of the Gov^t, and neither desired nor understood by the majority of the Indian recipients.

There will not be, so far as I can judge, any difficulty in bringing the system to an end, at least as soon as the land question is adjusted, and even now I think a saving of about \$750.00 or \$1000.00 in last year's expenditure for seeds may be effected.

The late Sir James Douglas a just and humane man, very experienced in Indian Affairs in this quarter of the world, was opposed to the lavish and indiscriminate bounty to Indians.

I beg to enclose copies of my letter of this date to Mr. Lenihan with its enclosures.

The Hon:
The Sup^{ty} Gen.
of Indian Affairs
Ottawa

I am Sir &c &c
Ed. G. M. Spruel
Com^{rs}

Victoria 1 April 1879

Dear Sir,

When at Osoyoos with the Res. Com^{rs} in 1877 Mr. Proker, the Attendant Surveyor could not find whether the large corral of Mr. Haynes was inside or outside his line. Mr. Proker's impression was that both the corral and the cabins were outside.

Kindly say what your recollection of the position of the corral is.

Yours truly

Sd, G. M. Sprout Esq^r

W. Ralph Esq;

Victoria 2 April 1879

Sir,

I beg, again, respectfully to apply to the Government for payment of the amount due me, as per A^c rendered and former correspondence.

Your obt^d Serv^t

The Hon.

The Min^r of Finance.

Sd,

G. M. Sprout

Indian Res^t CommissionerVictoria 3rd April 1879

Dear Sir,

I am greatly obliged to you for giving me the opportunity of conversing with you about the seeds, and for giving me the benefit of your views. We both desire the same object, and it is probable that your view may be correct, but at the same time you will permit me to hold to what my judgment tells me is required. I think that the quantities I mentioned are sufficient in the portion of the country south from Cuche Creek and Lytton and if the distributors

are asked: not to force the presents on the people
so as not to run the risk of the Govt being exposed
to such refusals of donations, as have already taken
place in some parts, I see no difficulty in the
matter.

I agree with you that as to the country
north from the above, perhaps, it would be well
not to alter the variety of the seeds and not
to reduce the quantity more than $\frac{1}{4}$ as that section
has not been visited by the Ind. Res. Com^{rs} —
the Stewart's Lake parcel not being reduced at all.

I really think the Lower Fraser people
should not have any. If you give to one
I hardly see how you can avoid giving to all,
unless you adopt the principle of giving
only to such poor as you may select. If you
really think that for the last time of giving
\$100⁰⁰ worth could properly be distributed among
the poor, I should say, let it be so, but I would
not anticipate either harm or ill feeling from a
stoppage. The Indians can buy seeds like white
men at shops.

Yours truly
Wm Sprunt

Jas Leitch Esq
New West

now present

Indian Reserve Commission
British Columbia

9th April 1879

Sir

Sale of Indian Lands
by the Prov. Govt.

I reported to you on the 26 April 1878
that the Prov. Govt. had sold a portion of the Indian
Reserve at Cowichan in Vancouver Island.

I have now to report a much more grave matter, namely, the sale of the greater portion of the Indian Reserve at Osoyoos on the frontier by the Provincial Govt. without any communication with either the ~~Local~~ Local Indian Dept. or with the Reserve Comm^{rs}, and, I assume, without your knowledge or sanction.

The enclosed report on the subject, and copy of my letter of this date to the Chief Comm^{rs} of Lands & Works, show the facts and circumstances so far as they are known to me.

The sale of Indian Reserves, at will, by the Prov. Gov. is an inconvenient practice, causing much trouble and expense, and calculated to destroy the belief of the Indians in the good faith of the Govt. of Canada, and consequently to embarrass the whole administration of Indian Affairs in this Province.

It could not have taken place in a more unfortunate locality than on the frontier at Osoyoos considering the history of Indian Land matters there during the last 20 years.

It will be undesirable that Mr. Haynes should be permitted to exercise any powers over the Indian Reserve at Osoyoos, which he may think his Provincial Crown grants give him. He will probably immediately endeavour to do so, and the place is so remote that the Indian Dept. cannot learn easily what may be going on.

Mr. Haynes, who is the Dominion Customs House officer at Osoyoos, is not an innocent purchaser, for I gave him, on the 9th Oct, 1878, distinct written notice of what the Indian Reserve was, as per copy of my letter, annexed.

He has a large cattle "Corral" of which about $\frac{2}{3}$ is on the Indian Reserve and probably this would be a subject for an ejectment suit that would settle

the whole question.

The position of the Corral is shown on the maps in the Report, and I have obtained a certificate from Mr. Wm. Ralph, who surveyed Mr. Haynes' land, that about $\frac{2}{3}$ of the Corral is outside his lines.

I mention this in case the method of proceeding by ejectment should be adopted.

There was an error in the 1877 Minutes of the Indian Res. Com^{rs}, consisting of a misdescription of the townships at Osoyoos, but for reasons stated in my enclosed copy of letter of this date to the Chief Com^{rs} of Lands & Works here, this is a matter of detail, and apparently immaterial in the question of the sale of the lands.

I may point out to you that the sale to Mr. Haynes (see large tracing sent with the papers) includes the Okanagan River which may be called a navigable river at this portion of its course, and as such, I imagine, could not under the B.N.^a act be included in a Provincial Crown Grant.

I am Sir &c &c &c

J. A. G. McSpreat Com^{rs}.

The Hon.

The Sup^r Gen^l of
Indian Affairs. Ottawa

Ind. Res. Com^{rs}
British Columbia

9th April 1879

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose ^{copy of} a report relative to the sale of the greater portion of the Osoyoos Indian Reserve, to Mr. J. C. Haynes by the Prov^l Gov^t.

not

Knowing the circumstances under which the sale had been made, I ^{have} confined my statement, subject to correction, to a recital of the facts, so far as they are known to me, and I shall be glad to receive any comments thereon which you may be good enough to offer for communication to the Dominion Gov^t.

There is only one matter which it seems necessary for me to allude to in submitting the enclosed report.

I understand from Mr. R. C. Anderson, lately a Reserve Com^{rs}, that in the course of some informal communications with the Land Office, he was told - I think by the Surveyor General - that the Prov^t Gov^t, in making this sale of Indian lands, had been misled by an error in the description of townships in the 1877 Minutes of the decisions of the Commission.

You will find on examination of the facts, that this could not have been the case, and that the mis-description was immaterial, for the following reasons.

The decision of 1877 under the circumstances stated in the Report, and partly by the request of the Prov^t Gov^t, had to be reviewed, and was reviewed in 1878.

The result of that review had of course to be awaited.

There is no clerical error in the 1878 Minutes.

This fact is conclusive against the view expressed to Mr. Anderson by the Surveyor General, but even had there been no review, and the 1877 Minutes ^{been} the only ones, it may be pointed out that, notwithstanding the clerical misdescription of the numbering of the townships in the 1877 Minutes, and also, even supposing that the sketch of the Osage reserve stated to have accompanied the 1877 Minutes did

not, in fact, accompany them, or was mislaid, the lands assigned are clearly identifiable by being described in the 1877 Minutes as in two townships "lying east of the Okanagan River and Osoyoos Lake".

There are no townships except 50 and 51 "lying east of the Okanagan River and" "Osoyoos Lake" - indeed as a matter of fact, these are the only two townships in a southern portion of the interior of the province extending several hundred miles east and west, and with a width of 65 miles back from the frontier, close to which the Osoyoos Indian settlement is.

I may further ask your attention to the bearing of the fact that since the adjustment of the Osoyoos Reserve, large sales of land have been made in Township 6 as well as in ^{and before they were made in} Townships 50 and 51. This is quite inconsistent with the view expressed by the Surveyor General to Mr Anderson that Townships 5 and 6, and not Townships 50 and 51, were deemed to form the Osoyoos Indian Reserve.

It is unnecessary to say, in conclusion, that had any doubts existed as to the position of Indian Affairs at Osoyoos, inquiry by telegram or letter would have removed them, if the Reserve Commission had been communicated with.

I have the honour to be
Sir,

Your obt. Serv.
Albert Malcolm Sprott
Commissioner

The Hon.
The Chief Commissioner
of Lands & Works
Victoria

Ind. Res. Commission
British Columbia

Victoria 9 April 1879

Sir,

In reference to my letter to you of the 9 Oct last informing you as to the non-alteration of the boundaries of the Indian Reserve at Osoyoos assigned by the Indian Reserve Commission in November 1877, I have ascertained lately that you have purchased a large portion of the Reserve from the Provincial Govt.

Under these circumstances, my duty has been to make a report of the case to the Provincial and also to the Dominion Government.

Further proceedings, so far as the latter Govt is concerned, will be departmental, and not under the official care of the Reserve Com^{rs}.

J. C. Haynes Esq. }
of Osoyoos New West }
St. S. M. Sprout Com^{rs}

Indian Res. Com^{rs}
British Columbia

9th April 1879

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose copy of a letter which I have sent to day to Mr. J. C. Haynes respecting his purchase of about 4245 acres of the Indian Reserve at Osoyoos.

I presume the Superintendent, ^{General} will take such action in the matter as he deems fit

Jas Leube Esq; }
Ind. Dept - New West }
St. S. M. Sprout - Com^{rs}

Victoria 4th April 1879

Dear Sir,

I beg to send the tracings of the Kamloops Reserve, which appear to be unfinished. If you will finish them the readings can be done here: I note what you say relative to the method adopted in surveying the reserve -

Yours &c
 Geo. Sproat

Yours &c
 Geo. Sproat

Indian Res. Commission
 British Columbia

5 April 1879

The Indian Reserve Commission has received Mr. Moken's letters of 27th March and 2nd April. They are not satisfactory, but the fact has no practical bearing, as the blunders have been rectified.

It is not the intention of the Com^{rs} to avail itself of the offer of Mr. Moken's services, which he is good enough to make -

Moken Esq. & Esq.
 Kaituma }

Copy Telegram

Victoria 5 April 1879

Mr. Geo. Coxon -
 Lytton.

Tell Michel, Interpreter, to finish his work quickly and meet me at Chilimack as soon as possible

Sd. Sproat

Same sent Guy Tuller - Gale

Indian Res. Commission
British Columbia

9th April 1879

Mr. Waigneau's intrusion
on Similkameen reserve

Sir,

In reference to my letter of the 25 Feb last reporting the trespass of Mr. Waigneau upon the Indian lands in Similkameen Valley, I have to day received the following letter from that person, which appears to show that he has ceased to intrude.

Copy.

1st Jan 7/1879

Mr Sproat

"You told me to leave the land
I had in the Similkameen valley. After the advice
of some persons of the Waka band Dept. he told
me that land was not reserve for the last 3 months
so I resist (Ist resist) for some days. Now
I believe you and I renounce for this land."

S^d, Edouard Waigneau

Excuse me and forgive me.

I am sorry to notice the statement that he has been acting under advice of some one in the Land office here.

My private opinion has been that Mr. Waigneau is a weak minded tool, probably of Mr. Hayes of Osoyoos, who, having bought the greater portion of the Osoyoos Indian Reserve from the Provincial Govt., does not now find it necessary for him to acquire any further Dom. Int. property in that quarter.

I will now endeavour to find means of adjusting Lower Similkameen Indian land matters without a fresh visit to that out-of-the-way place.

The Indians are reported to me as being again sullen, and proposing to take a whole man's land there, which does not surprise me -

The Hon:
The Sup:^t Gen:^l of
Indian Affairs, Ottawa

I am Sir &c &c
Sd. S. M. Sprunt, Com^{dr}

Indian Res. Commission

Victoria April 6. 1879

Sir:

Being desirous of your assistance as Attendant Surveyor during the examinations of the Chilliwack, Soan and Matsqui Reserves, I shall be glad if you will proceed to Chilliwack by to-morrow's steamer and await me there -

Mrs Mc Donald and Mrs Ashwell at the landing have generally spare beds, and I believe there is a public house a mile or two off -

The landing will be a convenient stopping place for some of the work. Will you mention that I shall require a bed, and Michel the Interpreter also -

I may leave Victoria on Friday.

Probably pending my arrival at Chilliwack you can occupy yourself to advantage in making general inquiries as regards the matters explained in conversation.

I enclose a note to Mr Kipp asking him to give you a memo: & begged him to fill up. This will show you the kind of inquiries that will be necessary -

I dare say the most satisfactory plan will be to take up and finish inquiries systematically beginning with the reserves nearest

the landing -

One of the first questions will be the probable effect of the Fraser in still further reducing the area of the reserves near the landing - say in 20 years -

The Dominion Govt. will not go to expense in protecting the reserves from the Fraser - The Indians may do so if they please.

Mr. Blen Knapp will give you towards expenses \$ 30⁰⁰ which kindly account for.

A. S. Farwell Esq:
C. S.

Yours truly
G. M. Sprunt, Com.

Indian Res. Comm^{rs}

Victoria Capital. 1879

Dear Sir,

Please give Mr. Farwell the memorandum I left with you and asked you to file up and oblige

Isaac Kipp Esq:
Chelmsick

Yours truly
G. M. Sprunt

Indian Reserve Commissioner

In camp on Lower Fraser

April 7th 1879

Sir,

I am obliged by your letter of the 22nd Feb^r, and also by one from Mr. Cole of 27th idem, to which this may be a reply.

If you can arrange the subdivision of the lands for arable purposes among the Indians in an equitable way, according to their own ideas of equity, it will not be necessary for me to revisit your district. I will afterwards define the pastoral area - In the meantime the valley

in general is reserved pending an adjustment.

I have found that the Indians are able to understand a division made as to the respective values of the respective portions of land - one having a small valuable piece, and another a larger piece which from circumstances and nature is not of more value.

Their own ideas of equity among themselves should be considered. I like to act rather as a referee in such matters.

Will you tell me how you get on. If there are difficulties that cannot be overcome I shall have to revisit Kéremens but when I can't say -

I cannot form an opinion as to Mr Cole's complaint except on the ground I may say that I clearly explained to the Indians that it would be best to let bygones be bygones and not to disturb the white men in what they held. I said this though some of the settlers did not hold with strict legality. The question who had first right to irrigation water would be an ugly one if pressed. I hope it may be overcome by compromise. It will be better for all to have the Indians reasonably placed. Being on the frontier this is especially desired by Canada.

I did not give the Indians any part of the land of J. Cole, or any other settler, but if a question of water is concerned he might consider if he would compromise any question, looking at things practically.

I send you a map. Mr Richters late acquisitions are not coloured. The map may assist you; it is copied from the official one at the Land office. You can perhaps find locally if it is correct.

Mr. Pagnon's statement will save the Hon. Govt. the trouble of ejecting him. I have not

learned whether Mr. Richter or Mr. Haynes has been his broker.
 Mr. Haynes has acquired by inadvertent sale from the
 Poor. Gov. part of the Osoyoos Reserve. He will be
 expected -

B. Price Esq;
 Karamoos

Yours &c &c
 G. M. Sprout Com^r

Copy Telegram

Victoria B.C.
 8th April 1879

To. Supdt. General
 of Indian Affairs. Ottawa.

Chilliwack instructions

Having attention

G. M. Sprout

Indian Res. Commissioner
British Columbia

The undersigned has the honour to report -

That the Indian Reserve Com-
 mission on the 16th and 21st Nov. 1877 decided upon the Osoyoos
 Indian Reserves as follows -

"All the vacant land
 " in townships L and L1 lying east of the Okanagan River
 " and Osoyoos Lake, also a strip bounded on the south west
 " by Osoyoos Lake, on the north east by the mountains,
 " on the north west by the southern boundary of
 " township L1 and on the south east by Mr. Krugers
 " pre-emption."

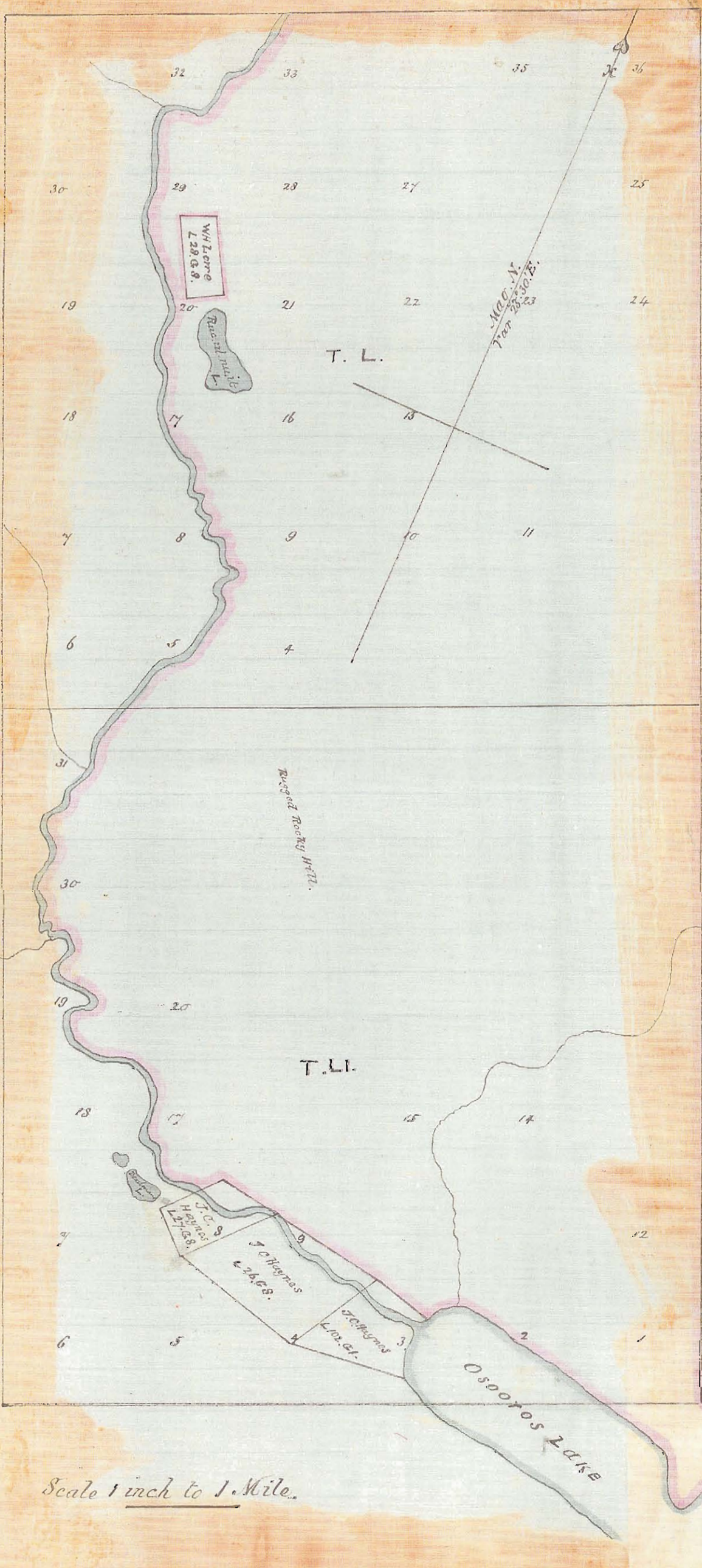
"Also a fishing station at the
 " foot of Dog Lake about 20 chains wide extending from
 " the foot of the Lake so as to include both sides of
 " the Okanagan River as far south as the creek, etc

"northern boundary of Mr. Kagan's pre-emption claim."
 "The prior right of these Indians as
 "the oldest owners or occupiers of the soil, to all the
 "water which they require or may require for
 "irrigation or other purposes from all the water courses
 "or streams within or flowing through or touching their
 "Reserve is, so far as the Commissioners have authority
 "in the matter declared and confirmed to them"

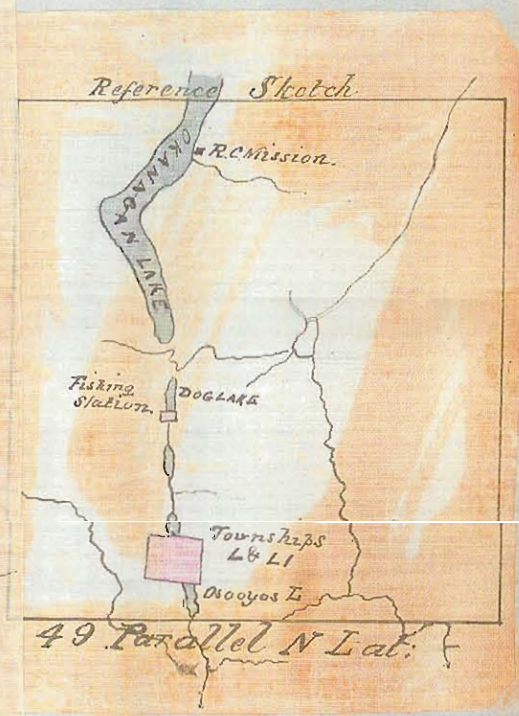
The above decision was made on the spot at Osoyoos. Subsequently, the following note was appended to the decision and the whole embodied in the Minutes of Decision delivered in May 1878 to the Gov^{ts} of the Dominion and of the Province.

"Note. It is understood that
 "as the Indians expressed a strong desire to have a more
 "extended frontage on the Okanagan River the Indian
 "Reserve Commissioners on returning next season to
 "Osoyoos from Victoria may alter the above decision
 "if they find it possible to effect this object, but
 "such alteration must be made with the full consent
 "of the Indians."

The following sketch shows the Reserve as assigned at Osoyoos. It is a mountainous, rocky area, with a strip of pasturage along the Okanagan River. There is very little land in it available for cultivation.



Scale 1 inch to 1. Mile.



The general minutes of Decision 1877 state that sketches of all the lands assigned in the minutes except certain sketches mentioned - The Osoyoos sketch not having been among the excepted ones the presumption is that it was sent with the minutes particularly as the Prov. Gov^t did not remark upon its absence -

It has to be stated here that a blunder was made by the copyist in preparing the 1877 minutes of Decision for the Provincial Gov^t and the blunder was not detected by the Commissioners in signing those minutes. Township L and L1 were wrongly copied as 5 and 6.

There are no resident white settlers in townships 50 and 51 - The only land owners or claimants of lands therein are Mr. Haynes the Dom. Gov^t Custom House officer at Osoyoos, and Mr. W. H. Lowe lately Dom. Gov^t Custom House officer at New Westminster.

These gentlemen addressed the following letter to the Hon^{ble} The Chief Com^r of Lands & Works on the 8th Jan^y 1878.

Copy

Victoria B.C. Jan 9th 1878

To

The Chief Com^r of Lands & Works -

Sir

Being informed that it is the intention of the Indian Com^r to extend the Indian Reservation to Osoyoos to many miles beyond its former limits I beg to call your attention to the injustice it will inflict on Mr. Haynes and myself should the Indian boundary be extended to ours -

During high water on the Okanagan River our stock require a run on the high benches as it would be impossible to keep them on the swamp land. Should the Indians be given this bench land it would render our stock range of little value for many months

in the year and bring us into frequent trouble with the Indians.

I would suggest that the most equitable course to pursue would be to leave a strip of vacant land as a common run for all between our claims and the Indian Reserve, to make the range ridge of rocky hills the Indian boundary and confine them to the valley of the Creek on which they are settled, and to the mountains on the east of them -

Otherwise to grant to us the privilege of purchasing in addition to our present claimed 1000 acres or thereabouts of this bench land.

I have the honour to be Sir
Your most obedt Servt
Ed, W. H. Lowe.

The chief Com^r of Lands & Works sent a copy of the above letter to the Indian Res. Com^r in the following letter -

Copy

Lands & Works Dept
Victoria Jan 7 14 - 1878.

93
18

Gentlemen,

I beg to enclose a copy of a letter received by this Dept from Mr. W. H. Lowe having reference to Indian matters.

I have the honour to request that you will report on the same to this office.

I have the honour to be Sir
Your obedt Servt
Ed. J. G. Vernon
C. C. & W

Major McKinlay
and Special
Ins Com^r
Victoria

In consequence of this request of the Chief Com^{rs} of Lands & Works and of the request of the Indians mentioned in the "Note" embodied in the Decision of the Indian Res. Com^{rs} in 1877, the Com^{rs} in 1878 revisited the neighbourhood as soon as possible which was in the beginning of October 1878 and on the 9th of that month made the following decision.

"Ossoyo"

In this case the Indian "had urged the Indian Reserve Com^{rs} in 1877 to amend their decision by assigning for their use a more extended frontage alleging that Mr Haynes had been permitted to acquire their land included within what Mr Cox had given them particularly on the Okanagan River near the head of Ossoyo Lake."

"On the other hand Mess^{rs} Haynes and Lowe submitted a request to the Res. Com^{rs} that their decision should be amended so as to leave open for purchase a more extended frontage on the east side of the Okanagan River."

"After considering carefully the history, circumstances and requirements of the whole case I decided that neither the request of the Indians nor that of Mess^{rs} Haynes & Lowe could be granted and I formally notified the Indians to this effect and Mr J. C. Haynes also for Mess^{rs} Haynes & Lowe."

"The Ossoyo Reserve is to be as follows. All the vacant land in townships L and L1 lying east of the Okanagan River and Ossoyo Lake, also a strip bounded on the south west by Ossoyo Lake, on the north east by the mountains, on the north west by the southern boundary of township L1 and on the south east by Mr Kruger's pre-emption."

"Also a fishing station at the foot of Dog Lake about 20 chains wide extending from

NEWSPAPER CLIPPING IS GLUED TO PAGE.

"the foot of the Lake so as to include both sides of
 "the Okanagan River as far south as the Creek - the northern
 "boundary of Mr. Keagan's pre-emption claim."

These Indians
 "are to have whatever water they require for irrigation or
 "other purposes from all available sources of water supply
 "subject however so far as ~~their~~ extension of their reserve is
 "concerned to any legal rights to irrigation water acquired
 "by other persons before the date of the decision of the Reserve
 "Commission as to the Osoyoos Reserves"

J. D. "Ginsford"
 "Ind. Res. Commissioner"

The decision is embodied in the "Minutes of Decision"
 "in the matter left by the Commission in 1877 for
 "further consideration and adjustment by the Reserve"
 "Commⁿ as soon as possible" which Minute has been
 sent to both Gov^{ts}. The townships L and LI are
 correctly described in it.

This completed the
 action of the Reserve Commⁿ in the matter of the
 Osoyoos Indian Reserve.

The undersigned has been
 informed that ^{the} adjustment thus made, the greater
 portion of the Osoyoos Reserve has been sold by the Provincial
 Gov^t. Not knowing the reasons for this act, he has
 simply to report that the Provincial Gov^t on the 17th Dec^r 1878
 that is, 13 months after the Osoyoos Reserve had been
 assigned and more than 2 months after the date of the
 decision issued the following advertisement

IMPORTANT AUCTION SALE OF GOVERNMENT LANDS.
 OSOYOOS DIVISION OF YALE DISTRICT.
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Mr. W. A. Treadwell will sell by public auction, at the town of Yale, by order of the Provincial Government, on Wednesday, the 15th day of January, 1879, at 12 o'clock, noon, the undermentioned lands in Osoyoos Division of Yale District, situated near the head of Osoyoos Lake.
 TOWNSHIP 50.
 Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 29, 29, 32, and N.W. 1/3.
 Township 51.
 Sections W. 1/4 16, 17, E. 1/4 18, 19, 20, 30, and 31.
 Put up in quarter sections of 160 acres, more or less.
 Maps of Townships 50 and 51 can be seen at the Office of the Government Agent, at Yale, and at the Land Office, Victoria.
 Upset price \$1 per acre. Terms cash.
 GEO. A. WALKER,
 Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works.
 Lands and Works Department,
 Victoria, 17th December, 1878.

The offering of these lands at public auction shows, it may be remarked, that they were vacant Crown lands, as in fact they were, but for the assignment of portions of them as Indian lands.

The lands described in the above advertisement include 3825 acres of the Indian Reserve at Osoyoos.

The public auction not having been successful, the Prov. Secy withdrew the offer of these lands, and, subsequently, on the 6th Feb^r 79 sold, by private sale, these lands and others in the Osoyoos district, as per tracing herewith* to Mr. J. C. Haynes

2007
2008
not in
copies sent
to the 2 Gens

and issued Crown Grants* therefor, dated the 7th Feb^r 1879. This sale to Mr. Haynes includes about 4245 acres of the Osoyoos Indian Reserve as shown on the sketch herewith sent.

9 April 1879

Signed Gilbert Malcolm Spruce
Commissioner

* note (for Prov. Secy only)
It is not necessary to send this tracing as the official map is in the possession of the Prov. Secy

Indian Res: Commission
British Columbia

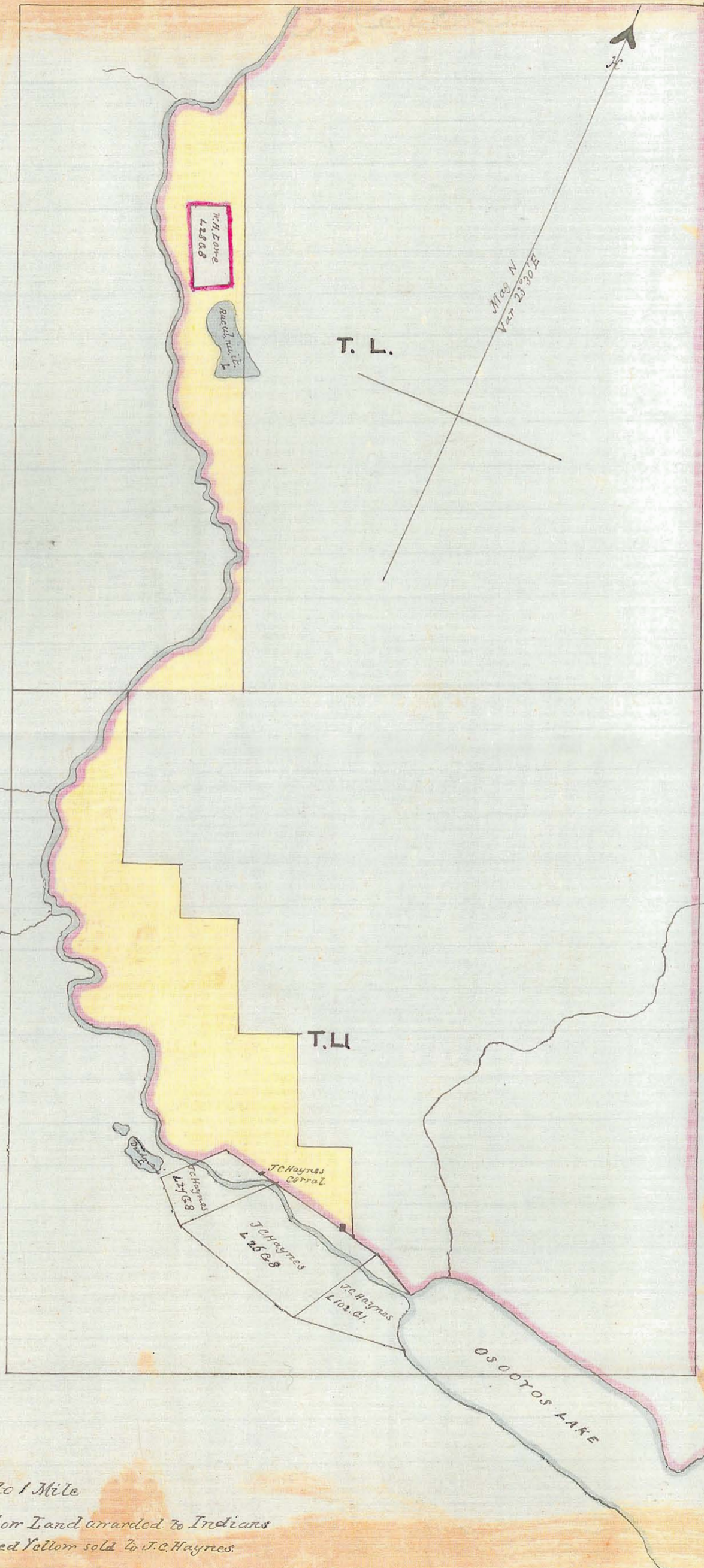
5 April 1879

Sir,

Having now prepared documents and sketches for several of the Indian Reserves surveyed by Cap. Semmet & Mr. Green, I beg to ask what kind of conveyance from the Prov. Secy to the Prov. Secy will be required.

The Agreement in the Terms of Union states that the Reserves have to be "conveyed" from time to time, but an ordinary conveyance by Crown Grant would not seem to be applicable where the conveyance is from the Crown to the Crown.

Perhaps the legal estate will remain in the Prov. Secy, with a declaration of trust on



Scale 1 Inch to 1 Mile

Red Lines show Land awarded to Indians
Portion coloured Yellow sold to J.C. Haynes.

Haynes claim

their part that the lands are set apart for Indian purposes.

There may have to be cases of eviction of white trespassers, or there may be sales by and by of portions of reserves.

Certain areas of grazing land have been assigned for the common use of white men and Indians by the Reserve Commission.

The Hon:
The Sup^{ts} Gen:
of Ind: Affairs - Ottawa

I am Sir v c v r
J. M. Stewart Com^r
See Superintendent's
Memoranda's reply
to above letter
folio 225
Book 3
Victoria 9th April 1879

My dear Sir,

I have paid Mr. Moffatt by your request the £20⁰⁰

I did not go fully into the Osoyoos question in my note to you as I was then preparing a report. This you can see in our letter book if you should be in Victoria before my return to New Westminster and Chilliwack on Friday.

If not, I have left with Mr. Griffin an envelope addressed to you containing my rough sketch of the Report and extract from my letter to the Provincial Gov^t, enclosing the Report, which I think will show you how the question stands.

I should have left Victoria last Tuesday, but could not manage to do so.

Yours v c v r
J. M. Stewart

A. C. Anderson Esq.

J. R. Comden B.C.

Mem: 9th April 1879

Since posting letters to day I find that the original of my letter of this date to Chief Com^d of Land & Works relative to Osoyoos Indian lands has inadvertently been enclosed in the Ottawa letters - Please destroy it as I have rewritten it here

J. G. M. Sprout

J. VanKouwenhove Esq^r
Ottawa

Victoria 10th April 1879

Hon: R. Beaven
Minister of Finance

Sir,

I have received your letter of yesterday informing me that the Provincial Government refuse to pay my account.

As the amount is due under an agreement between the Dominion and Provincial Governments it may be expected that I should state the grounds for the above refusal, and I shall be glad, accordingly, if you will enable me to do so -

I am Sir -

Your obed^t Serv^t
J. G. M. Sprout
late joint Com^d

Indian Res^{ts} Commission
 Chilliwhack
 1879
 11th April

Dear Sir

I do not anticipate that there would be any difficulty in arranging the matter of the landing at Somers.

The Chief Commr. of Lands and Works, I think is the proper person to take such steps as on the application of the local authorities may see fit to take. It is in the power of the Prov^l Court to make roads and landings on Indian Reserves, but Application must be made to the Sup^t. Genl who usually appoints an Arbitrator to settle in beh^l of the Indians the compensation they have to receive. The adjustment of the compensation is essential - see Clause 20 Indian Act 1876.

I will undertake to act for the Sup^t Genl if the Prov^l Court wish, to save a reference to Ottawa which would probably be sent back for my report.

Yours truly
 G. M. Sproat

W. Chadsay Esq.

Chilliwack's Red Camp
12 April 1879

Sir / It appears from your sketch that the mineral land you think you have discovered is not upon the Indian Reserve but near Mission Creek. Till the Reserve is surveyed I cannot be absolutely certain. If you wish to make a Record I imagine you should do so at Mr. Lamb's the Govt Agent Okanagan

I am deeply grateful to you for the offer to join you and the worthy gentleman named, but my official position is inconsistent with sharing in such enterprise.

I am Sir
Your obedt servt
Gilbert W Sprout

W Campbell Esq
Okanagan } (By)

Telegram

To. Blenkinsop
Boomerang
Victoria

Chilliwack
April 13th 1879

Send on Tuesday. Trains number one
and four Reserves. See pages fifty four and
fifty five Indian Yellow Printed Book

(By) Sprout

In Camp Milledushet 14 April 1879

S
 Referring to the estimate of implements \$542⁵⁰ authorized but subject to revision, I have ascertained the requirements of the Indians in the villages above Yale, I think the following, which will come under the estimate, may be sent to Yale to which place the Indians should go to receive the implements.

James Leitch
 Geo. S. P. Co.
 R. West.

	Sykes with snails	Snails	hues	mother's	handstands	eyes	rocks	forks	key	knives	brushes	knives
Shogun	2	6	7	4	2	2	4	3	7	1	1	1
Boston Bar	2	6	6	4	2	1	4	3	8	1	1	1
Boothby	2	6	7	4	2	1	3	3	6	1	1	1
Sirka and Kawaka 7213	2	4	4	2	2	1	2	2	4	1	1	1
Sykes park re. Mithras by the Museum	7	13		6	2		6	8	11	3	2	

Also the 2 maps and sets lenses and 2 X Cron cut stars see Invoice 28 March 1895

As regards the tools which were in the original list for the ship *Christiana*, I think, instead of sundry tools, it will be well, as *Christiana* is getting old to send him a 10 lb box of Tea & some tobacco and a good table neatly packed in a box & accompanied by a letter asking him to accept the present not for its value say \$25 although but for the good will. His partner is sure that the ship, with not imagine that by giving him the above there is any intention on the part of the Govt to give similar gifts to the other. The above cannot now be too in our hands.

Indian Reserve Commission
 Chilliwhack.
 April 15-
 1879

Gentlemen/ I have the pleasure to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 14th asking me to try to arrange for the sale of an acre of the domain Indian Reserve for a mill site

I should be glad to do anything in my power to further an object of public interest to your community, but at present I would not recommend action in the matter until some important questions relative to the dyking scheme are settled between the two Governments.

I hope this settlement will not be long delayed.

I am Gentlemen

Yours faithfully

(Sij) Gilbert M. Sprout
 Commissioner

D Mc Gillerray Esq M.P.P.
 and others

Indian Reserve Commission
 British Columbia
 In camp Billiehaet
 13 April 1879

Sir /

Superintending ^{my} Donations

In reference to my letter of the 31st March last, on the subject of proposed donations of agricultural implements for certain tribes above Yale, in respect of which you authorized a Departmental expenditure of \$542.⁵⁰/₁₀₀.

No
10213

I have the honour to inform you that the Indian whom I sent to arrange the quantities required for the poorer Indians in these tribes, and to report to me upon the method of distribution proposed by the Indians, and also of cooperation among the tribes in regard to the ploughs and other important articles, has returned to my camp, and has made a satisfactory report very creditable to himself, and showing, as I am glad to say to you in this, the first instance of the Government employing Indians solely on important business affairs —, good sense and businesslike appreciation on the part of the Indians.

The quantities required by the Indians will cost less than even the reduced authorized estimate of \$542.⁵⁰ unless (which is quite possible) retail prices are raised by the ^{new} tariffs.

The old Chief Spintlum of Sytton, one of the real old chiefs, formerly very influential, and always a good friend to the whites, is now too old to use tools, and as there ^{may be} a margin in the estimate, I have submitted to Mr Scriban that not over \$25⁰⁰ might be spent in a present to Spintlum of tea and tobacco and a good pipe.

purpose.

His position is such that this would not induce any other Indian to suppose that presents of food and luxuries might be expected from the Government

A little compliment to Asquithum - one of a class of which few remain - would be regarded as a compliment by the people, apart from the value of the present.

The Indian whom I sent to arrange as to the implements cannot read nor write, but this presented no difficulty. I gave him lists marked to show the tribes meant in the order of grouping them for census and land purposes, and the lists had sketches of the implements at the top.

The Indians in Council filled up the lists after a clear understanding that only the poorer Indians were to be helped, and that the implements were to be used in gardening or farming not in mining, and that the distribution was to be made in a manner approved by me.

I enclose two of these original lists for your information.

It is understood that these presents are not to be repeated, unless in special cases, unless in special cases, the Government should please to renew them.

I am Sir,

Your Obedt. Servant

(Sey)

Spelheit Malcolm Sproat

Commissioner

The Honourable

The Superintendent General

of Indian Affairs

Ottawa

Telegram

Chilliwack

15th April 1879

Reserves insufficient by ~~six or seven~~ ^{about one thousand} hundred acres at least proposed dykes do little good to reserves complete examination will take several weeks yet provincial assembly still in session about seven hundred Indians are concerned.

To Superintendent General } (Sg) Sproat
Ottawa }

Note. about delimit to operator Chilliwack. 9 a.m. 16th April 1879. S.S.

Indian Reserve Commission
In camp Chilliwack
1879 April 17

Sir/

I have received your letter of this date, on the subject of a petition respecting the sale of Indian lands at Louisa.

I am at present engaged at Chilliwack, and will be here for more than a week.

On arriving at Louisa I shall be pleased to have an opportunity of availing myself of any information which you may be good enough to give me in reference to the subject matter of your letter.

I am Sir

Yours Obedtly

(Sg) Gilbert M. Sproat
Commissioner

J. W. Miller & T. P.
Louisa.

Indian Reserve Commission
 British Columbia
 In camp Chilliwack
 18th April 1879.

Sir/

Having been directed by the Honourable
 The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs
 to make a report to him in all cases in which
 I do not receive replies, within a reasonable time,
 to letters addressed to your Department, on the
 business of the Indian Reserve Commission, I
 have the honour, following my letter to you of
 the 26th Nov. last, to enclose herewith a list
 of matters, which so far as is known to me,
 still await the decisive attention of the Provincial
 Government.

I have the honour to be
 Sir,

Your Obedt. Servant

(Sd) Gilbert Malcolm Sproat
 Commissioner.

The Hon.
 The Chief Comr.
 Lands & Works Victoria

Enclosure

Matters unattended to by the Provincial
 Government (See letter from the Indian Reserve
 Commissioner to the Honourable the Chief Com-
 missioner of Lands and Works 18 April 1879)

Case of Robert Hughes Chernavin,
 See letter of A. M. Kindlay and G. M.
 Sproat 21st April 1877 to the
 Hon. The Attorney General

Two years before
 the Rev. G. M. Sproat

Lumber privilege for the Le Shell Indians,
Yervis Inlet, see letter of G M Sprout
to Prov. Sec; dated Dec 1876, and
copy of Lemm's Journal page 13,
sent to the Prov. Secty:

27. Months before
the Prov. Secty:

Case of Cornelius Steefe Okanagan
brought before the Hon. The Attorney
General in January 1878 and in
letters of G M Sprout to Chief Comm^r
of Lands & Works in various letters
and Telegrams specially in letters
4 May 1878 and 5 March 1879

14. Months before
the Prov. Secty.

Irrigation Water Question, see
letter of G M Sprout to Prov. Secty 22
April 1878 and to the Chief Comm^r
of Lands 24 July 1878 (particularly
Field Minute enclosed in the latter)
and see other letters say to Prov. Secty
28 July 15 Aug 1878.

One year before
the Prov. Secty.

Case of water heard of the P. Parks
câche creek, see letter of G M Sprout
to the Hon. The Chief Commissioner
of Lands 28 July 1878.

8 Months before
the Prov. Secty.

Case of Chinamen who have intruded on Indian lands at Spaptsunsum flat Thompson River, see letter of G. M. Sprout to the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands with Field Minute 18th August 1878

8 Months before the Procl. for

Sale of portion of Indian Reserve at Cowichan, brought to notice of Hon Attorney General April 1878

One year before the Procl. for

Intrusion of Edw^d Saigenaw on Similkameen Reserve — acceptance of pre-emption deed for portion of Reserve — see letter G. M. Sprout to Chief Commr. of Lands 13 Feb 1879.

2 Months before the Procl. for

Sale by Procl. of a portion of principal portion of Osoyoos Reserve see letter G. M. Sprout to Chief Commr. of Lands March 9th April 1879

Conditional alienation of lands
at blinwhack &c to Mr Derby
without reference to Indian lands,
see Memorandum by J. M. Sproat
sent to Chief Commr of Lands
27th Jan 1879

3 months before
the Revol for

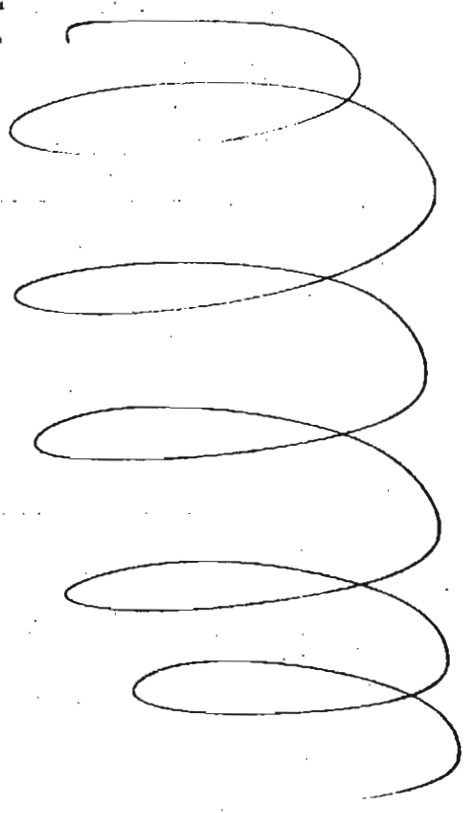
Policy of "making land and
water records" subject to Indian
requirements, until the Reserve
Commⁿ has passed - see letters
on this subject 28th July 1878 &c

9 months before
the Revol for

Powers required by Commissioner
for districts about to be visited
see letters from J. M. Sproat to
Chief Commr 3 June also 21st Oct 1878
and 17 March 1879

6 months before
the Revol for

Ac. Ac.



in the above letter, while I regret to say I have not been able to recognise any change in the attitude of the Provincial Government as regards inattention to Indian business.

Under this mixed policy of passive resistance and aggression I have an uneasy feeling as to what may be going on, and as to my being able to care suitably for the interests of the Dominion Government.

Tharettelou toke

Sir

Your Obedt Servant
(By) Gilbert Malcolm Sproat
Commissioner

The Honourable
The Superintendent General
Ottawa

Indian Reserve Commission
In camp Chulivhach
18th April 1879

Sir

I have received your letters of the 14th & 15th instant (2) and duly note contents, and thank you therefor.

Unless my calculations are wrong, or prices have largely risen since those stated in your estimate 6th Feb'y last (sent to Ottawa), the total cost (including axes), of the agricultural donations would, as per enclosed rough statement, be considerably under the authorised appropriation. I think it well to mention this.

The Indians had to come to Yale for their presents. They have ample means of transport.

J.

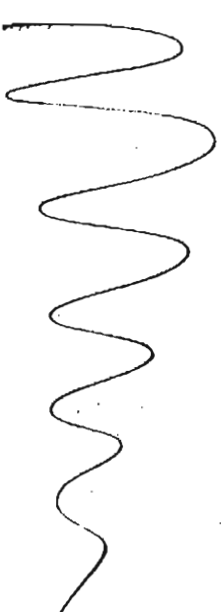
I am Sir
 Your Obedt Servant
 (By) G. M. Sproat

James Semkank
 Indian Superintendent
 New Westminster

Enclosure

British Columbia
 Fraser Superintendency documents
 April 1879

No	Supplements	#	cts	#	cts	No	Supplements	#	cts	#	cts
	<u>Spuygum</u>						<u>Brought forward</u>			113	68
2	Scythes and snaths @ 28 th boy	4	66			2	Scythes with snaths @ 28 th boy	4	66		
6	Shovels @ 17 th "	8	50			6	Shovels @ 17 th "	8	50		
7	Hoes @ 10 th "	6	12			7	Hoes @ 10 th "	6	12		
4	Mattocks @ 25 th "	8	33			4	Mattocks @ 25 th "	8	33		
2	Hand saws @ 30 th "	5	00			2	Hand saws @ 30 th "	5	00		
2	Augers @ 15 th each	3	00			1	Auger @ 15 th each	1	50		
4	Hakes @ 12 th boy	4	00			3	Hakes @ 12 th boy	3	00		
3	Hay forks @ 9 th "	2	37			3	Hay forks @ 9 th "	2	37		
7	Handled Chop Axes @ 21 th "	12	25			6	Handled Chop Axes @ 21 th "	10	50		
1	Granestone 28 lb @ 4 th lb	1	12			1	Granestone 28 lb @ 4 th lb	1	12		
1	Shingle frow @ 15 th each	1	50	56	85	1	Shingle frow @ 15 th each	1	50	52	60
2	<u>Boston Bar</u> Scythes and snaths @ 28 th boy	4	66			2	<u>Riska and Kanake flat</u> Scythes and snaths @ 28 th boy	4	66		
6	Shovels @ 17 th "	8	50			4	Shovels @ 17 th "	5	66		
6	Hoes @ 10 th "	5	25			4	Hoes @ 10 th "	3	50		
4	Mattocks @ 25 th "	8	33			2	Mattocks @ 25 th "	4	16		
2	Hand saws @ 30 th "	5	00			2	Hand saws @ 30 th "	5	10		
1	Auger @ 15 th each	1	50			1	Auger @ 15 th each	1	50		
4	Hakes @ 12 th boy	4	00			2	Hakes @ 12 th boy	2	00		
3	Hay forks @ 9 th "	2	37			2	Hay forks @ 9 th "	1	58		
8	Handled Chop Axes @ 21 th "	14	60			4	Handled Chop Axes @ 21 th "	7	00		
1	Granestone 28 lb @ 4 th lb	1	12			1	Granestone 28 lb @ 4 th lb	1	12		
1	Shingle frow @ 15 th each	1	50	56	23	1	Shingle frow @ 15 th each	1	50	37	68
	Carried forward			113	68		Carried forward			203	26

No.	Inplements	\$	Cts	\$	Cts
Brought forward <u>Sydney group</u>				203	36
i.e. Skuppah - Sydney & Nicomen					
7	Scythes and snaths	@ 28" doz.	16	33	
13	Shovels	@ 17" "	18	42	
6	Mattocks	@ 25" "	12	50	
2	Handsaws	@ 30" "	5	00	
6	Rakes	@ 12" "	6	00	
8	Hayforks	@ 9.50 "	6	33	
11	Handled chopping axes	@ 21" "	19	25	
3	fundstones 28 lbs. each	@ 11" each	3	37	
2	Shingle power	@ 1.50 each	3	00	90
General use				293	56
2	Ploughs	@ 32.50 each	65	00	
2	Sets Harness	@ 30 " "	60	00	
2	Cut saws (one long 7 1/2 ft. preshat 6 ft @ 1.25 ft)		15	78	
Present to Spentium Sydney Chief)			25	00	165
				458	74
Freigh on Inplements to & all from New Westminster }					
					

Indian Reserve Commission
 In camp Chilliwhack
 18th April 1879

Arranged rally and
 Buildings removed from the
 Reserve on the 22nd April 1879.

Sir/ I beg leave respectfully to state to you that the Indians complain that you have trespassed on the Shingah Reserve by having built a shop and shed thereon, which have been there for about 34 years. The Indians being desirous of fencing their Reserve have requested me to take steps to terminate your trespass, and I accordingly request you to remove the shop and shed forthwith from the Indian lands, or it will be my duty to report you to the Department as a trespasser. A small portion of your buildings appears to be on Mr Kipp's Lot 30 but the principal portion is on the Indian Reserve.

I am Sir

Your Obedt Servant

Wm Gilbert Malcolm Sproat
 Commissioner

Samuel Green Esq
 Chilliwhack

Indian Reserve Commission
 In camp Chilliwhack
 April 19th 1879

Gentlemen/

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 17th inst, making representation with respect to one of the Indian Reserves at Matsqui. I propose to visit Matsqui after leaving Sumass, and on arrival there will have an opportunity of hearing any views which the settlers and the Indians may wish to express relative to the Reserves in that District.

Wm Gilbert Malcolm Sproat
 Matsqui

I am Sir
 Wm Sproat

Indian Reserve Commission
 British Columbia
 Su Camp
 Chillowhack

21st April 1879

Sir / Survey Branch

Following my letter under this head dated 25th Feb last, I have now to point out that the proceedings of the Provincial Government, will I fear prevent the realisation this year of what I hoped might have been possible, namely, the survey, and final adjustment, and transfer of the Indian lands in the southern interior of the Province down to the boundary line.

The continued delay in settling the O'Keefe question at the head of Okanagan Lake - the sale of the most valuable portion of the Osoyoos Lake reserve and the inaction of the Govt as to Mr Daigneau's intrusion on the Similkameen Reserve (which latter has now been terminated by Mr Daigneau's withdrawal) will have the effect of preventing surveys being undertaken within over 100 miles from the frontier.

The only reserve in the above region that could be surveyed would be that at Peupieton (South end of Okanagan Lake), but to visit that reserve alone for the purpose of surveying it would cause an expenditure for transport and also an amount of time to be occupied that would be disproportionate to the advantage of having that single reserve surveyed.

The above fact, and the embarrassing effect of the non-adjustment of the irrigating water question on part of the Thompson and Fraser River Reserves, may raise the question whether two

Survey

Survey parties can be advantageously employed in the coming season.

Fragmentary surveys are likely to cause needless expense, and they might also confuse the minds of the Indians.

It might be found possible to employ two parties, but the matter will require some consideration, under the above circumstances.

Postponement of surveys which is one result of the proceedings of the Prool Govt means of course the postponement of the time when the Dowry Govt can effectually take charge of the Indian's lands.

I am Sir

Your Obedt Servant

(Sd) Gilbert Malcolm Sproat

Commissioner

The Hon:

The Superintendent General
of Indian Affairs
Ottawa

Indian Reserve Commission
British Columbia
In camp Shillowhock
1879 21st April

Sir/

Water for irrigating
Indian Lands.

I hope you will not consider that I too often refer to this vital question.

I do so from this place because my camp was scarcely pitched here, when Indian delegates came to it from a distance of more than 100 miles to ask me, again,

what is being done in the matter.

They were respectful, but evidently are very sore that another spring, that is, another year should pass without any adjustment being made.

I could only again say to them that it was a difficult question, that I deeply regretted that they might still have to wait; that they must believe in the goodwill of the Queen and so forth.

I have said thus to so many, and on so many different occasions, that I feel considerably ashamed of what I feel bound to say, particularly with my knowledge that as far as the Provincial Govt. is concerned, the adjustment has not advanced a step, but is where it was a year ago.

It is hardly possible that such a question can be left unattended to much longer.

If the Provincial Government, with the knowledge which they presumably have of the bearings of the question in reference to Provincial Laws and regulations, would do or say something — would give only a little help — it is possible that in some cases a suitable compromise might be effected, and some rules laid down to meet unexamined cases, without any necessity for the Dominion Govt. being forced to consider what decisive action the whole case requires on their part, but as long as a baffling policy of complete inaction exists, it would appear difficult for the Dominion Govt. to know what to do, or what not to do.

That the Indians must have water for their lands in those portions of the Country where crops cannot be raised without irrigation is too plain a fact to require any comment, and it might also be said that after 8 years have passed since Confederation, they cannot be

be blamed if they respectfully urge an early settlement of what to them is so important.

I am Sir
Your Obedt Servant
(Sg) Gilbert Malcolm Sproat
Commissioner

The Hon:
The Superintendent General
of Indian Affairs
Ottawa

Indian Res. Comm^{rs}
The Camp Hilliwhack
1879 21st April

Sir/
I have to thank you for your letter as to the wishes of the Indians in your District respecting their lands.

I delayed replying in the hope that I could inform you definitely as to my movements during this season, but I am sorry still to be unable to give you this information.

I know how anxious the Indians are.

The cause of my not at once starting further up the Country is beyond my control, or that of the Canadian Govt. I shall be glad if it is soon removed, and if I should be enabled to advise you of my coming to your district

I am Sir
Your Obedt Servant
(Sg) Gilbert Malcolm Sproat
Commissioner

W. Louis Meason Esq JP
Lesser Dog Creek

Indian Reserve
The Campbellhook
Fraser River
1879 25th April

Sir
I am very sorry to state that I cannot yet say whether I shall be able to visit Williams Lake to adjust the land questions of the Indians during the present season.

I greatly wish to do so.

The cause of my inability is not my fault nor that of the Canadian Gov^t. I hope it may be soon removed but all this Indian land business is very uphill work.

I will let you know as soon as I can my way to visit Williams Lake.

I delayed replying to your letter in the hope that when I did write I might be able to give you definite news, which I am sorry I cannot yet do.

I am Sir

Yours faithfully

Sgt Gilbert M Sproat
Commissioner

The Revd

Father McQueen
Williams Lake

I send copy of this to St Mary's Mission where I am told you perhaps may now be.

The Revd

Father McQueen
of Williams Lake.

Ind Resv. Comm^r

The Camp Campbellhook

1879 21 April

Sir

I hereto annex copy of my letter of this date addressed to you at Williams Lake.

Yours truly

Sgt Gilbert Malcolm Sproat
Commissioner

St Mary's Mission
Fraser River

Indian Reserve Commission
 In camp Chilliwhack
 1879. Apl 21

Sir / I have to thank you for your letter of
 the 17th relative to Dominion lands near New
 Westminster.

I am Sir

Your Obedt servant
 Gilbert Malcolm Sproat
 Comm^r

W M Pearce
 Public Works Dept
 Victoria
 B.C.

Indian Reserve Commission
 Chilliwhack In camp
 April 21st 1879

Sir / I have to acknowledge receipt of your
 letter of the 21st ult on the subject of the Douglas
 Lake Indians.

It is not possible for me to point out the boundaries
 of lands given to the Indians precisely, except in cases
 where the limits are of the nature of natural boundaries
 or fences placed on surveyed lines, I can only do this
 generally, leaving the precise lines to be determined
 by the surveyors.

I am expecting a letter from Ottawa,
 authorising the dispatch of surveyors to survey Indian
 lands during the present season, and I intend
 to endeavour to send a party to survey Chilliwhack's
 reserves among the first, owing to the importance
 of having a definite settlement with that Tribe.

I think this will be the best way.

At same time, I will write a letter for Chilliwhack
 to explain all matters fully to him, and to give

him advice.

I am Sir
Your Obedt Servant
By Gilbert Malcolm Sproat
Commsr.

John Mapperton Esq J.P.
Nicola Valley
B.C.

Indian Reserve Commission
In Camp Bullivhark
1879 21 Apr

Sir/

I have to thank you for your letter of 29th Ult.
I am expecting instructions from Ottawa relative
to the Indian Surveys for the coming season, and
on receipt thereof, probably I shall be able to know
in what districts the surveys will work.

I think Nicola Valley will be one of the first places
undertaken this year.

In instructing the surveyor, I shall give him some
latitude so long as no public nor individual interests
are affected

I am Sir
Your Obedt Servant
By Gilbert Malcolm Sproat
Commissioner

Paul J. Gillies Esq.
Nicola Valley
B.C.

Indian Reserve Commission
In Camp. Billivhach
1879 April 21st.

Sir/
I am obliged to you for your letter of the 20th Ult
I am well aware that the water question is a very
serious one in many places, both to the settlers and
to the Indians, and I have to inform you that
in all cases in which I have been unable to effect
a compromise, the question has become the subject
of correspondence between the two Governments
with a view to a final settlement.

Your case is one into which nothing has, as yet
been done and I hope it may not be necessary
to remove it from the category of cases that are found
not to be susceptible of compromise. I will commu-
nicate with you again on the subject: meantime ~~if~~
if you can, in this Spring Season, give the Indians
some water, it will not be considered to prejudice
any rights, which on examination you may be found
to have.

The question does not seem to me to be in your
case a large one - cannot you adjust it on the
spot?

I note that you have not stopped the Indians
from cutting timber on Crown lands:

I am obliged to you for a sight of your
original water record 20th July 1878, which I herewith
return.

I got copies of these from the Land Office.

I am Sir

Your obedient servant

Wm Gilbert Malcolm Approval

Commissioner

William Charters
Nicola Valley

Indian Reserve Commission
 British Columbia
 In camp Chilliwack
 1879 April 23.

Sir / I have received your letter of the 21st and in reply beg leave respectfully to ask your attention to my letter of the 15th Aug^r 1878, in which I informed you that the "Surveys of the reserves were not under my care".

I will send your letter to the officer in charge of the surveys.

I am Sir
 Your Obedt Servant
 (Sg) Gilbert Malcolm Sprout
 Commissioner

The Hon:

The Chief Commissioner
 of Lands and Works.
 British Columbia

Note: Mr. Gair's letter sent Mr. Gair 23/4/79.

See page 196

Memorandum for W. G. Muir - Esq. Victoria

Answers required to the following questions
re the sale of a portion of the Courcheam
Indian Reserve to Manner.

	Questions	Answers.
	1. Manner's name in full	1
	2. Number of acres sold	2
	3. Date of Certificate of purchase	3
	4. N ^o of Crown grant	4
	5. Date of Crown grant	5
	6. To whom delivered	6
	7. Date of delivery	7
Required.	8. Tracing in duplicate of plan attached to Crown grant required	8
	9. Copy of description of land set forth in Crown grant	9
	10. Exact copy of any documents attached to the Crown grant counterfoil - <u>except the</u> <u>certificate of purchase</u>	

Mr W. G. Muir will please obtain the above
information with the greatest accuracy and
fill the answers in the margin left above.

The grant referred to was issued in the latter
part of June 1878.

(Left by Special)

Shilliwack }
April 23^d, 1879 }

Indian Reserve Commission
In camp Chilliwhack
23 April 1879

Mr. Sproat will be obliged by permission
being granted to Mr. Pinder to examine and
copy documents connected with the Bowichan
Reserve.

The Hon:
The Chief Commissioner
of Lands and Works

Indian Reserve Commission
British Columbia
In camp Chilliwhack
1879 April 25th

Sir/ (Further sale of Indian Reserves
by the Provincial Govt.)

I am very sorry to have to inform you
that it has just come to my knowledge that
the Provincial Government sold a portion of the
Bowichan Reserve to Mr. Marnier last summer.

I will make a report to you on the
subject in due course.

I am Sir

Your Obedt Servant

(Sg) Gilbert Malcolm Sproat

The Honl:
The Superintendent General
of Indian Affairs
Ottawa.

Indian Reserve Commission
 British Columbia
 In camp Bullwhack
 1879 April 26.

Sir
 (Disaffection of Indians
 in Northern Interior)

In reference to my letters to you of 6th May }
 13 do } 1878

and 17th March 1879, I beg to enclose copy of a letter received today by me from Mr. Loring-Meason J. P. Williams date 21st April 1879, showing that the Indians in that District propose to take the settlement of the Land Question into their own hands.

I have sent to the Provincial Government copies of Mr. Loring Meason's letter and from time to time, of other communications received by me from that district during a year past.

I have asked that Government to take some steps to adjust the water question, and to give me the requisite authority to deal with land questions in the "Silloot" District and other portions of the Northern Interior, but they have not been able, so far, to attend to my request.

I am inclined to think that it might be a waste of Dominion Money for the Reserve Commission to visit many parts of the Northern interior without some understanding with the Provincial Government as to the irrigation water question which has been officially before that Government for a year past without receiving any attention.

If the outbreak takes place which Mr. Loring-Meason seems to think is possible, I presume it will be a

Copy of
 Mr Loring Meason's
 letter sent to
 Mr J. P. Williams
 see Vol. 307
 Book 3

matter, mainly of Provincial concern.

The Dominion Government, so far as represented by the Reserve Commission, have done everything that could be done in the matter.

I am Sir

Your obedient servant
 Hq/ Gilbert Malcolm Sproat
 Commissioner

The Honourable
 The Superintendent General
 of Indian Affairs
 Ottawa

Indian Reserve Commission
 British Columbia
 In Campbell River
 1879 26th April

Copy of Measum's letter sent here 30/4/79
 Measum's letter to S.P.
 Measum's letter to S.P.

Sir/

I beg to enclose copy of a letter just received from Mr. Sproat Measum S.P. dated 21st inst showing the discontent of the Indians in the Williams Lake District.

This subject has ^{been} brought to the notice of the Provincial Government on various occasions - see my letters of 6 and 13 May 1878 to the Hon: the Provincial Secretary, and to yourself; 23rd June 1878 and 20th March last.

The adjustment of the water question, which has been officially before the Provincial Government for about a year, is very closely connected with the work of the Reserve Commission in the Northern Interior.

I am Sir

Your Obedt Servant

Hq/ Gilbert Malcolm Sproat
 Commissioner

The Hon:
 The Chief Commissioner
 of Lands & Works
 Victoria

Indian Reserve Commission
 British Columbia
 In camp Chilliwack
 1879 April 26th

Sir/
 I have just received your letter of the 21st inst. My letter of that date, now on its way to you, will have informed you how matters stand, so far as the Dominion Government is concerned with Indian affairs at Williams Lake.

Any irregular action such as is proposed by the Indians would be primarily and mainly, the concern of the Provincial Government.

I have mentioned the matter to them.

I am Sir

Your Obedt Servant

By J. Gilbert Malcolm Proot
 Commr.

W. Loring Mason Esq

Williams Lake

Ble

Indian Reserve Commission
 British Columbia
 Chilliwack
 1879 April 26th

Sir/
 I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th instant, asking if about an acre of the Skul Kay^W Indian Reserve can be sold to you.

In reply I have to say that the Indian Reserves in this District are not yet assigned and it will be inexpedient to consider proposals for selling portions of the reserves until all questions connected with the Reserves are adjusted to the satisfaction of the Government.

Thames River Honour to be

Sir

Your obedient Servant
(By) Gilbert Malcolm Special
Commissioner

D. McMillan Esq
Whilliwack

Indian Reserve Commissioner
British Columbia
Whilliwack
1879 April 26th

Sir

Since my arrival here on business connected with the Indian reserves, several residents have asked me as to the course to be pursued when it is desired to acquire portions of Indian reserves for road purposes.

~~For reply~~ I think it may be convenient that I should state to you, as an officer of the Municipal Council what seems to me to be ^{the} procedure required in such cases.

In the first place, the licence in writing of the Superintendent General or his Deputy must be obtained, to avoid the heavy penalties for offences by trespassers on Indian Reserves (see sections 16 & 17 Indian Act 1876)

I am advised that this sanction is required whether the road is made by the Provincial Government, or by local authorities, but that in the case of the Provincial Government, the practical question is only as to the compensation to be paid. The method of adjusting this compensation is stated in the 20th clause of the Indian Act, of which for your convenience reference to it, I beg to enclose a copy.

It does not appear that a Municipality has any power to make roads through Reserves.

I imagine the proper course would be for the Council to represent their wishes ^{to} the Provincial

Government which would then communicate with the Superintendent General or his Agent upon the subject.

As regards Chilliwhack the Indian Reserves are not adjusted, and until they are so, it might not be expedient to propose to the Superintendent General that any portion of them should be sold, unless for some urgent public purpose.

I shall be glad as far as I am concerned, to help in promoting at the proper time, any object desired by the Council.

Yours truly

Sir

Your obedient servant

J. W. McMillan Esq. Clerk of the Municipal Council Chilliwhack

Gilbert Malcolm Sproat Commissioner

Indian Reserve Commissioner

British Columbia

Chilliwhack

1879 April 26th

Sir,
I shall be much obliged to you if you will have the goodness to let me see the license from the Superintendent General under which you have made a bridge and approaches, upon the Ah-Sa-hits Reserve.

I require this to include it in my general report upon the Indian Reserves at Chilliwhack

If I am absent, kindly give it to Mr. Farwell

I am Sir

Your obedient servant

J. Farwell Esq. Chilliwhack

Gilbert Malcolm Sproat Commissioner

New Westminster
April 25th 1879

Sir,

The Reserve Commissioner has sent to me Mr. Goad's letter of the 21st inst.

In reply I have to state that the work of plotting and mapping the surveys of Indian Reserves made last season by Capt. Gemmett and Mr. Green, is now well advanced and that no time will be lost in completing it.

I have the honor to be,

Sir

Your Obedt. Servant
J. J. Johnstone
Surveyor in Ch. S. R. S.

The Hon.

The Chief Commr. P. Works

Indian Reserve Commission
British Columbia

In Camp Chilliwack
1879 - 26 April

O'Keefe's matter
Head of Okanagan Lake

Sir,

I beg to enclose copy of a letter from Williams, the chief of the Indians at the head of Okanagan Lake, complaining of the intrusion of Mr O'Keefe upon their land.

My last letter to you on this subject was dated 10th March last to which I respectfully crave reference.

I hardly know now, what answer to send to these Indians, having so often said the same thing to them.

I am under the necessity of upholding the character and authority of the Provincial Govt as well as the Government of Canada, in the minds of the Indians, and yet I feel that in continuing to assure these Okanagan Indians that the matter which they complain of is receiving effective attention, I am stating what is probably not quite true, so far as the Prov: Gov: is concerned.

I am Sir, &c &c
 Ed. G. M. Spruce, Com^{rs}

The Hon:

The Sup: Gen: of
 Indian Affairs - Ottawa

Indian Res Com^{rs}
 British Columbia

In Camp Okanogan
 26 April 1879.

Superintendency Donations

Sir,

In reference to my letter of the 13th inst: I learn from Mr. Lenihan that the \$542⁵⁰ will be required for the agricultural implements presented to certain tribes above Yale. He states that the retail prices have been raised by the Tariff, and that some distributing expenses will be incurred.

I mention this for the purpose of asking you to be good enough to notice that, but for the above circumstances, the articles indicated for by the Indian themselves, under the plan I adopted, would have cost about 25 percent less than the

unauthorised estimate, as they did not ask for as many implements as it was proposed to give them.

I am Sir &c &c

The Hon:

The Superintendent Genl.
of Indian Affairs - Ottawa

Sd,

J. M. Sproul - Comdr

Indian Res Commission
British Columbia

In Camp Chilliwack
26 April 1879.

Sir,

In reference to my letter of 15th March last and your reply of the 7th inst, No 7571, I have paid Mr. Anderson one half of the account rendered, of \$20⁰⁰ instead of \$40⁰⁰, and he has accepted that adjustment.

I am Sir &c &c

Sd,

J. M. Sproul - Comdr

The Hon:

The Sup^d: Genl. of
Indian Affairs - Ottawa

Indian Res Com^{dn}
British Columbia

In Camp Seumas
1st May 1879.

Further Sale of
Indian Res. Lands by the Provincial Govt

Sir,

I reported to you in my letter of the 9th April 1879 the sale by the Prov. Govt of 424.5 acres of the Okezoos Reserve to Mr. J. C. Haynes, and in

the same letter I alluded to a former letter of mine dated 26th April 1878 in which I advised the Department that the Prov. Gov^t had sold 200 acres or thereabouts of the Cowichan Indian Reserve to Mr. Wm. Sutton.

It has lately come to my knowledge that the Provincial Gov^t on the 26th June 1878, sold another portion, namely 4 acres, of the Cowichan Indian Reserve to Mr. Edward Morrison, and issued a Crown Grant therefor.

The whole Cowichan Reserve was assigned by the Indians Res. Comm^r (on which the Prov. Gov^t had its special representative) in February 1877 and due notification made to both Governments.

It is to be regretted that the sale has been made without a proper understanding between the two Governments, for though the acreage is small the matter is important for several reasons.

The piece of land which has been sold was the subject of repeated conversations between myself and the several members of the Prov. Gov^t.

On the 26th Jan^y 1878 I delivered to the Attorney General a memorandum thereon and subsequently on the 23 Feb^y 1878 wrote a letter to the Attorney General showing how the matter stood, so far as I could judge of it.

I very carefully considered what course would meet all the circumstances without any harshness.

Mr. Morrison obtained permission many years ago to occupy 2 acres of the Reserve, but the land remained a portion of the Reserve.

The following papers explain the matter.

- (1) Letter Henry Morrison to the Surveyor General

20 July 1863.

- (2) Letter B. W. Pearce acting Surveyor General to the Colonial Secretary (reporting on Mr. Harriner's letter) 28 August 1863.
- (3) Letter W. A. G. Young Colonial Secretary to B. W. Pearce acting Surveyor General stating the erroneous decision 5 March 1864.
- (4) Memorandum delivered by G. M. Sprout Indian Reserve Commissioner to the Attorney General during conversation re Harriner's case 28 Jan 1878.
- (5) Letter G. M. Sprout to the attorney 23 Feb 1878.
- (6) Letter Edward Harriner to Chief Com^r of Lands & Works 1 Feb 1878.
- (7) Transfer of Interest Henry Harriner to E. Harriner 1 Feb 1878.
- (8) Mr. Sprout's questions as to the facts and replies given at Land Office.
- (9) Sketch of the piece of land Section 2 (portion of) Range 2 Cowichan district.
- (10) Page 106 of Yellow Book showing Schedule of "leases promised" among which is one for this piece of land.

The effect of this sale, of which I presume the Indians know nothing, is to put the Canadian Gov^t in an unsatisfactory position by to some extent connecting the Indian Department with the long history of arbitrary action and broken

promises on the part of successive Governments in regard to the Indians of Cowichan.

Into that history the Com^{rs} for prudential reasons, refused to go when discussing Cowichan land matters with the Indians, and in answer to the repeated complaints of Indians, desired them to produce their 1869 Map (when the reserve was last cut down) and said to them "this is what we must go upon; "earlier matters however lamentable must be "allowed to sleep".

The Indians were much dissatisfied, but we insisted on that map.

The piece of land sold to Mr. Marriner is written on that Map, and well known to the Indians as written in it, and the Indian Department, if this sale holds, has to go to the Indians and say, in fact - "we reduce your area; we continue" "the cutting and carving practised by former" "Governments".

There are about 800 Indians and every person in the village would know and resent such an act. There already are questions at Cowichan of a grave character, though not questions with which the Department is concerned, and it will be most undesirable to add to them.

Mr. Marriner is an excellent man, and in proposing that, with the consent of the Indians, the Department might give him a long lease, it went as far as it seemed to me possible to go without embarrassing the Department with these Indians.

I beg reference to a long Memo. on the history of the Cowichan Reserve sent to Ottawa by me in the spring of 1878. This will show that the question is not the extent of the land sold, so much as the effect of the return to the cutting and carving of the lands

assigned to the Indians.

~~Some~~ matter so interesting to the Departments, and which I had taken pains to clear up and to suggest a good method of adjusting I should have been glad to have received some information from the Prov. Gov. of their intended action.

There seems to be little doubt that the intention of the Colonial Govt was ^{not to sell but} to permit Mr. Marriner to occupy the pieces of land perhaps under lease. The land as above said, is within the 1869 Map given as a final map to the Indians, it is scheduled by the Land Office as the subject of a promised lease, and you will observe that Henry Marriner in transferring his interest to his brother Edward (see above paper numbered 7) describes himself as a holder of a portion of Indian Reserve.

Apart from the main question of ~~selling~~ ^{selling} the land there are I may remark some irregularities in the transaction.

The original licence was to Henry Marriner and I do not think that he could under the Land Ordinance 1870 transfer his interest effectually to Edward in the way followed, or in any way.

The licence (Governor's decision March 5. 1864) was for 2 acres to Henry Marriner - The Prov. Govt. had sold 4 acres to Edward Marriner.

I do not find anything to afford a colorable explanation of selling 4 acres. If 4 - why not 40 acres?

It may possibly occur to you that it was a pity that the Commissioners did not cut this small portion off when at Cowichan, and so end the question. I have explained above why this could not be done.

The least we could do for the Indians was to give them the area in their 1869 Map.

The field

of land in question is within a few hundred yards of the other piece of land which is the subject of the "Hods' dispute". The Prov. Govt. acting on the reduction of the reserve in 1869, that is on the 1869 Map, issued a Crown Grant to Mr Hods. The Indians have occupied the lands of Mr Hods, and we said to them "you are wrong; that land is not on your 1869 Map".

It is obvious that we could not turn round and say to the same Indians, of another piece of land close to them - Inarriens to wit - "this piece we are going to cut off, though it is on your 1869 Map".

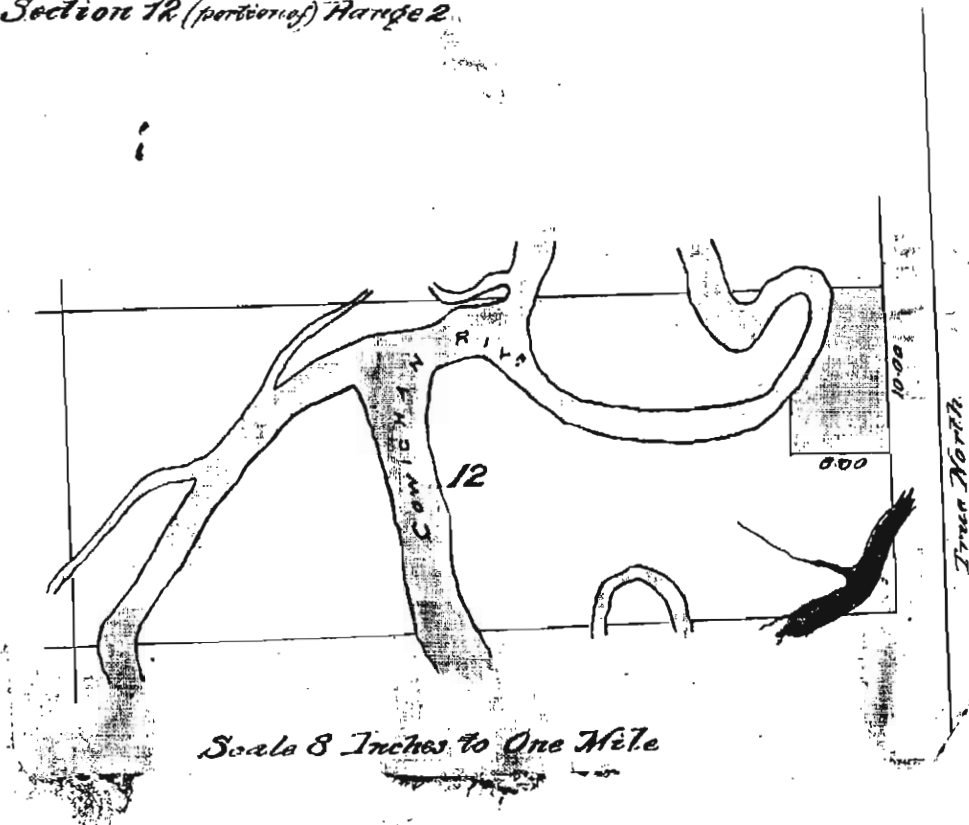
It was necessary to make these Indians feel, that if they could not get what they desired, and if the past could not be redressed, there was at least to be an end to arbitrary and inconsistent dealing with their lands.

I am Sir &c &c
 The Hon: Secy, G. M. Spruce Comr
 The Superintendent of Affairs
 No: 1863
 Indian Affairs Ottawa

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

COWICHAN District.

Section 12 (portion of) Range 2.



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The Hon;

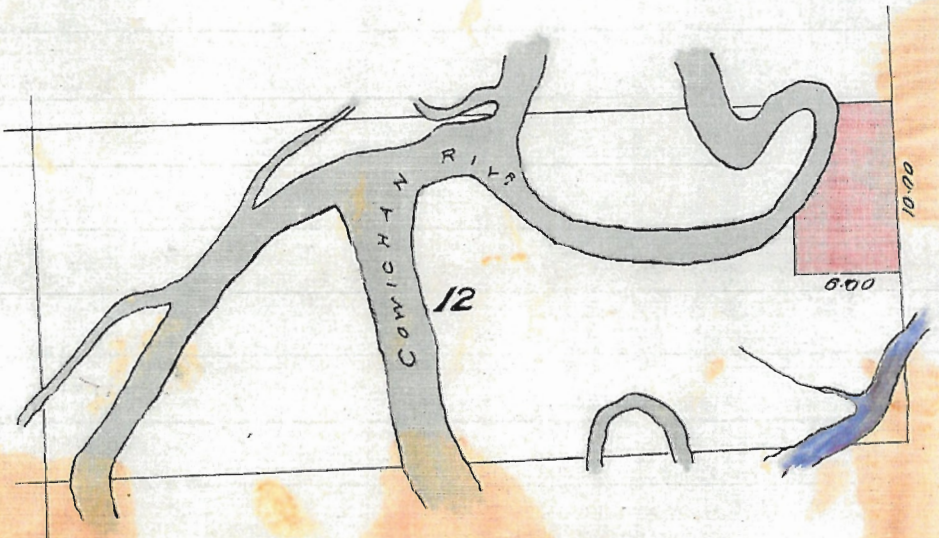
The Superintendent
Ind. Affairs Ottawa

I am Sir &c &c
Sd,
G. M. Spruce Esq.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

COWICHAN District.

Section 12 (part of) Range 2



Scale 8 Inches to One Mile

Indian Res. Commission
British Columbia

In Camp Chilliwack
1st May 1879

Sir,

Referring to several conversations which I had with you about a year ago respecting a portion of the Cowichan Indian Reserve which you wished to obtain possession of under a licence to occupy 2 acres, granted to Mr. Henry Harrison in 1864, it has accidentally come to my knowledge that you have purchased 4 acres of the Indian Reserve (including the above two acres) from the Provincial Gov^t on the 24th June 1878.

You are aware that it is not in the power of the Provincial Gov^t to sell lands assigned to the Dominion Gov^t for Indians, and that any grant purporting to convey such lands is invalid.

Under these circumstances, my duty has been to make a report on the case to the Dominion Gov^t. This was not done sooner, as I hoped that the advice which I ventured to offer and which was based on a full appreciation of your position and all the circumstances of the case, might have been followed, to your advantage.

Edw. Harrison Esq.
Cowichan

Sd

I am Sir &c &c &c
G. M. Spruce Com^{dr}

Indian Res. Com^{dr}
British Columbia

In Camp Sumass
2 May 1879

Sir,

The enclosed "Act to protect Winter Stock Ranges" which has just been passed in the House

of Assembly of the Province seems to me to require consideration by the Indian Dept. before the Act is left to its operation.

It refers to the part of the Province which lies "North and East of the Cascade Range" of mountains on the mainland.

The stock raising character of this region is described in my printed "Memorandum on Indian Reserves in the district of Yale" herewith sent for your information - see particularly pages 1 to 7.

You will notice that the stock farmers have been in the habit of using the public domain in the neighbourhood of their homesteads and farms.

The "Breeding Stock Act 1874" states that "the bona fide proprietor of any cattle being a bona fide settler or resident in British Columbia shall have the right of depasturing such cattle on the public or Crown lands"

The Act to protect winter stock ranges has, I think, had its origin in the objections of bona fide ^{resident} settlers in certain localities to the practice of persons in other - sometimes distant - localities (some of whom are bona fide settlers but others simply owners of cattle and sheep) in driving their herds and flocks to graze upon the winter ranges habitually used by the persons making the objections.

It is also hoped that its effect will be useful in restraining the overpasturage of winter ranges in general.

The Board of Overseers which may be constituted under the Act will be empowered to make bylaws for regulating the depasturing of stock on "lands unenclosed by a lawful fence"

This means the greater portion of a most extensive area, as the proportion of fenced

lands in the region affected by the Act is now, and always will be small.

The Indian Land question "North and East" of the Cascade Range of Mountains is only partly adjusted.

Within the area examined by the Reserve Commission serious questions respecting portions of land and also water for irrigation have been awaiting the action of the Provincial Govt for a long time.

Outside that area, in the extensive country in the interior and towards the north of the mainland, not yet visited by the Reserve Commission, the Indian land question cannot be regarded as being in a satisfactory state. I have no personal knowledge of the facts, but it is known that some of the tribes have no reserves and that others are dissatisfied with the existing Reserves.

My letter to you of the 26 April last informed you that some of the tribes had in that month given formal notice to a resident Magistrate of their intention to take the settlement of the Land question into their own hands.

It seems to be a most grave matter, under these circumstances, to pass an Act giving large powers to a local board, which in their exercise, could hardly fail to affect the Indians.

It is not necessary to assume, or to suggest that the action of such board would be intentionally oppressive, but it may be expected that as representatives of their constituents (among whom the Indians are not included) they will do what men generally do in such a position.

The board will represent the owners of oxen - The Indian stock, at present, unfortunately consists mainly of horses, many of which it must be said are hardly worth the grass they consume, though

in some parts of the country the Indians eat them. The bylaws of the board would be in the interests of the owners of oxen, without reference to the owners of sheep, or to the Indians.

If the Indian land question were finally adjusted within the region affected by the Act, and the Indians were fully represented on the board, the arrangement might be less objectionable, as protection is required for winter ranges, but I am afraid it must be considered that the passing of the Act is premature, and that it is defective as making no provision for the representation of the Indians on the board by their own delegates or their guardians.

I should fear that, at present, the Indians might say "some of us" "have no farming land now winter, some have too little of either; you have been promising for 6 or 7 years to give us what we need, but without having done so, you give a few white men the power of choosing for themselves the best winter ranges, and, by a bylaw directed say against horses; shut^{us} out from these ranges under pain of fine and imprisonment."

The above might ^{be} said in the large portion of the country not yet examined by the Commission. In the part already examined by the Commission and where Reserves have been laid out, I think it likely, owing to the popular notions on the subject, that the bylaws of a board would be framed on the assumption that Indian stock have to be confined to the reserves.

I do not understand this to be the policy of the Dominion Gov^t with respect to the Indians.

The reserve is to

the Indian what his prescription is to the white settler.

Advantages in grazing given to the public on the public domain, ought to be enjoyed by the Indians as well as by the white settler, I do not know if it is competent for the Provincial Legislature to shut Indians out from advantages offered to the public in general. They have retrained and practically nullified his right of prescription, but perhaps they could not debar him from acquiring land by purchase. These are legal questions. I merely point out that in practice I think the by-laws of the board would have the effect of confining Indian stock to the reserves, as far as penalties could produce that effect.

It is hardly possible to prevent cattle and horses in this country from going to places which they have selected for shelter and convenience and become accustomed to.

The justices of the peace in the East Cascade region are cattle owners with scarcely an exception.

The Honourable
The Secy Gen. of
Indian Affairs. Ottawa

Jani Ser. & Co.
St. George's Bay

Indian Co. Com^{rs}

In Camp Sumas
2nd May 1879

Sir,

In reference to my letter of the 23 Feb 1878 to the Attorney General on the subject of a claim made by Mr. Henry Morrison to two acres of the Cowichan Indian Reserve, it appears that on the 24th June 1878 the Prov. Gov. sold 4 acres of that reserve to Mr. Edward Morrison. a sale which included, I presume,

the 2 acres claimed, as above said, by Mr Henry
Marriner.

This Indian Reserve has been
assigned and described to bock for 16 months
before the above sale. It therefore becomes necessary
for me to make a report on the case to the
Sup. Govt., and I shall be glad, in doing so,
to communicate any observations which you may
be pleased to make thereon for the information
of the Dominion Govt.

Mr. Marriner's case
has received much attention, and every effort was
being made to obtain a satisfactory adjustment
of it, which does not appear to have been reached
by the state of affairs now found to exist.

I am Sir etc &c
The Hon. John A. Sproat Comr.
The Chief Comr.
Lands & Works Victoria

Indian Res Commission

Victoria B.C. 10 April 1879

Dear Sir,

In reference to the Comox old Reserve please investigate
the matter thoroughly at Victoria and report on the same, giving
up for your board and pay to Mr B. Kinsley including
passage back to Cowichan.

A Green Comr.

Yours etc. John A. Sproat

John A. Sproat

Victoria B.C. 10 April 1879

Sir,

You will oblige by letting Mr. Green make some
examinations relative to the Comox Reserve

The Hon. John A. Sproat
Lands & Works Victoria

Chas. B. Sproat
S. J. Sproat

Indian Res. Commission
British Columbia

In Camp Chickadee and
 Somers 5 May 1879

Sir

I lay to enclose in duplicate account and vouchers for the month of March, showing a balance in hand at the end of that month of \$1166²⁵ which agrees with the bank balance.

During April the Commission was only on full field expenditures for 27 days, as accounts when rendered will show, and the expenditures will therefore not much exceed the above balance.

For the current month funds are required as usual.

In undertaking work on the coast I will carefully study the cheapest mode of transport consistent with due progress, and advise you as to what seems best, considering the seasons and the places to be visited.

I have been reflecting a good deal on the question of surveys on the coast, and will in a short time submit my views thereon.

I am Sir &c &c J. W. Stewart

Copy

Dr	<u>Cash</u>	<u>Copy</u>	Contra	Cr
1879			1879	
March	To Balance	441.25	March 31	By paid
3	Remittance for Ottawa by wire	1500.00		J. W. Stewart
				Field allow ^{ce} for the month of March
				775.00
				Balance 31 Mar.
				1166.25
		\$ 1941.25		\$ 1941.25
April 1	To Balance	\$ 1166.25		

New Westminster B.C. J. W. Stewart
 9th May 1879 Commissioner

Indian Res Commissions

In camp Chilliwack,
or Comox

5 May 1879.

Sir,

In reference to my letter of the 17 March now awaiting the pleasure of His Honor the Lieutenant Governor in Council I have the honour to inform you that it is the opinion of the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs that under existing circumstances I should proceed with the allotments of reserves on the Coast, leaving the work in the interior until the questions connected therewith, more particularly that of water for irrigating the reserves, have been the subject of discussion and arrangement between the Governments.

I therefore beg ~~you~~ you to obtain for me the necessary authority to adjust Indian questions respecting land upon the sea coasts of the mainland and outlying Islands, not yet examined by the Reserve Com^{rs}, and in view of the advancing season, I would respectfully solicit your early attention to this request.

I believe that the above instructions from the Supt. General are given because it is expected that better work can be done for the money on the coast than in the interior where the efficiency of the work of adjusting the reserves is liable, under present circumstances, to considerable interruption and consequent loss of money to the Dominion Gov^{ts} from the difficulty of settling important questions, such, for instance, as that of water for irrigation, without a more complete understanding between the two Governments.

The Provincial Government are necessarily better able to judge whether local circumstances not fully within the knowledge of the Supr. General, justify them in asking that the Reserve Commission should undertake work this season in any other quarter of the Province.

I am Sir &c

The Hon^r,

Sr, Sr M Sprout, Com^r

The Chief Com^r of
Lands & Works, Victoria

Indian Res Commission
British Columbia

In Camp Chilliwack
and Somass

Sir:

5 May 1879

I have received your letter of the 18 April instructing me to work on the coast instead of the interior, under present circumstances.

I beg to enclose copy of my letter of this date, upon this subject, to the Chief Com^r of Lands & Works.

The accounts of Indian feeling in the northern interior, are more serious than were within your knowledge on the 18 April and I therefore thought it well to mention to the Provincial Gov^t that your instructions to me were based on the information then before you.

I hope the Indians will remain quiet, but it is never safe to calculate too much upon their forbearance, and I have therefore deemed it prudent to place the matter in the above light before the Provincial Gov^t.

Provided there is no danger of an outbreak (and that, surely, is a Provincial

Government matter) in the interior; I certainly think that, under present circumstances, a better season's work can be done on the coast than in the interior where owing to water and other disputes, no satisfaction could in many parts be given, while the expense to the Canadian Govt would run on, all the same.

The Hon:
The Supt General
of Indian Affairs - Ottawa

I am Sir &c &c
S^r G M Sprout
Commissioner

Indian Museum Commission
In Camp Matogue
May 7th 1879

Sir
In reply to your letter of the 6th they respectfully to annex copy of my reply to Mr. Dainy Treason's letter of the 21st ultimo.

I am instructed by the Superintendent General to work this season upon the Coast, as the inaction of the Provincial Government in regard to the water question — — — embarrasses action in the interior.

I am Sir
Your Obedt Servant
S^r Gilbert M Sprout
Commissioner.

James Leitch Esq
Indian Superintendent
New Westminster

Telegram

8th May 1879

To Superintendent General Indian Affairs

Ottawa Canada

Mr. Derby the principal in the Dyking scheme has agreed in writing not to set up any claim under Dyking Act to lands which I may assign to Indians and therefore begs that Dominion Government will not disallow Act - Provincial Government has done nothing. I therefore submit the above method of adjustment

(Sgt) Sprout
Matqui

Sent to office at Matqui }
2.20 p.m. May 8th 1879. }

British Columbia

Indian Reserve Commission

In camp Hellbuck

9th May 1879

Sir,

The question of roads in connection with the Indian Reserves in this Municipality presents some features of interest, both to the Indians and the white residents, and I am desirous, in adjusting the reserves, to make arrangements that shall be satisfactory to all.

Pending this adjustment I have the honour to request that you will be good enough to give me an opportunity of stating how any proposed roads may affect reserves so that the matter may, if possible be settled by me on the spot, or referred to the Superintendent General in case of any difficulty, which however I do not anticipate. Roads appear to have been made through reserves here since Confederation both by the Government and by private persons without any communication with the Indian Department, and as the reserves are now in process of adjustment and subdivision into portions which will be

held by individual Indians, you can understand the necessity for consideration lest these individual holders of allotments sustain injury.

It is of small consequence, generally, to a settler that a road should be run through his large portion of land, but it is a serious matter if a road unnecessarily runs through an Indian village, or spoils the small allotment of an Indian farmer.

In pointing out the above to you, I am not proposing to recommend any action as regards the reserves in connection with roads that would not be for the public interest.

I wish merely to bring respectfully to your notice that the question of roads as they now affect Indian Reserves requires consideration, and communication with the Indian Department or with the Reserve Commissioner

I am Sir

Your obt. Servt.

(By Gilbert Malcolm Sprat
Commissioner

The Hon:

The Chief Commissioner
of Lands & Works
Victoria

Chilliwack

9th May 1879

My dear Mr Good/

I am still engaged at Sonass &c by order of the San. Govt and can hardly yet say what my movements ~~may~~ ^{will} be. Your letter of 30th Apl has come to hand and I thank you much for the information you give me; but you will be glad to know that you write under an entire misapprehension respecting the Indian Meeting.

I have very carefully abstained from any act or word that would lead the Indians to suppose that any day was forced, and have simply said I would let them

know in time, when I can meet them, which I have not yet been able to do. &c &c &c &c &c

Wm. J. B. Good & }
 & Co

(Sgt) G. Mc. Sproat -

Indian Reserve Commission
 British Columbia Newside
 1879 8th May

Gentlemen

I may save correspondence by and bye with the Dominion Government at a time when I may be absent in some remote part of the Province, and unable promptly to report upon matters referred to me, if you inform me now as to all reserves near or upon which your dykes may come, or with which your works may interfere in any way.

I can submit your intentions to the Indians and obtain their views thereon for communication to the Superintendent General with my own comments.

I am Gentlemen

Your Obedt Servant

(Sgt) Gilbert Malcolm Sproat
 Commissioner.

E. L. Derby & }
 C. B. Swad }
 Newside

Indian Reserve Commission
 British Columbia Newside.
 8th May 1879

Gentlemen

I have received your letter of to day on the subject of lands required for the Indians of Nipemung, Cheam, Chilliwack, Somass, Matsqui, and Whanoock, and agreeing that you will not set up any claim under the Somass Dyking Act, or any amendment thereof, to lands which I may assign to the Indians out of lands to which you are, or may become entitled under the above Act; in consideration of the Dominion

Government not exercising their power of disallowing the Act as inconsistent with the agreement between the two Governments respecting the Indian land question.

In reply I have to state that I have not fully examined the above reserves, but I enclose a statement of the lands that will be required, so far as I am able to judge, and in view of your heavy expenditure, and the fact that the Provincial Government have refused to help you in the matter, I will telegraph the offer which you make and the agreement you have come under, to the Dominion Government, upon your stating to me that your agreement refers to the lands mentioned in the statement, and that it will refer also to such lands as I may select for the adjustment of the reserves therein stated to be at present unexamined.

If you should assign your interest under the above Act to any person or persons you will be bound to give them copies of this correspondence and to notify them that the lands have been assigned to the Indians.

I am gentlemen

Your obedient servant

(Sd) Arthur Malcolin Sprout
Commissioner

L of Derby Esq }
C. B. Auld Esq }
Muirside }

See copy of
enclosure
Vol. 226
Book 3

The Camp Somers
10th May 1879

Dear Sir

I shall not require the house after
this month

Yours truly

(Sd) A. M. Sprout

A. W. Auld Esq }
New Westminster }

Indian Reserve Commissioner
The Camp, Sumas, Fraser River
May 12th 1879

Dear Sir/

I am today in receipt of your letter of the 1st and am sorry to say that the inaction of the Provincial Government in regard to Indian Affairs at the head of the Lake, continues to prevent my having the pleasure of giving any other reply to your letter than that given in mine to you of the 11th July 1878

I am yours truly
(sig) G. M. Sprout
Commissioner

Thos Greenhow Esq
Head of Okanagan Lake

Indian Reserve Commissioner
The Camp Sumas
Fraser River
1879. 12th May

Dear Sir/

In reply to your letter of the 6th I think I immediately replied to your letter of march - but cannot say positively until I again have access to my official records at New Westminster. I will then write you; meantime what I have to say is that nothing will be done until the question is fully examined and from what you state I do not anticipate that you need be anxious in respect to your land.

I am dear Sir
Yours truly
(sig) G. M. Sprout
Commissioner

G. M. Sprout
Commissioner

Indian Reserve Commission
In camp Sumass
1879 12th May

Sir/

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of Mr Gore's letter of the 7th Instant, and notice that the information in your possession relative to the discontent of the Indians in the Northern Interior agrees with that communicated by the Reserve Commission on the 6th and 13th May 1878 to the Honorable the Provincial Secretary, and to yourself on the 23rd June 1878, and 20th March and 26th April last.

I am awaiting the pleasure of His Hon; the Lieutenant Governor in Council in reference to the subject matter of my letters to you 17th March and 5th May last

I have the honour to be
Sir

Your Obedient Servant
(Signed) Gilbert Malcolm Sproat
Commissioner

The Honorable
The Chief Commissioner
of Lands and Works
Victoria

Indian Reserve Commission
British Columbia
In camp Sumass
1879 ~~April~~ ^{May} 12th

Sir/

(Survey Branch)

My last under this head was dated the 21st April, since which I have not been able to determine whether ~~and~~ two parties can be profitably employed.

I will soon be able, however, to do so on having before me all the "Instructions to Surveyors" (see my letter 25th Feb last) which are now nearly completed in the

amended method.

The probability of the Commission having to work on the coast this year suggests to me that the present is an opportune time for bringing to your notice for consideration a proposal which in regard to Coast Surveys (and perhaps by and by in regard to some part of the interior Surveys) would probably cause a large saving of money to the Government.

In this, as in the effective management of Indian business generally in this Province, transport is the main question in connection with expenditure.

The expense of Coast surveys, in the future, unless some change is made, will exceed that incurred by Mr Green last year, as the work will be carried on in places beyond the reach of public communications, where, consequently, a survey party must have independent means of transport, and if this means of transport is a schooner, or the hiring of canoes when possible, the cost to the Government in loss of time will be heavy.

It would therefore be desirable to utilise the means of transport of the Reserve Commission, while employed on the Coast, also for the coast surveys if this could be done without detaining either the Commission or the Survey party. Having studied this question when up the Coast in January last, and having since paid some attention to it, I think this can be done at all events my opinion is so strongly in favour of its feasibility that I do not hesitate to ask you to permit a trial of it. Surveys of course could not be done by means of Commission Transport in many parts of the Interior, where the Reserves are comparatively extensive and compact, necessitating a much longer stay at them by a Survey party than is required than is required as a rule by the Commission. The conditions are different on the coast with the exception of certain places. Owing to the mountainous nature of the country and the

numerous Inlets, the Reserves have to be numerous, small and detached. The time which a survey party would spend at many of these reserves would be less than would be spent in going to the real scene of work, unless the survey party had a steamer at command which would make the work very costly, if the whole cost of steam were charged to surveys.

The Coast tribes have what they call "their own country" well defined in their own minds. One tribe will have 6 or 8 settlements or places of resort; a considerable distance apart, in certain Inlets or portions of the Coast comprised within that country.

The Commissioner has certain things to do which take up a certain time - the census - speeches - explanations and replies - then visits to all the lands wanted, and, next, questions with white settlers, and finally a review of the whole question of the lands for the group of Indians concerned.

The surveyors however, need not wait until all this is done - for instance, the winter residence of the people can be at once surveyed for there can be no question as to that, and as I went along, I could decide on others that could be gone on with without waiting for the final decision as to all the reserves for the particular group. It is a question of organization and management; I think it can be done.

The fierce character of some of the Tribes on the Coast might lead to interruptions of survey work after a person having the authority of the Commissioner had finally left the locality. It is not every workman who would accompany a surveyor up the Coast without high pay, and, of course, interruption of work, should such occur, would mean increase of expense to the Department.

The Commissioner might be able to get these Indians to assist in what was being done, but a surveyor it is well known could not succeed in this, particularly if he went up the coast a considerable time after the visit of the Commissioner.

The book of the Commissioner could act generally for both, and in case of need a survey party could do without for

a day.

On the whole I think that, provided no person of a feeble type were employed, and each man understood that he had to do whatever was required of him, for the purposes of the Commission or the Survey party, the work could be done satisfactorily, and the expenditure on surveys would probably not be more than one half of what it would cost the Government, if the work were otherwise prosecuted.

My impression is that the surveys on the parts of the Coast I mean would cost from \$25 to \$30 a day if independently undertaken.

I will undertake it on trial, for \$15⁰⁰ a day in addition to the expenses of the Commission, and inform you, should my anticipations in regard either to efficiency and economy be found not to be capable of realization.

I mention this, at the present time in view of undertaking work soon on the coast, as the operations of the surveys should begin with those of the Commission so as to make the same means of Transport available from the first.

I would respectfully beg, in undertaking work which would require the combined spirit and energy of all employed in the service, that I might nominate the principal persons for your approval.

I am Sir

Your Obedt Servant

Wm Gilbert Malcolm Sproat
Commissioner

The Honourable

The Superintendent General
of Indian Affairs
Ottawa

British Columbia
 Indian Commissioner
 In camp, Kamass

1879 May 12th

(Discontent of Indians in
 Northern Interior)

Sir

Following my letter on this subject dated the 5th instant, I have the honor to enclose copy of the reply of the Chief Commissioner of Lands to my letter to him of the 5th instant, of which in my above letter to you I enclosed a copy.

I have also to enclose a copy of my letter of this date to the Chief Commissioner on the same subject.

You will notice that the Provincial Government appear to be aware of the discontent that prevails in the Northern Interior, but they have not yet given me authority to work there, nor as far as I know have they taken any steps to adjust water questions, which would to some extent embarrass the action of the Commissioner there, as elsewhere even had I authority to deal with the lands.

They are not able to say whether the proposal to work on the Coast is good or not.

I trouble you with continuous correspondence on this subject, as in the event of so unfortunate a circumstance as a breach of the peace, which some well informed persons deem likely to take place, you may wish to have full information with respect to it.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your Obedt servant

Wm Gilbert Malcolm Sproat
 Commissioner

The Hon:

The Superintendent General
 of Indian Affairs
 Ottawa

J. M. C.

Camp 1879 May 13th

Dear Sir/

Please say by bearer how the matter referred to
in yours of 17th April and my reply of same date now
stands

Yours truly

(Sig) G. M. Sproat

J. W. Mullins
Sumass

J. M. C.

Camp 1879 May 13

Dear Sir/

Please say by bearer whether you still wish
the matter of the road and landing through the Reserve
near Millen gone into.

I am shifting Camp to Nicomen Slough
I may do early to-morrow, but I could cross the river
if necessary when convenient if the question is now in
such a shape that I could deal with it.

Yours be

(Sig) G. M. Sproat

W. Bhadrey
Sumass

Indian Reserve Commission

In Camp Bellwack

1879 April 13th

Dear Sir/

I have received your letter of 11th April, and beg to inform you
that I have sent it to the Government of Canada. Be assured that
your complaint refers to a matter which has not been, and will not be,
lost sight of. I have done all I could in reference to it, and the Govt- of
Canada will try to get a settlement that will do justice to the Indians

William
Chief of Okanagan Indians
Head of Lake
Cameo. P. Good for Kanaran

Merran's patient - Your friend
Sig Gilbert Malcolm Sproat
born in Sumass

Indian Reserve Commission
 British Columbia
 In Camp-bean
 Fraser River
 17th May 1879

Sir/ (Marriner's case at
 Courcham Vancouver Island)

In mentioning this case in my letter of the 1st inst, I referred to the "1869 Map" as a very important one.

The enclosed copy of Mr. Fritche's letter 15th July 1869 to the local Magistrate at Courcham, Mr. Morley, shows the light in which that map was regarded by the then Government of British Columbia.

I am Sir

Your Obedt Servant

(Sgd) Gilbert Malcolm Sprat
 Commissioner

The Honourable
 The Superintendent General
 of Indian Affairs
 Ottawa Canada

Enclosure

See Printed papers connected with the Indian Land
 Question 1850-1875- British Columbia page 62.

In your reply refer to
 No. 12835

Sir/

Copy to letter
 Answer to letter - see
 4th 5th April - see
 4th 5th April 1879
 1300 K³

Ottawa April 26th 1879

I am in receipt of your letter of the 5th instant, asking what kind of conveyance will be required from the Provincial Government to the Dominion Government, of the Indian Reserves in British Columbia, set apart by the Indian Reserve Commission. In reply I have to inform you that this Department is advised that

Letters Patent conveying each of the Reserves should be issued by the Provincial Govt. to the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs in Trust for the band of Indians for which the same has been set apart.

With regard to the areas of grazing lands which you state have been assigned in some places for the common use of Whites and Indians, they should be set apart by order of the Lieut-Governor in Council for the object for which the same have been allotted.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Yr Obedient Servant
J. H. Campbell
New Westminster B.C.

Your Obedient Servant
Lieut. L. Van Koughnet
Dept. Sup^{nt} Genl of Ind^{ian} Aff^{airs}

J. H. Campbell. Cheque.
17. May. 78.

Sir

In reference to the enclosed copy of your notice of a road in Chilliwack Municipality dated 10 May 1878. you will oblige me by stating whether the road which is gazetted will affect any Indian reserves and if so, which reserves, and to what extent.

Yours truly
(3) J. H. Campbell

A. S. Farmington
Camp.

see letter
 Jolin's 216
 Book 3.

A. B. C. S. Co.

Memorandum enclosed in letter by Mr Sproul to Messrs Derby & Swind 8th May 1879, showing approximately the lands required for Indians.

Thatoqui

The present Reserve on left bank of the Fraser to be extended south to north boundary of section 6. 7. 17 and West to the line between T. 14 and 17. The Islands in the Fraser in T. 17 and in eastern portion of T. 14 to be given to the Indians. Messrs Derby & Swind to keep the dyke which goes through the Reserve fenced.

The Reserve at McColines

Note - If the Indians agree to give up the McColines Reserve and the above one on the left bank of the Fraser, a new compact single Reserve to be given in lieu as may be agreed upon Upper Somass.

North half section of ^{see} 6. 7. 19 and about 160 acres to be added to the present Reserve if possible.

Lower Somass.

Compensation to timber on left bank of Somass River north from Kennedy's Claim to Chadsey's Slough. About 250 acres on right bank of Fraser near Saw Mc Donalds opposite mouth of Somass River.

Keowen and Squeam with Keowen Slough

A piece of cedar land in the Slough near Joe Lemke's claim say 50 acres.

About 100 acres immediately west of Squeam Village to include a small prairie.

A fishery, on a stream a little east of Bates farm.

About 250 acres on Keowen Slough west from a creek on right bank of the slough, which Creek flows in about 3/8th of a mile from the head of the third large Island from Harrison River

Miller's Landing

A piece say 75 acres immediately east of the Reserve

towards the Chilliwhack Mountain

Large Island opposite the Reserve, sand lake, or wharve
been under lease to Mr Fuller for grazing.

Chilliwhack

The Island Lot 289. west of Swiata Reserve - A
piece of land on Chilliwhack Mountain, immediately
west of Forsyth's claim, and north of Bailey's claim, cont.
say about 250 acres and including Lot 290 adjoining
Brookland - Also small strip between the Atsahilly Reserve
and the creek of same name, formed by producing the
west boundary of the Reserve to the creek (if not wanted
for dyke.)

Island No. 3. being the 3^d large Island down from Harman
River - about opposite Swiata Reserve -

Township 26

The land between the Chilliwhack river, the Skul Kapi
and Kivi Kivi ayoose reserves and a line drawn from
the South E. corner of the Skul Kapi Reserve to the W.E.
corner of Kivi Kivi ayoose Reserve - also the land as follows
From the N.E. corner Kivi Kivi ayoose Reserve to the N.E.
corner of the N.W. quarter of Section 17 thence south $1\frac{1}{2}$
miles thence west to Chilliwhack river, thence down
right bank of Chilliwhack to the S.E. corner of said
Reserve thence along the easeline of said Reserve to the
starting point - Also the W.E. quarter section of
Section 7, and that portion of the N.W. quarter of Section
8 west of the Chilliwhack River - also N.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ Section
of Section 22.

T.S. 25 and 22

The Bullus Lake Reserve to be squared up by adding
say 300 acres - not to include right to coal.

Cheam and Poperrin

About 300 to 400 acres in T 30 on right bank of Haas
River or back therefrom, about opposite Cheam Moun^{ts}

The piece of land between the present Cheam Reserve
and Hendersons claim

Wharrock. T. 14.

Right Bank Fraser River below Stane river
This Reserve not visited yet but to be extended
if required on the principles applied to the foregoing
either above or below Stane River.

All the foregoing are approximate as the
lands have not been fully examined yet, but this
arrangement is made to enable a telegram to be
sent to Ottawa to ask that the Govern^{mt} foot shall not
disallow the Somers by King Act.

(Sig) G. W. M. S.

Lawson

Ind. Reserve between
Camp & beam
17 May 1879

Dear Sir

Having been continually in the move,
we have not sooner been able to return you the list
of lands named in letter of 8th sent by you for
copying into our letter book.

I think the Indians will leave the small
piece quite at mouth of Somers River

Yours truly

(Sig) G. W. Sprout

E. L. Serby Esq
Muirside

Indian Resurvey Commission
 B. C. DeLoach, Chmn.
 20 May 1879

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith the sketches and summaries field notes for Indian reserves, as per annexed list, and have to request, on behalf of the Superintendent Genl of Indian Affairs, that, in accordance with the agreement between the two govts, a conveyance maybe made from the Provincial to the Dominion Government of these reserves in the manner stated in the enclosed copy of a letter dated 26 April 1879 from the Deputy Supt Genl of Ind: affairs to me, in answer to an inquiry which I made on the subject. The above sketches are for the Prov Govt.

Those for the Dominion Government have not yet been forwarded to Ottawa, but have been deposited in the office of Dr Powell, Indian Supt Victoria, from which they can be obtained if it is necessary to affix them to the Crown grants.

There are no "common lands" in this batch of reserves, nor are there any unsettled questions that I know of existing between the two govts, with respect to these lands.

Three of these

reserves, namely, *Kanulooj*

Attn the Chief Commr
 of I. M. W. Victoria

"North Thompson and Canoe Lake"
and "Deadman's Creek"
are in the portion of the country where irrigation
is required to produce crops. Though irrigation is
not always needed at the North Thompson Reservoir.

May I ask reference to the
annexed extract from my letter of the 22nd of
1878 to the Hon: The President, as to the
water question?

I am without a reply to that
letter, & the inquiry which I made is now
pertinent in connection with the conveyance of
these reserves?

J. S. G. Sproat

Extract letter Gen Sproat to Pres: 22nd of 78

"You will oblige me by stating whether the
"Decision with respect to water of the Indian
"Reservoir Commission contained in their Minutes
"of Decision will be equivalent to a legal record
"or whether the quantity of water required by each
"tribe must be specifically recorded in the
"Land Office of St. District, & if so, whether the
"Record should be made in the name of St. tribes
"or the Sup: Gen: of Indian Affairs."

List of Sketches &c. Sent

Kamloops; No 1 and 2 sheets with field notes in 4 duplicate books

North Thompson

and Canoe Lake } No 1 sheet (Canoe Lake which is not
 yet visited will be no 2 sheet)
 with field notes in 2 duplicate books

Deadman's Creek with field notes in 2 duplicate books

Sooke with field notes in 1 duplicate book

Nanaimo do do

Saanich do do

Nanwoc & Quakwam do do

Panel-a-Kuts with field notes in duplicate book

Hatlatls do do (ie in
 same book as Panel-a-Kuts)

Note: The field notes for the "Chemamun Proper" and "Si-Kamem" Indians - the sketches of which reserves cannot be made owing to open questions - are in the same book as the Panel-a-Kuts field notes.

M. C. Cream 20 May 1879

Sir

I beg to enclose the following sketches
of Reservoirs for your departmental use - Sooke
Saaruk, Nanaimo, Nanoose & Quakium, Panola (Kuts
& Halatts).

I enclose also the following sketches
which have been prepared for Ottawa. Will
you oblige me by taking charge of these.
I have told the Prov. Genl that they are
at your office. They may wish to get them
to affix or attach them to the Crown Grants
which they have been asked to prepare.

Kamloops No 1 and 2 Skets	- Sooke Nanaimo
North Nanprose	Saaruk Nanoose
Quakium } No 1 Sket	+ Quakium
	Panola (Kuts)
Quakium Creek	Halatts.

The Prov. Genl have been furnished with
copies & duplicate field notes for their own use.

Yours of M. C. Cream
C. M.

D. Powell
Dist. Supt. Victoria

Indian Res. Commission
British Columbia

In Camp near Popkum
Inver R. - 24 May 1879

Survey Branch

Sir,

I beg to inform you

that it is proposed to employ Mess^{rs} Mosher & Emmet
in surveying Indian Reserves this year, and that under an
amended arrangement approved by the Superintendent General
the Surveyors will send in field notes on completing each
Reserve, which can be plotted and mapped and commu-
nicated to both Govts without waiting, as hitherto, for the
end of the season.

I beg to ask if the Prov. Govt.
will accept the work of the above gentlemen, if it
should be found on plotting to be correct.

They will
be instructed to conform as far as possible to the
Survey regulations in the "Land Amendment Act 1879"
but I have to point out that owing to the advantage
of taking natural boundaries for Indian Reserves
in some cases, and for other reasons, the Reserves
may not ^{every}where conform to regular sections or
subdivisions of sections.

Attention has been given to
secure, as far as possible, such regularity of shape,
in surveyed districts, but to make it compulsory
might have the effect in some places of causing
an unnecessary area to be assigned.

Be good enough
to state what you require in this matter, for the
guidance of the Reserve Com^{on} in its own work, and
in instructing Surveyors.

The reserves which the
above gentlemen may this year survey were laid
out before the passage of the "Land Amendment
Act 1879"

The Hon. The Ch. Com^{on}
Land & Works Victoria

I am Sir or
D. Em Sprout Com^{on}

Please address your reply to me at "Victoria" where
I shall be for a few days.

oral reply given
by Sumner, and that
alteration is necessary
GMS 26 May 79

Indian Res. Commⁿ
British Columbia

In camp near Popkum
24 May 1879

Survey Branch.

Sir,

In reference to the maps of reserves
and field notes enclosed with my letter of the
20th inst. I beg to ask whether it is necessary
that Mr. Lane, the Surveyor temporarily in charge
of surveys, should sever to the field notes
as correct in accordance with Clause 15
under head of "Field notes" in the "Land Amend-
ment Act 1879" -

If so, I will send them
back to New Westminster for the necessary
alteration.

The field notes in question were made
before the Act was passed.

I am Sir &c &c
Edw. G. Spruce Comm^r

The Hon
The Ch. Comm^r
Land & Works Victoria

Please address reply "Victoria".

British Columbia,
Ind. Res. Commission.

In camp near Popkum
Fraser River 24 May 79

Power of the Prov. Gov^t to make
highways at will thro' Ind. Reserves
without compensation

Sir,

It has been

the practice of the Provincial Govt to establish and change the direction of highways through the Indian Reserves in British Columbia without compensating the Indians, except in a few instances. This has been done, and is now being done, without any communication with the Indian Local Departments or with the Reserve Commission.

The Dom. Gov. has therefore no opportunity of considering the effect of an act which, in some cases, materially alters the character and value of a Reserve and damages, on subdivided reserves, especially, the small farms or garden plots of individual Indians.

I am advised here that, in reference to the "British North American Act 1867" the "Indian Act 1876" and the various Provincial Land Acts read with the Provincial "Public Works Act 1872" this action of the Provincial Govt is beyond their powers.

It appears to be clear enough from Clause 20 of the "Indian Act 1876" that compensation has to be made to the Indians, and it has to be made "in the same manner as is provided with respect to the lands or rights of other persons" - that is to say, I presume, in case of need, by arbitration (see Provincial "Public Works Act 1872.")

This last-named Act, in stating what public property is to be under the control of the Provincial Chief Comm^r of Lands & Works excepts "roads and bridges" "under the control of the Dominion Govt."

The Provincial "Land Act 1875" Clause 73, gives large powers to the Ch. Com^r of Lands with respect to the establishment of highways, but is silent as to compensation to the owners of lands taken for highways -

The Crown Grants issued from the Lands Office (Form 299 in the schedule of the Land Act) provide that the Government

may resume up to $\frac{1}{2}$ of the lands for roads and other purposes, not being building sites or gardens &c, presumably without compensation to the owners.

As a matter of fact, the Prov. Gov. established highways at discretion through white men's lands without compensation, avoiding homesteads and gardens, and the question is whether they can do so through Indian lands?

I myself can express an authoritative opinion as to their legal powers but I would point out the impolicy of permitting, perhaps 66 feet roads, to be made through Indian Reserves, without the knowledge and sanction of the ~~Home~~ "Home" Govt.

It is unnecessary to say that the Home Govt. would not interpose any unnecessary obstacles to the formation of public highways useful to the community, and that no agent of theirs would be permitted to do so, no act of that kind can be pointed to.

It has to be borne in mind that when the best is done, the available portions of land that can be assigned to the Indians in this province will be small.

It is one thing to make a road through a white man's land consisting of 160 or 320 acres, and quite another to make it through several Indian farms of from 5 to 15 acres each hemmed in by white men's lands, and, therefore, incapable of enlargement except by purchase. These pieces of land are gardens rather than "farms".

Previous hardship may thus be inflicted upon individual Indians, whose limited plots of ground, as they are to get no presents or annuities from the Home Govt., nor any money from the Provincial Govt. in extinguishment of what has been called the "Indian title", constitute their principal property, as well as

being the only means or lever by which, under judicious management, the Dom. Gov. may hope to break the power of the chiefs and wear the people from idleness and unskift.

During nearly three years past, though I have observed many irregularities with respect to roads on Indian Reserves, I have tried to compromise questions that came to my notice, and I have not raised, and do not now raise the complex question as to the Indian rights of way on old, long used roads or trails. There are a thousand Indian questions in this country which, viewed, practically, must be allowed to sleep - but, nevertheless, I am now compelled to submit for your consideration the enclosed Chilliwack case, on which, as the papers explain themselves, I need not further comment, except to say, that looking to the surveyor's statement as to the possible effect of the gazetted road upon two old Indian Reserves; to the fact that the road is not much needed, and that reserves cannot be subdivided or managed with the powers of the Prov. Govt. in the matters of roads as known, also, considering that the road may be now in process of making and that practically when once made no compensation can be got from the Prov. Gov., it might be well for the Minister of Justice on being satisfied that my advisers view of the law respecting the case is correct, to telegraph to his Agent here, to obtain details from me and apply for an injunction to restrain the Prov. Gov. from spoiling the Kwaw. Kwaw, a. felt and Shwialah reserves without compensation.

I am Sir ors
 St, Gm Sprout Com^r

The Honourable

The Sup: Gen: of
 Indian Affairs

Ottawa

Memorandum.

26 May 1849.

Referring to conversation I have to say, shortly, that what hampers matters is the want of an order in Council authorising me, so far as the Prov. Gov. are concerned, to act either on those parts of the coast of the islands and mainland not yet examined, or in the Leeward District & in the interior.

I have a good deal of Commission work in hand, but it is chiefly in reference to other matters under my care that it is necessary for me to see my way ahead, so that I may make combinations to ensure economy to the Com. Gov. Without going into details I may only say that, in addition to the ordinary duties of the Com., I have two survey parties to send out, one of which might have to accompany myself - and I have also to direct Census-taking and some other Departmental matters. All of these require more or less my personal direction or arrangements, and if I cannot see ahead I cannot arrange my movements to suit the general work that has to be done and to save needless expenditure to the Commission - which Gov., as you know, already pays for everything.

The year is passing, and it is impossible for me, all at once, to go anywhere, or to send survey parties, or the Census-taker. Much information has to be collected, and many arrangements made, before effective action can begin, and till I know what ~~my~~^{my} movements may be, things in fact, outside the current work of the Commission, are hung up.

I feel sure, did you realise this, you would not omit to do quickly whatever is required to save useless expense to the Commission Gov.

As to the Lillooet district, the difficulty from a Dom's point of view, is connected with the expense. If the water questions there, as some tell me, interfere greatly to prevent a rapid, final adjustment, a second visit might be required; hence the Sup. Gen. says, in effect, "Complete survey and Census arrangements for the season. Then work on the coast as vigorously as you can - then giving the two Govts. an interval to come to an understanding as to the irrigation water question, after which one visit to the Lillooet district would suffice for a final "adjustment."

I have two Surveyors and the Census taker now waiting my instructions, and till I know my own probable movements I really cannot give them effective instructions, for many reasons which if you wish, I can state by you, but I hope I have sufficiently indicated the position in this brief statement.

Int. G. H. J.

The Hon.

The Chief Com^r of
Lands & Works - Victoria

Indian Res. Gomez
British Columbia

In Camp near Popkum
27 May 1879.

Sir

Survey Branch.

I have the honour to enclose copies of my letter of the 24th inst. to the Chief Com^r of Lands & Works, and of his reply of the 26th inst. showing that the Hon. Gen. will accept the proposed survey work of Messrs. Scamell & Motion, if it is correct and in accordance with

the Land Act, and stating further, that natural boundaries for Indian Reserves cannot be accepted, being in violation of the "Land Amendment Act 1879." (See copy herewith,

The Reserves I referred to were assigned before the passage of the "Land Amendment Act 1879" and I sometimes took natural boundaries to save expense in running survey lines on mountains, and as natural boundaries suited Indian lands well, and the white settlers generally recommended such boundaries, but as matters now are, though the view of the Prov. Gov. may be wrong, it may be desirable for me to review my "decisions" and also the "instructions to surveyors" so as to prevent questions by and by in so serious a matter as the acceptance of surveys.

This will take up a little time, but it seems to be practically the most prudent course under the circumstances.

The Land Amendment Act was passed quite lately, and I did not get a copy of it until after I had prepared the greater part of my instructions for surveyors with sketches.

In future, of course, my own action, as well as that of the surveyors, must be guided by the Act.

I am Sir,

Your Obedt. Servt.

Sd. J. M. Sproule Comr.

The Hon:

The Supr. Genl. of
Ind. Affairs Ottawa

Ind. Res. Com^{rs}

28 May 1879

It is understood that the Saanich Indians as part of the arrangement relative to the fishing station at mouth of Goldstream may take such cedar as they require for their fences and buildings on that station, but not for sale.

This is to avoid the necessity of giving them a larger piece of land

Jd. G. M. Sproat
Commissioner

Ind. Res. Commission

29 May 1879

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 28 inst on the subject of my memorandum of the 26 inst. following my letters of 5 May and 17 March last, and I note that my authority, as far as the Prov. Gov. is concerned, is sufficient without the Order in Council which I had supposed might have been necessary - also that you think it very advisable that the Reserves in the Lilloet district should be defined as soon as possible, owing to the discontent of the Indians in that quarter.

I am still afraid of unnecessary expense to the Com. Gov. owing to the water difficulty which I am told may hamper Indian land adjustments in the Lilloet District, but the continued accounts of the dissatisfaction of the Indians which reach the Prov. Gov. indicate a state of affairs which might become very serious, and I will therefore telegraph to the Sup. Gen. that I propose to send assurances to these Indians, and afterwards to visit their District.

I am Sir or
Jd. G. M. Sproat Com

The Hon.
The Chief Com^{rs}
of Lands & Works. Victoria

Copy. Telegram

Provincial Government desire me to visit
interior this summer owing to continued accounts
of Indian discontent, shall I use my discretion
after further inquiry -

sd Sprat - Victoria.

29 May 1879.

To The Superintendent Gen.
of Indian Affairs (Alona)

Indian Res. Commission
British Columbia

Victoria 28 May 1879

Sir,

Finding myself hampered in making arrange-
ments for matters under my charge by not receiving
clear replies to my letters to the Chief Commissioner of
Lands 17 March and 25 May last on the subject of
my powers from the Prov. Gov. with respect to future work,
I came here for a personal interview with that gentleman
and after conversation I left with him a memorandum
as per copy enclosed dated the 26 inst.

I enclose copy of his reply thereto
dated the 28th and of my reply of the 29th with
telegram sent by you.

You will observe that the
Ch. Com^r of Lands does not consider that any Provincial
Order in Council is required to empower me. I
presume he considers that as single Commissioner,
succeeding by agreement to the three Commissioners,
I have the powers which they had by the original agreement
between the two gov^{ts} contained in the proposals sent
by the Sec^y of State to the Lt Governor 15 Decr 1875 and

accepted as per letter of the Lt. Governor to the Secy. of State
8 Jan 1876 transmitting a Provincial Order in Council.

This simplifies matters, but it was necessary to have it clearly understood, and I should have been glad to have had the information sooner, in reply to my letter upon the subject to the Prov. Govt. dated 3 Jan 1878.

You will further observe that the Prov. Govt. are alarmed by the accounts of Indian discontent which they have continued to receive from the Elliot District, and desire that the Commission shall go there notwithstanding the water difficulty, and though some apprehension is felt as to the effects of unsettled questions on the coast in the Nassau-Skeena country between the Indians and persons engaged in fishing and "canning" salmon.

The Dom. Govt. cannot be responsible for anything that may occur in the Elliot-District, and I still think that the existence of water questions there, which the Prov. Govt. should long ago have taken some steps to settle, may embarrass the action of the Commission and cause expense, but on the other hand it would appear to be undesirable, for general reasons of policy, to disregard the representations which the Govt. ^{that} is charged with the maintenance of peace and order in the Province, makes at this time to the Reserve Commission, as a body which having the confidence of the Indians, can probably help in preventing unpleasantness.

The very hard part is that the Province should delay taking steps to adjust well known difficulties and on a crisis occurring that the Dominion should, for general reasons, have to step in to act, when, otherwise the Dom. Govt. would not have acted.

A breach of the peace or any irregular action on the part of the Indians on the coast can be checked by the aid of Her Majesty's ships of war, but no one knows when the end of such action might be in the winter.

A small Indian difficulty might deepen the financial distress of the Province almost beyond recovery, if what I am told is true, namely that the old Colonial Govt. spent \$80,000 in repressing a not very formidable outbreak of a single tribe in the Northern interior.

Upon the whole, as there appears to be a belief on the part of the Prov. Gov. that the Indian discontent is serious, in the Selkirk district, I am afraid that I must recommend you to authorize the Com^{rs} to go there, before going on the Coast, under the changed circumstances above mentioned.

In this season I telegraphed to you to day, as per annexed Copy, and now write the present letter in explanation.

I would propose to send assurances to the Indians of Selkirk district that I would visit them after finishing the New West district where the Commission is now actually engaged.

I send herewith a map of the Province, with these districts colored, for your information.

The Hon:

The Sup. Gen. of
Indian Affairs Ottawa

I am Sir &c &c
J. M. Sprout Esq^r

Indian Res. Commission.

Victoria,

30 May 1879

Sir,

Having now arranged with the Provincial Govt. certain necessary matters connected with the surveys of Reserves, it will be possible for me to complete at

an early date. The "Instructions to Surveyors" under the new plan approved by the Sup. Gen. and thereupon to issue the required orders to Messrs. Moken & Semmets the Surveyors who have been appointed for the present season.

In the meantime, I see no objection to Mr. Moken being employed, temporarily, in attending Mr. Green's Beecher Bay Survey, provided he distinctly understands that it is detached work, and that he must not purchase anything on Govt. account with the idea that it will necessarily be accepted as part of the equipment of the regular Survey.

I am now giving much attention to the more economical equipment and working of the proposed Survey parties, and think that a considerable saving can be effected.

The Surveyors pay is to be at the rate of \$125⁰⁰ per month, and all other rates of wages to be reduced also.

No new tents will be required.

A large saving can be effected in the cost of provisions, and some saving in transport.

The Surveyors are not to choose the men of their party, but may recommend men.

These and other matters will be embodied in the instructions to the Surveyors, which will be prepared as soon as possible, and of which a copy will be sent to you, and if you then will instruct the Surveyors as to all requirements for monies, and accounts, the arrangements will be complete.

The Surveyors will not go on pay (unless for detached work like the Beecher Bay Reserve) until they get their orders.

All surveys must now be made in accordance with the Land Amendment Act 1879, or the Prov. Gov. will not accept them.

I write this so that you may good enough, in sending Mr. Mohun on the detached survey service, to inform him of what is proposed, as above, for the regular survey parties, and so that matters may be clear from the beginning.

There has been so much looseness, mismanagement and expense connected with these surveys during the past year, that I propose at least to make an endeavour to show the Super. Gen. what can be done under a new system, and it is mainly by guiding it from the beginning that this can be done.

I am Sir

Colonel Powell
Victoria

Your obedt Servt.
Ed. G. M. Sprout

J. R. Commissioner

Victoria 31 May 1879

Sir,

I beg to enclose copy of telegram from the Sup. Gen. 30 May received this morning, giving me permission to visit the interior, instead of the Coast, provided that you arrange satisfactorily irrigation and any other questions at issue affecting the Indian lands.

provision can be fulfilled.

I beg to ask if this

The Hon:

The Chief Com^r Land & Water
Victoria

I am & c
Ed. G. M. Sprout Com^r

Original
Dominion of Canada

\$2700.

Victoria 29 May 1879

Received from the Prov. Gen: of Canada
through the hands of the Bank of P. Columbia
at Victoria the sum of Twenty Seven hundred dollars
being amount advised by telegram from Ottawa

Delivered to
Bank of P. Columbia
P. B. 30 May 1879

S. J. McSproue Comr.

Indian Res. Commission.

In camp near Chamie,

31 May 1879.

(The writer presently in Victoria,

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 27 inst I beg to
inform you that I have not yet adjusted the Indian
Reserve.

I may be there in a few weeks for this purpose.
In the meantime if any person trespasses upon or cuts a
tree upon the existing Indian Reserve he will be liable
to the heavy penalties under the Indian Act, which in
such cases is rigidly enforced.

The matter which you
speak of will probably be mentioned to me by the
Indians when I reach the place.

If, as you say, the
Indians wish to sell you some fruit trees it would
be well for you to obtain my written consent or that of
the Indian Superintendent New Westminster.

Supposing the
Reserve to be surrendered the land will become part of
the Railway Reserve lands to which the Prov. Gov. cannot give

a title.

The land might then be squatted upon, the squatter buying by and by to get the place from the Dominion Govt on the same terms as other squatters, provided such squatting does not interfere with the Indians.

Your application is the first I have received, but be good enough to notice that I know nothing of the facts you state, and may not decide to change the reserve.

Your Obedt Servant

Sd. E. M. Sprunt Com^r

S. W. Lehman Esq }
St Marys Mission }

Ina. Sec. Commission
British Columbia

E. M. Sprunt Esq C.E.
Sir,

Victoria B.C. 2 Jan 1877

Be good enough to furnish, if possible, for me to take to New West in the morning a list of all requirements equipments, provisions &c, for one survey party, in the interior, which it is proposed to place under your charge, subject to the orders of the Com^r. - Also a list of the men who, in your opinion, should form the party, specifying the duties of each and whether, if so, and for what reasons, you would prefer a Chinaman or Indian as Cook. State, also, whether Indians could be employed, and for what duties on the party.

It would probably ^{be} a convenience to have one who could speak the English ^{and Indian} languages. The Com^r. will be glad if you will mention the names of any persons whom you would wish to recommend for employment on your party.

Your Obedt Servant
Sd. E. M. Sprunt Com^r

Indes Commission
British Columbia.

In camp near
Okanagan Falls

5 June 1879

Survey Branch.

Sir,

On carefully examining the question, I find that there will be sufficient work for the two Survey parties in Nicola Valley, and along the part of the Thompson, and in completion of the programme adopted for Pop Semmet, Ludwig at Sheswop Lake & Speluncchen, without an undue dispersion of the areas of work, and I therefore will give Messrs Probert & Semmet their field instructions immediately.

I have examined the accounts for last year, and find excessive expenditures - Notwithstanding the new Tariffs I can already see that a considerable saving can be effected without any difficulty both as regards equipment, provisions and transport, simply by enforcing competition and managing on business principles.

I think a good saving may be effected also in wages. There is little employment at present in this country, judging from the numerous applications received, and it does not seem to me to be right to assume, as has hitherto been the case, apparently, that the Govt is not to benefit from the state of the labour market whether for skilled or unskilled labour.

The Hon. Govt. has permitted the employment of British Columbians altogether in Indian business in the Province, but it does not follow that the same rules shall be adopted by the Dominion Govt. as by the Province in time past.

The rule has been to leave everything to surveyors in the field. Some are economical, but others are not, and all seem not sufficiently impressed with the fact that a Govt., with its sure credit, should be able, at least, to buy as cheaply as private purchasers.

Politics, perhaps, may have had something to do with this, as the Land Office could quietly favour local friends of the Govt., who had stores, by instructing surveyors to buy from them, and thus a lay system has grown up.

It has been the fashion to pay men more for working in the interior than on the coast, though perhaps the latter is more disagreeable. This is a mere tradition from older times.

To illustrate the happy & lucky manner of doing things, Cap Jammatt reports his tents rotten which were left at Kamloops. This should not be the case after one season. I have in my camp a tent of the same kind which is not yet worn out after three seasons. I have telegraphed to Kamloops for a special report on the tents.

Then without any authority, at least from me, he has, I find, ordered 2 new tents.

Mr Brohm has also ordered a tent and other articles without any authority, and I may find that other things have been done.

It is absolutely necessary that I should reduce these matters to a business footing, and enforce discipline, or money will be wasted without any reason. The surveyors at first may not like this, but it will be better for all by and by, and it will be known who is responsible.

I cannot find out whether Cap Jammatt or Mr Brohm should be held

responsible for the alleged ruin of these tents at Kamloops.
The impression seems to be that
nobody is responsible but that is not an allowable thing
in matters of administration

The Hon:
The Sup. Gen of Indian Affairs
Ottawa

I am Sir &c
Sd J. M. Sprout Com^{rs}

P.S.

The Surveyors will be instructed to
conform to all Dr. Powell's requirements, as he may please
to instruct them, with reference to accounts - all the
rest I will be primarily responsible for - the accuracy
of the professional ^{work} of course, remaining to be tested on
plotting -

J. M. S.

Indian Res. Commission
British Columbia

New Westminster
June 3. 1879

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose for the information
of his ^{Worshipful} ~~Honourable~~ The Mayor and Council of the City of
New Westminster sketches of the land assigned by me
as Indian Res. Commissioner to the Com^{rs} En^{rs} for such
use as the Com^{rs} Ind^{rs} Dep^{ts} may make of them
in relation to the Indians who visit New Westminster
and its neighbourhood -

James Morrison Esq,
Clerk to the Municipal
Council - New West^{mn}

I have the honour to be
Sir
Your obed^t serv^t
Sd. J. M. Sprout Com^{rs}

Indian Res. Commission
British Columbia

New Westminster
 June 3. 1879

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose for your information sketches of the land assigned by me as Indian Res. Com^r to the Dom. Gov^t for such use as the Ind. Dep^t may make of them in relation to the Indians who visit New Woots and its neighbourhood.

I have given the same information to His Worship the Mayor and the Council.

If you will permit me I will send you in a short time a few remarks on the subjects of your letter of 2nd Dec last which I will respectfully submit for your consideration in connection with the appropriation and management of these lands under the peculiar circumstances of Indian matters at New Westminster.

I have the honour &c &c

Sd Geo Sprout Com^r

Jas Smith Esq;
 Ind. Dept. New Westminster

Copy
 Advertisement - 'Standard & Colonist'

Tenders will be received up to the 10th June for Provisions for one or two survey parties surveying Indian Reserves to be delivered at foot of Nicola Lake

The undersigned will furnish list and particulars on application

New Westminster
 31 May 1879

Sd Geo. Blenkinsop
 Secy. to Survey Com^r

Mem: List furnished to Messrs. Oppenheimer & Co. stated one half to be left at Lytton and one half - - - Clapperton's Mill.

Copy
Telegrams.

Victoria. 1 June 1879

John Murray - Spence's Bridge.

Write immediately
lowest prices all Provisions for one or two survey
parties surveying the New Reverses.

Sd. Blankenship

To - Ditto.

New Westminster 3 June 1879

Address me at Hope by mail this week
Sd. Blankenship

To. Capt. Semmett. New West

Victoria 2 June 1879

Have statement of all
survey party requirements ready on arrival of Enterprise
to morrow

Sd. Sprout.

To. Oppenheimer Bros
Yale }

Hope 6 June 1879

Tender accepted. Must state
quantities go to Yale or Victoria. Answer.

Answer state "Requisition to be sent to Victoria."

Duplicate to Yale"

Sd. Blankenship

Hope 6 June 1879

To. Semmett - New Westminster.

Write Oppenheimer Victoria
by Enterprise Saturday to morrow without fail stating
quantities all kinds of provisions for your party for
five months. Oppenheimer will be at New Westminster to night
Telegram for him. Allow for fresh meat when ordering Bacon.
Send one copy of your Requisition. Sd. Blankenship

Copy
Telegrams

Hope 6 June 1879

To Oppenheimer Bros, Victoria.

Order Tender accepted. Emmet sends you per "Enterprise" quantities for his party delivered at Lyttou. Send like quantity to Gale for second survey party, keeping packages distinct.

S. Blenkinsop

Hope 6 June 1879

To Oppenheimer - New West.

Order Tender accepted. Have telegraphed your firm Victoria. See Emmet to night for quantities for his party delivered at Lyttou. Second party require like amounts for the present sent to Gale. Keep packages distinct.

S. Blenkinsop

To Emmet, New Westminster

Hope 6 June 1879

Order Examine Emmet's stores camp equipment. Order at Westminster. Kitchen boxes and all articles deficient. Order stationery to-morrow from Waitt to arrive Tuesday. Have tents arrived? Write.

S. Blenkinsop

Hope 8 June 1879

Messrs Oppenheimer Bros
Victoria

Indent Wednesday. Rough estimate of the cost for 10 persons. Dispatch necessary.

S. Blenkinsop

Indian Res: Commission
British Columbia

Victoria 2 June 1879

E. Maken Esq, C.E.

Sir,

Be good enough to state for the Comm^{rs} information the probable time which it will take one survey party to survey the following Reserves.

Please address me New Westminster.

I am, Sir,

Your obed^t serv^t

Jd Geo Blenkinsop

Secy. I. C. Com^{rs}

- 1st Kamee, w. to, Kuni Reserves
- 2nd Cold Water
- 3rd Foot of Nicola Lake
- 4th Bob Hamilton, Creek
- 5th Chillikeetsa's Reserves Douglas Lake and Nicola &c &c
- 6th Spellumcheen
- 7th The two Reserves on Salmon Arm
- 8th The Reserves of the Little Shuswap Lake Indians
- 9th The Adams Lake portion of Reserves assigned to the Adams Lake Indians

Indian Res Commission
British Columbia,

Sir,

Survey Branch

In camp, near Hope,
10 June 1879.

In reference to my letter of the 5th inst. I have to state that after advertising in the two principal newspapers and telegraphing to local stores in the interior for tenders to supply the two survey parties at points named, I have accepted the tender

of Messrs Oppenheimer Bros., of Yale and Victoria, as being much the lowest.

As compared with prices paid last year, the general saving is large, being from 20 to 25 per cent on the principal articles of consumption, and this in the face of the increased Tariff. It appears to me that the local storekeepers in the interior last year were permitted to charge what they pleased. I, this year, as Messrs Oppenheimer's tender shows, get supplies delivered in the middle of Nicola Valley, 130 miles above Yale (the head of navigation) at prices just above those paid last year for supplying Mr Green's party near Victoria on the coast of Vancouver; from which I infer that the prices for Mr Green's party were also excessive, but, as no party is working this year on the coast, it has been unnecessary for me to examine that question.

I beg to enclose copy of "general instructions" which I have issued for the Surveyors in addition to the special "instructions" for surveying the reserves, which latter are too voluminous and too full of maps for me to be able to send a copy to Ottawa, particularly as no purpose would be served thereby.

The new arrangements mentioned in my letter to you of 25 Feb., and which I am carrying out are much approved by the Prov. Gov. as they will now get definite information sooner as to the reserves.

(You will notice that a considerable reduction has been effected in the pay of the Survey parties (see "general instructions for Surveyors") copy herewith.)

The circumstances and the times fully justify this reduction. Better men than those employed on the surveys can be got for the money.

I do not

propose to authorize payment for tents to be purchased without authority as they are not required. What are in stock or available suffice, though the surveyors naturally ask for a larger equipment, but I must know something about this matter after travelling 3 years about this country in all weathers. I have, nevertheless, consulted even more experienced men before deciding, and in the few remarks which in the "Instructions" may seem to trench on professional details (with which necessarily I am not familiar) I have taken a similar course.

I am liable to be made answerable at every turn by the Provincial Govt, and am obliged, therefore, to keep myself acquainted with, and indeed to exercise some control over matters which might assume importance in the future if not dealt with now in accordance with their regulations.

I have amended the reserves about to be surveyed so as to conform with the requirements of the "Provincial Land Amendment Act 1879"

I am Sir &c &c

Jd M. Sprout - Com^d

The Hon:

The Supd^t General
of Ind. Affairs Ottawa

P.S. I beg further to enclose copies of the following letters from me 6 June to -
1) Col Powell, 2, Cap Semmelt -
3, & Mr. Esq. with mem: as to the 15th &c

Victoria 2 June 1879

Sir,

Mr Sprout directs me to forward to you Duplicate Field notes of Surveys of Indian Reserves, 15 in number, as per enclosed list.

Mr. Lane the Surveyor in charge of Surveys has attested to their correctness

The Hon:

The Ch. Com^d
Land & Works Victoria

I have the honor to be
Sd Geo. Plunkensief

Indian Res. Commission
District Columbia

In camp near Okamul
6 June 1879

Jarvey Branch

Unofficial Memorandum for the information
of Mess^{rs} Mohun & Semmett.

Under the amended system, the surveys of Indian Reserves are controlled by the Indian Reserve Commission.

The Commission recommended that two survey parties should be sent out to make an effort to close all the open work along the frontier and in the portion of the southern interior.

The Superintendent Gen. approved the recommendation and the route and appointed Mess^{rs} Mohun & Semmett to take charge of the parties respectively.

The Commission further recommended that one of the two surveys should in that remote part of the country have a certain charge of the professional work of the two parties, and should receive \$15⁰⁰ per month extra.

He added that Capt Semmett, though untrained and hard working had all the required experience in that part of the country.

The Sup^r Gen. appointed Mr Mohun to do this extra work in the field and to receive the \$15⁰⁰ a month extra.

Mr Vanhook accordingly sent a telegram to W^o Powell which is explained by what precedes.

In the meantime, it was discovered that the Prov. Govt. had sold the greater part of the Osoyoos Reserve and had failed to arrange necessary matters at Okanagan and Similkameen, and the proposed programme of work for the survey parties fell through, and it became a question, for this and other reasons, whether two parties could be profitably employed anywhere in the interior.

This has been found possible, but the conditions having been changed so that the parties necessarily must work away from each other and at a long distance apart, there is no opportunity for the exercise of any supervision in the field by one over the other, and the arrangement as to the \$15⁰⁰ extra made in view of other circumstances, has now no meaning for the present season.

In C^o. G. M^{rs}.

Ind: Sec. Commission
British Columbia

Survey Branch

In Camp near Okanil
6 June 1879.

Sir,

The Sup^o. General having appointed you to be the Surveyor in charge of one of the two survey parties, now being sent out to survey Indian Reserves, I have to instruct you to complete arrangements and proceed to Lytton and thence undertake the survey of the Reserves mentioned in my separate letter enclosing sketches and Commissioners decisions. This last named letter will be handed to you on your personally visiting my Camp which you must do so that I may ascertain that you understand what the Provincial Govt. requires in connection with these surveys and what you are generally required to do.

In the meantime I enclose a Memorandum to the contents of which I beg your attention -

Your indent has been approved and the stores ordered for delivery at Lytton.

Mr Green's tents and camp equipments are assigned to your party.

I have already conversed with you relative to the men whom you wish to employ, and as to wages.

There seems nothing now to stop your taking the field, so soon as the stores and party can reach the ground, and therefore, in order to assist you in starting, I have asked Mr. Blenkinsop, who knows my views and the requirements of the Service, to call upon you to discuss and arrange all necessary matters as to the dispatch and conveyance of the stores and party, and how best you yourself can pay me a visit in passing without losing time of men on pay.

Be good enough to take Mr. Blenkinsop's instructions as mine with reference to the above matters - They can be best arranged in conversation between yourselves -

You will observe that you must arrange all matters of money and accounts with D. Powell - With these I have nothing to do.

Trusting that you may have good health and make a successful seasons work

I am Sir
Your obed^t Serv^t
Ed. G. Mouton Com^d

Cap. Kemmerle
New Westminster

Indian Reserve Commission
British Columbia

In camp near Kamik
Fraser River
6 June 1879

Survey Branch,

Sir,

I respectfully beg leave to enclose for your information a copy of a Memorandum of Instructions for Surveyors, chiefly touching upon matters not within the special instruction each Surveyor will receive as to the actual surveys of the Reserves which latter will be a distinct Memorandum.

I find excessive expenditure in the accounts last year, and you will be glad to notice that the cost this summer of provisions will notwithstanding the tariff, be from 20 to 25 per cent less, and that a considerable saving in wages is also effected.

The Memorandum, I think, is clear, and defines relative duties and position, but I shall be glad to have your views on any part of the work under my control which you think might be better shaped to suit that under your control.

The general principle is that the Indian Res. Com^r certifies to the Agent at the beginning of the season (which from knowing the conditions of the work the Commissioner is able to do) and the Agent should contain everything that can be thought of, and when certified to, should be the official authority for the great bulk of the season's expenditure.

No control over expenditure is possible, unless it is enforced and the surveyors

presented from ordering what they please.

As regards ~~a portion of~~ subsequent expenditure however, namely expenditure in the field which cannot be foreseen, there would seem to be no better plan ~~than~~ than to authorise the surveyor to certify to such under his sole signature, which you might pay on (unless you can suggest some better way) these "Field extras" being, for some kind of check, scrutinised at the close of the season, and one month's pay of the surveyor being retained until his performance of instructions and accounts have been finally adjusted.

I will send you a certified indent for each party as soon as possible; in the meantime, there seems to be nothing to prevent the parties taking the field, if you will be good enough to instruct the surveyors respectively as to monies and accounts.

The surveyors will not be working near each other, and I do not see what good result would be attained by your doing otherwise than instructing each separately, and making each responsible for the accounts of his party. Were they working as I hoped they might have worked on the southern frontier, it might have been different; however this is a matter for your own judgment.

I enclose an unofficial ~~draft~~ copy for the surveyor information, which will explain, I think, in part Mr. Koughnet's telegram to you stating that Messrs. Prohm and Semmle had been appointed, and what was the superintendency Mr. Prohm was to undertake under the circumstances then existing, but since changed.

So far as

the work now possible for two parties is concerned, its conditions do not justify the \$1500 extra pay, for the reasons stated but if you can, in connection with the matter under your special control, utilize Mr. Probert in supervision, there is authority from the Dept Gen: to pay it, and I shall be glad if he gets it provided there is any official service on which it can be based, Had the parties worked been able to work as originally proposed I could have utilized him.

I am Sir, &c

Sd by Mr Sprunt Comr

Colonel Powell
Ind. Sup't. Victoria

Indian Res Commission
British Columbia

Vancouver 7th June 1879

Sir,

In reference to your letter of the 4th I am advised by Mr Sprunt to enclose an explanatory memorandum on the subject on which you desire information respecting the survey.

I am Sir, Yrs Obedt^s

Sd by Wm Kinosh
Secy to the I.R. Comr

Colonel Powell
Victoria

Indian Res. Commission
British Columbia

In camp near Kamiah
6 June 1879

Survey Branch.

Sir,

The Superintendent General having appointed you and Cap. Bennett, respectively, to take charge of a survey party to survey Indian Reserves during the present season, I have to direct you to complete

arrangements for your own party and proceed to near the foot of Nicola Lake, and there undertake the survey of the Reserves mentioned in my separate letter enclosing sketches and Commissioner's decisions.

This last named letter will be handed to you on your personally visiting my Camp which you must do so that I may ascertain that you understand what the Prov. Exp. require in connection with these surveys and what you are generally required to do -

I enclose herewith a memorandum of instruction by which you will be guided in all the above arrangements, and, generally, throughout the season.

Dr Powell was good enough to undertake to get from you a statement of requirements more than a week ago, but this has not reached me.

Being unwilling to lose time, I have therefore ordered for delivery at the foot of Nicola Lake (Mr Clapperton), the same provisions for your party which have been ordered for Cap Sammetts party on the indent furnished by him -

With respect to equipment the tents and camp equipment used last year by Cap Sammett and now at Kamloops have been ordered to be sent to care of Mr Clapperton for the use of your party -

You will be allowed 4 tents and 2 flies for the whole party -

There were 5 tents at Kamloops but by some mismanagement 2 of them have been spoiled and 2 flies there are worn out -

3 tents accordingly

could be sent to Mr. Clapperton, and one half worn but sufficiently good one will be taken up with you from stock on hand - if new flies may be ordered.

As regards men I am without any statement from you and therefore, for the above reason leave you, on this occasion, to engage them according to the general instructions, or if you find any difficulty Mr. Blenkinsop will assist you. I have sent him to New Westminster to discuss with you and arrange all matters connected with the disputes and conveyance of the stores and party, and how best you can pay me a visit in passing without losing time of men on pay, and as he fully knows my mind and the requirements of the service you will be good enough to take his instructions as mine with respect to the above matters.

You will, nevertheless, before starting furnish me with a complete indent according to instructions, and I will examine and if necessary, alter and sign it; I have deemed it prudent to act, so far, without having it before me, as some think the wagon road on the west side of the Fraser may be covered and impassable.

You will observe that you must arrange all matters of money and account with Dr. Powell.

You should provide yourself with a copy of the Land Amendment Act 1879.

Trusting that you may have good health and a successful season.

E. Prohem Esq. C.E.,
New Westminster

I am Sir
Your obedt Servt
J. M. Sproul
Com^{dr}

267
Write Mr Clapp
to receive this date
to receive and store
these things

Indian Rs Commission

Hope SC

7 June 1879

John Husker Esq

Sir,

Captain Semmett left
last November a quantity of Camp equipage
in the Pacific Railway Store under charge
of Mr Ross -

Understanding Mr Ross is no
longer in charge of the Railway affairs at
Kamloops, and may possibly be absent, the
Com^{rs} desires me to ask you, as a great favour,
to find out where these things are and have
them sent by some trustworthy Indian to the
port of Nicola Lake to the care of Mr Clapperton.

Before packing them will you
kindly engage some reliable person to thoroughly
examine the tents, as Semmett says he received
information from Mr Ross that two of them
were unfit for further use.

If these should
be found as Mr Ross states, repair them, and
send the other three, as this latter number
will be necessary for the party taking the field -

The Skies also said to be useless do
not send - as, also, the following

1 Dutch oven. 2 axes. 1 Coffee Pot

1 Tea Pot -

Semmett reports 4 Kettles serviceable be kind
enough to send this number selected from
those in store, the others, if any, please condemn.

Will you kindly undertake to carry out this
for the Com^{rs} sending us a statement of expenses
incurred, including cost of transport to Nicola

foot of the Lake. Mr. Proben who is to have charge of the survey party operating in this quarter, will start in a short time with his party.

Should Mr. Ross be still at Kamloops he would no doubt be good enough to undertake the matter for us.

This communication must be considered as sufficient authority, for the delivery of these articles by you, by any person whom Mr. Ross may have delegated to hold them in trust for the Commander.

Any other expenses outside of these to be incurred by you, you will please add to your account, the amount of which we will remit immediately on receipt of -

The tow Rope you can dispose of to the highest bidder if found to be of any value -

P.S.

Should you find it inconvenient to superintend this work, please employ a good man to carry it out for the Comd.

Yours &
J. A. B. B. B. B. B.
See G. J. R. B.

Telegram

Kope 8 June 1879

Peter Mackenzie Lytton.

Comd. will attend their meeting. Michel will visit Lytton group as soon as possible to see probably 10 days to make arrangements

, Sprout,

Note to Comd.
about transfer
In answer he says
is too busy to
undertake it

Indian Re Commission
British Columbia

In camp near Ohamel
Foster River

11 June 1879.

Sir

Survey Branch

I addressed you yesterday on the subject of the arrangements I had made, and was making for the survey parties, and have since received a letter from Dr. Powell dated the 4th inst as per enclosed copy.

I enclose also copy of my letter reply which probably without further remarks will explain the point at issue. Anticipating that you will find nothing unreasonable in the "Instructions to Surveyors" copy of which I enclose in my letter of yesterday which are merely explanatory of the new arrangements for securing a much required control over survey expenditures and conformity with requirements of the Prov. Em^t and the work of the Commission I beg to ask that you will confirm these by a telegram to Dr. Powell as he appears to be under an impression that the old plan of uncontrolled expenditure and management is in force.

In the meantime the instructions to the surveyors are sent to them, the stores have been ordered upon the ground and I will send Mr. Blenkinsop to-morrow to New Westminster to arrange with the surveyors for the best means of conveyance to the two points of Lytton and Keewala Lake where it is proposed to begin work, under further instructions prepared for the Reserves to be dealt with.

There will, therefore, be no loss of time pending

the receipt of your telegram by Dr Powell,

Dr Powell no doubt acts under a misapprehension, but I am pleased in a novel position in having to defend against the paymaster arrangements which whatever other merits they have, will obviously reduce expenditure and waste of Gov^t property.

I am Sir &c &c
 Jas G. M. Sproule Com^r

Stetson

The Sup^t Gen of
 Indian Affairs Ottawa

Ind Res Commission
 British Columbia

In Camp near Okanil
 Fraser River
 June 9th 1879

Surrey Branch

Sir

I wrote to you fully on the 6th and have this morning received your letter of the 4th on survey matters.

The chief point in your letter which ^{appears to} require remark is the statement that, so far as you have been advised by the Department, the arrangements for carrying on the work of the Reserve Survey are nearly if not the same as last year.

As it is known to the Department that you and I are in friendly communication with a view to the interests of the public service, I can understand that Mr Van Koughnet does not care to add unnecessarily to the already voluminous Indian correspondence with this quarter.

The principal feature in Indian business in the province last year was the agreement for a single Com^r instead of three -

This year the principal feature is the placing of the surveys in all particulars except money and accounts under the control of the Indian Revenue Commission, not as a matter desired by the Com^r but as one of absolute necessity established by experience in relation to the work that has to be done, and to the obligations of the Revenue Commission to look for:

You can believe that I do not wish for more work than I have, and I did not hastily come to the above conclusion. It was forced on me by facts which I need not recapitulate as well as by the action of the Provincial Com^r in persisting that I should explain matters connected with surveys though I referred them to the Surveyor then in charge of them.

I thought I had sufficiently explained all this to you in conversation, and by readings from my letter book. I take any blame to myself for not furnishing you with copies of all my letters to be kept on the subject, but weighted as I am with never ending correspondence from different parts of the country, and with the preparation of reports and official work of various kinds, most of which has to be done amidst out-door work. I really have been quite unable to do so, notwithstanding the willing and efficient help which Mr. Parkin^g affords me in hours after his own special work in the capacity of Census Enumerator.

The new arrangements as to surveys are the subject of consecutive letters from me to be kept from the 25th Feb^y last to the present time. The whole matter including the difficulties that have cropped up from time to time and the causes for delays not perhaps obvious to outsiders are therefore fully within the knowledge

of the Superintendent Gen., and I assume that he holds me, as standing between the two Govts responsible for the proper carrying out of what is required by the Service under changing circumstances occurring at this great distance which can only be partly described even in long letters.

It would not be fair to place me in a position where— come what will— I am responsible to both Govts and then tie my hands in making arrangements for the proper conduct of what seems directly and in a way which no outsider can appreciate, upon the very grave and delicate work of the Commission.

During the last 4 months I have been and am now wearied by having to amend the effects of 'muddles', which, certainly, I will take care shall not occur again, if under my control, but with a recital of which it is unnecessary to trouble the Department.

It is hardly possible for any one to form a correct opinion of many sided arrangements, such as the new survey arrangements by reference simply to a Departmental letter on a subordinate matter connected with these arrangements.

This appears to be what you have done. The letter of the 18 April from Mr Van Koughnet to me which you refer to is a letter which approving the proposed routes and inferentially the general proposals in my letter of 25 Feb. is chiefly an instruction to me as controlling the surveys, to give a party to Mr Prohem, of whose business head, though believing him as a friend it was known I had not formed a good opinion.

I, of course, have given unquestioned attention to the instructions of the

Sup. Gen. in that respect.

The Atty. further, sanctions certain work and payment of \$ 15⁰⁰ pm which I recommended for good reasons applicable to the proposed route, approved by the Sup. Gen. on the information then before him, but not applicable to the area of work now open to the two survey parties, as I could easily explain if that burden were put upon me - but I surely have written enough on this matter generally.

I should be very glad to see officers well paid, but a subordinate like me cannot sanction a payment of the nature of a doctar - it must be based on official service.

The change of the originally approved route of the survey parties is regrettable but has been necessary owing to the proceedings of the Gov. Com^{rs} with respect to reserves on the Sen. Com. frontier.

My idea of controlling the surveys, as of any other public business for which I am responsible is to enforce reasonable discipline from top to bottom. This is the only way to ensure economy, progress and harmony on the part of all concerned, and I really do not understand why I should be burdened with such a load of correspondence in connection with the sending into the field of two small survey parties which together would not make a boat's crew.

If surveyors desire employment why cannot they on receiving their orders (which in the present cases had been sent to them) go into the field and do their surveying work without any more ado?

For what good

reason do they as professional men, wish, if they do wish, to interfere with Departmental business affairs or with work of the Reserve Comd.?

I can quite understand that Provincial Surveyors may desire to have (it is only a natural desire) an opportunity of putting presents on survey parties, without reference to the state of the labour market, and may desire the patronage of ordering stores from local friends without testing the matter by competition but I question if the Indian Dept. at Ottawa will afford this opportunity, particularly after examining the accounts and reports in connection with past expenditures.

In conclusion I have to say that, while wishing to receive from yourself, or from any of the Surveyors, suggestions in amendment of the "Instructions" written to each Surveyor on the 6th (Copy sent to you) I do not at present feel justified in changing them because I feel sure they contain the mind of the Sup. Gen., and are for the public service, and that any other plan, except perhaps as to some details, is practically unworkable in connection with the work of this Commission, and might therefore cause a large, useless expenditure.

Col. Powell
Ind. Supd. Victoria }

I am Sir &c &c
S^r G. M. Spross Currier

Ind. Res. Commissioner
 Pontiac, Columbia

In camp near Okanil
 9 June 1879

Sir

I beg to hand you herewith maps of the Reserves as per annexed list, which the Prov. Gov.^{ts} have been asked to convey to the Hon. Gov. for your Superintendency.

I also send you the original field Books for custody.

The duplicate Field Books have been handed to the Prov. Gov. with the maps prepared for them.

The maps for the Dept. at Ottawa have not been sent to the Sup. Gen. yet as the Prov. Gov. may wish to attach Crown Grants to them and I have accordingly deposited the whole for both Superintendencies in D. Donald's Office, as a convenient place near the Land Office. They will be sent to Ottawa when the Crown Grants are issued.

I am Sir &c

Sd. G. M. Spruce

Jos. Landon Esq.

As Sup. Gen. Book

List

Kamloops No. 1 and 2 sheets with
 field notes in 4 original Books

North Thompson and Carveo Lakes 1 sheet
 (Carveo Lake not yet visited,
 with field notes in 2 original Books

Headman's Creek 1 sheet with
 field notes in 2 original Books.

Please acknowledge
 receipt of the enclosed

Ind. Co. Commission

In camp Okami
9 June 1879

Sir,

As I shall probably be absent will you be good enough to endeavour from time to time to get the conveyances from the Prov^l to the Home Gov^{ts} of the Reserves which they have been asked to convey in mine of 20 May last, or which date I also addressed you on the subject?

Will you also see that the original maps for the Dep^t at Ottawa, left in your custody, in case the Prov. Gov^t should wish to attach them to the Crown Grants, are duly forwarded, either when the Crown Grants are issued or sooner should the Prov. Gov^t not require them for the above purpose?

I trouble you with these requests, as I may be out of the way, and the matter may require following up.

Col. Powell
Ind. Sup^r. Victoria

Your obed^t Serv^t
J. G. McSproul Com^r

Indian Res. Com^r
British Columbia

Conveying Reserves
from the Prov^l Gov^t

In camp near
Okami 9 June 1879.

Sir,

Having been moving about, I have not been able sooner to send copies as I now do of my letter to the Chief Com^r of Lands & Works 20 May last, and of my letter to Col. Powell

Indian Superintendent: Victoria, of same date, on the subject of the conveyance of certain Reserves therein named from the Provincial Govt to the Prov. Enr:

I delivered the maps and field books at the office with my own hands.

The other set of Field Books and duplicate maps had been delivered to the Indian Superintendent respectively for the Reserves written their Superintendence.

The original maps destined for the Dept: at Ottawa have not been forwarded to you yet, but, as you will observe have for both Superintendences been temporarily deposited with Dr Powell Indian Superintendent - Victoria - whose office is a convenient place - as the Prov Enr: may wish to attach their Crown Grants to the maps, after which they can be sent to Ottawa.

I have asked Dr Powell to follow this matter up; as I may be absent.

I have received no answer, yet, to the inquiry as to water for irrigation made in my above letter to the Chief Comr: with respect to some of the Reserves in the Fraser Superintendency included among those now about to be conveyed.

The Hon:

The Sup: Gen of
Indian Affairs Ottawa

I am Dr: Sir,
Dr J. M. Spruce Comr:

Indian Res Commission

In camp Okanil
9 June 1879Surrey Branch

Sir,

I beg to enclose for your custody until their examination is resumed on a convenient opportunity the following Field Books -

Huskabnitto - Thompson used } 2 originals
 } 2 duplicates

Mr. Blenkinsop will deliver also by you also for custody the plan and tracings of this Reserve. It is considered incomplete at present as not including the Salmon River Reserves in which Huskabnitto has a share, otherwise the plan and tracings are correct and will be asked for next season.

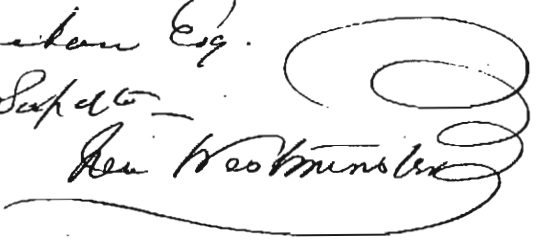
Adams Lake Indians 1 original } Field Book
 } 1 duplicate } tested

Plans not drawn owing to Walker's dispute and non-survey of the Reserve at Adams Lake.

I enclose also two books of records for ditche kept by Capt Gemmett but not now of much use, yet it is well to have all Superintendent's papers together -

Yours truly

Geo Sproat


Yours truly
Geo Sproat Comdr.

Ind. Res. Commission

Surrey Branch, In camp Olamit
9 June 1879

Sir,

I beg to enclose for your custody incomplete plans of Oowichan and Oomoy Bessas, and the original and duplicate Field Books named on the other side.

Cdr Powell -
Victoria

Please acknowledge
receipt of these

I am Sir &c &c
Sd. G. M. Spruce Esq

Original Field Books

Booke 1	Kanooce & Quakcum 1
Saavid 1	Kanaimo 1
Paralaktis	
x Stalalt 1	

In this book also are the notes for the Chemaino Bay and Oyster Harbor (Seikameen Indians)

Plans	Field Books
Made but need examination	{ original
Oowichan	{ 2 duplicate
Not drawn	{ original
Beecher Bay	{ 1 duplicate
Not drawn	{ original
Valdez Id.	{ 1 duplicate
Drawn	{ original
Oomoy	{ 1 duplicate

These plans and books for Oowichan
with report by Mr. Spruce

Becker Bay, Valdez Id and Comox refer to surveys which could not be completed, and are sent to D Powell for custody in the meantime pending further examination -

Stops 7 June 1879

Messrs Oppenheimer Bros
Yale

Gentlemen,

I send you a telegram on the 6th stating that your tender for supplies to two survey parties was accepted.

I write now to inform you, in the absence of regular formal indents from the surveyors themselves, that each party will be composed of ¹⁵ five persons and that they will each require provisions for about 4 1/2 months.

This information may enable you to judge, roughly yourself a rough calculation of the quantities required for each party, if the transport necessary, in order to save time, as the Com^o is anxious to get the surveyors to work what they cannot do until the provisions are on the ground.

In addition to the Prov^s for the Lytton party there will be a quantity of baggage tent or weighing about 1000 lbs to be transported which the Com^o wishes you to undertake. Please state by boat to morrow, Monday, what you could do this for per lb and when the supplies for Lytton will be likely to reach their destination.

The indent for Victoria will be sent down by Wednesday's boat.

The Nicola party will have about 800 lbs weight of baggage etc. Please state cost per lb of this also and probable time it will

to be to reach Nevada after leaving Salt Lake.

Your obedient servant
 J. A. Blunt

P.S. June 8th.

State if you can furnish transport for party of five to Lytle by saddle horses or waggon. In the former case their baggage will go up with the P.M. - in the latter with the party in the waggon - In either case they will cook for themselves and pitch their tents en route.

Could you also furnish like transport for the Nevada party of five.

State the cost respectively by each mode of conveyance and for each party
 J. A. Blunt

See letter from Deputy Supt General of Indian Affairs 30th Aug 1879 approving these instructions but saying that the Surveyor General thinks the Surveyors should be allowed to choose their own men.

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Indian Reserve Commissioner

Survey Branch

See my reply thereto
Letter Book no 4 page 27
14 Sep 1879

Surveys of 1879 —

Amended (see letter from above 8 Oct 1879) as regards Surveyors pay which is to be \$5 per day, as in Manitoba and both West Territories

Memorandum:
The Surveyor will furnish an indent of all requirements for his party under the heads of —

" Equipment "

" Provisions "

" Men "

and will attach to the indent a statement of the quantity or number, condition and place of storage of the articles remaining from last season.

The estimate of provisions should be given in detail per month for a stated number of men, and the Surveyor will make suggestions as to the mode of supply, or method of packing, and will state any complaints he may have to make respecting the quality of articles supplied by Contractors or tradesmen during the previous season.

He will also mention the names of any men he may wish to take with him, and in what capacities, and at what wages they are willing to go.

The Indent, on being examined and signed by the Commissioner, will, together with any remarks he may make on it, be the Authority for the supplies under the above heads, and the Surveyor, before taking "the field" will not order anything on account of the service, without such Authority.

During work "in the field" the Surveyor, when the interests of the service require promptness — for instance, when Extra men are required or when stores prove bad or are spoiled or ^{when fresh men are needed or} in cases obvious to his common sense, — is authorized to obtain what is required and to certify to the item by his sole signature, but Explanations of all these "field Extras" will be sought for by the Commissioner at the close of the

Season before the survey on accounts are finally settled.

Instructions will be given separately to the Surveyor as to the reserves which he is expected to survey during the season.

The memo. of "Instructions to Surveyors" will be returned from each reserve to the Commissioner in accordance with the instruction on its cover, and the field books sent to the Indian Superintendent, New Westminster (in whose superintendency the survey would of this year is) - the originals and duplicates being sent by different mails.

The plotter will attest the survey as required by the "Land Amendment Act 1849."

The surveys and field notes must, so far as field work is concerned, conform to the requirements of the "Provincial Land Amendment Act 1849", or they will not be accepted by the Provincial Government.

It may be added here, that the Surveyor should test his work by computation before leaving the ground, and this, without stopping the daily work of the party.

The Computation must appear in full in the pages of the original field book.

Each field book should contain a tracing or map of the surveys in it with a good index. The maps should show approximately, not only the boundaries but the character of the reserves (see page 8 printed "Memo: on Indian Reserves" herewith) with the ditches, and a separate written descriptive report, with full particulars as to the character of each reserve, should be sent to the Commissioner for the use of the Indian Department.

In those parts of the Country where irrigation is necessary a separate general written report should be made as to the ditches and reserves, showing the

quantity of water obtainable from the Water Sources, whether the supply would be constant during the summer, also the nature and quantity of Cultivable land within the reserves that might be watered sufficiently long to raise good crops.

This last named report, being for the information of the Indian Department in the future, should be intelligible and concise, and, if possible, the surveyor might state his opinion generally as to the waterworks or courses, and the probable cost, to the Indians, of making them.

It is most important that the corners of all reserves should be marked in the most permanent way by posts, mounds, or stones, as, however true the measurements, the principal object of the survey will not be attained if the corners are not made permanent as far as possible.

This is especially necessary in the interior of the province where cattle graze at will.

The greatest economy in all things must be practised during the whole season, and the work at the same time pushed vigorously.

The quantity of work done, and of stones used, and the general expenditure of the survey parties, will be scrutinised and compared at the end of the season, so far as these can be fairly compared.

Each surveyor will advise the Commissioner and Dr. Powell of his whereabouts, and what he is doing, once in every fortnight, unless the cost of sending a letter to a post road be disproportionate.

At the end of the season the surveyors will send the Commissioner a special report showing the articles of Government property remaining, and their real condition, and stating where they are stored and what arrangements have been made to prevent damage to perishable articles.

The parties this year are to be of the same number

as last year, and will be paid at the following rates,

Surveyor		\$135. ⁰⁰ / ₁₀₀	amended - to be \$5 per Day
Chairman		45. ⁰⁰ / ₁₀₀	
2 Axemen	(ea)	35. ⁰⁰ / ₁₀₀	
Cook		35. ⁰⁰ / ₁₀₀	(or \$4.000 for

an experienced known cook who will save the stores.)

Pay will begin on the date of receipt of orders to proceed if the Surveyor is ready, and at the close of the season, one month's pay of the Surveyor will be retained until his accounts have been passed, and his performance of instructions examined.

The Surveyor will communicate with Dr. Powell for his instructions relative to money and keeping of books and accounts in accordance with departmental practice.

An official diary should be kept and written up daily from the date of receiving orders to proceed, showing what the party is doing, or employed upon, day by day.

A copy of the accepted tender for the supply of stores is attached to this memorandum.

Great care should be taken to purchase at the lowest price anything required when in the field under the head of "field extras" and to secure cheap transport from camp to camp.

The belief that the Government will pay any price is much too popular in the interior of the Country, as well as upon the Coast.

The Surveyor, it may be remarked, in conclusion, will understand that it is not desired by these arrangements to lessen their sense of responsibility in managing their parties, but to control and direct their action, chiefly in business matters outside their strictly professional duties, and in relation to Governmental requirements connected with the work of the Indian Reserve Commission,

which are not within their knowledge.

Signed, Gilbert Malcolm Sprout
Commissioner

P. P.

In sending official communications to Mr Sprout,
when it is not known where he is, address to care of Mr
Tomell, Inverness & ~~the~~ Superintendent, Victoria.

Det. J. M. S.

over for copy of tender (accepted)

Copy Tender (accepted) for stores for serving Parties.

We hereby submit tender for supplies to be furnished Indian Reserve Commission as per your advertisement of May 31/79 all to be of 807 quality

Items of Articles desired at		<u>Lytton</u>	<u>Piccola</u>
Extra Flour	per 100 lb	4 -	3 50
Bacon	" lb	18	17
Hams	" "	20	18
# 1 Brown Sugar	" "	14 1/2	16
Congou Tea black	" "	48	50
Yeast Powder	" doz	2 87	3 -
Salt table bags 5 lb	" bag	20	22
Beans	" lb	2 1/2	14
Green Coffee	" "	22	24
Price Candles	" "	29	31
Dried Apples Keg	" "	12 1/2	14
Golden Syrup 5 gms	" keg	6 25	7 25
Vinegar	" gn	1 25	1 38
Pickles CVB	" doz ²⁵ 9 ₇₅	3-50	10 50
Pepper time	" "	2	2 25
Mustard	" "	4	4 50
L & P Sauce	" "	4 75	5 25
Butter	" lb	40	40
Currants	" "	16	17 1/2
Raisins	" bag	4 75	5 25
Soap Eng. White Knobs	1/2 bag	8	9
Oatmeal Scotch	" lb	13 1/2	15
Dried Plums	" "	25	27
Mutton	" "		12 1/2
Beef fresh	" "		5
Potatoes and other vegetables	" "		2
Milk	" gn		nominal
Hops	" lb	40	42

To G. Blenkinson Esq
Secy. G. R. C.

- Sale June 5. 1879 -

Sd, Oppenheimer Bros,

Indian Reserve Commission
 British Columbia
 In camp near Kamel
 Fraser River
 1879 June 9th

(Special case of Reserves near New Westminster)

Sir
 Mr. Semihaw the Indian Superintendent at New Westminster has submitted a letter dated 2d. Dec. last on the above subject copy of which he informs me has been forwarded to you. Mr. Semihaw is in error in stating that there are no reserves in the immediate vicinity of the Town except a reserve of about one acre.

Three or four separate reserves in the immediate vicinity of New Westminster were laid off by the old Colonial Govt and include 25 or 30 acres.

The New Westminster case seems to me to be entirely a special one, and I have stated in the enclosed copy of my reply of this date to Mr. Semihaw my views as to his proposal, and generally as to these reserves which, in my judgment, should not be assigned for the use of any particular tribe, nor allotted to individuals.

I am Sir
 Your obedt. servant
 (Sig) Gilbert Malcolm Sproat
 Commissioner

The Honorable
 The Superintendent General
 of Indian Affairs
 Ottawa

In letter to James
 Semihaw let see
 next page
 Copy enclosed
 W.S.F.
 9. 6. 79

The dear Reserve Commission
 British Columbia
 The camp near Kamel
 Fraser River
 1879 June 9th

Sir/ (Reserves near New Westminster City)

What strikes me first, in reading your letter of 2nd Dec last on the subject of reserves near New Westminster, is, if I rightly understand your letter the largeness of your proposal namely, for establishing, for 400 permanent and 800 visitant Indians a village or town which, as regards population, would in fact be a sort of duplicate town of New Westminster inhabited by Indians. This new native town would, I think your meaning is, be established by the Dominion Govt, aided by the Indians themselves.

The collection of the Indians on the reserves near the town might, or might not be a good scheme in itself in reference to the social and industrial interest of the white inhabitants of the locality, and also in reference to the improvement of the condition of the Indians, but I respectfully submit that it may be found that the proposal is somewhat outside the line within which the Dominion Government desires and is bound to act. So far as I understand the matter the chief business of the Dominion Govt: as regards our Indians, is connected with the trusteeship, protection and management of the landed property of the Indians upon their tribal reserves.

Though the Indians are at present in a state of imperfect citizenship, they are to be regarded as an integral part of the community, with the same privileges of free locomotion and of acquiring

James Leitch
 Indian Superintendent
 New Westminster

property by labour or purchase that white men possess. As the old inhabitants of the country wedded to localities and to tribal and village life, the Government provides for each tribe, free of cost, portions of land at the tribal places of residence, and undertakes for the present, the care of these lands and to some extent the charge of the people upon these reserves.

But if the Indians leave their reserves in search of employment, as they in fact do, and as it is desirable they should at times do, the Dominion Government does not undertake to follow them with its care and its regular administrative machinery, here, there, and everywhere. At the same time, I do not doubt that the Government would always be willing to interfere benevolently on behalf of the Indians, and to proffer advice in cases brought to their notice, by Indians or groups of Indians who may have left the reserves and be temporarily following lawful occupations elsewhere. The Dominion Government would gladly hasten the time when the Indian shall become citizens, and would like to see them more largely endeavouring to provide for themselves in the industrial ranks of the Community, without having their self help weakened by the thought that the Government is always at their elbows. I found when at New Westminster in the winter season, 172 Indians, namely 64 men, 61 women and 47 children. These Indians belonged to 10 different tribes, about one half of the whole number belonging to the Douglas tribe, and all these tribes either have had, or will have reserves assigned to them at their own places of tribal residence.

Of the above total number of Indians, only one man expressed a wish not to be on the Census of his own tribe. The rest while valuing the privilege of being allowed to come to New Westminster to work, and anxious to have some place there in which they could live, without fear of rejection, were very decided in expressing to

and their attachment to their respective tribal abodes, and their unwillingness to have their names removed from the Census of their own tribes.

Under these circumstances, and in view of the fact that there are no New Westminster Indians proper, it would not be easy, without duplicating reserves and perhaps creating tribal jealousies, to assign lands for reserves at New Westminster for particular tribes even if the proposal to do so agreed with the policy of the Dominion government in relation to the Indians of this Province.

The foregoing is the strict view which I presume the Dominion government would approve, but on the other hand the number of Indians who visit New Westminster for a part of the year makes the matter a special case. I shall not mention the immorality of many of the women who visit the place, because that is a fact which is as much to the discredit of a portion of the white people as of the Indians.

The want of cleanliness in the persons and habits of the Indians, makes them undesirable inhabitants within the town, and might tend to cause disease among both Indians and whites. It may be said that this is a matter of Municipal concern, and that the Dominion Govt. will not relieve municipalities from the obligation to make and enforce proper regulations to secure reasonable conditions of health and comfortable residence for the community generally, including the Indians who may have visited the place in search of employment or who may be employed as labourers. This is true, but nevertheless I think it likely further that the Dominion Govt. while not accepting any special responsibility for such a proposal as you mention, would wish the best to be done for the general interest under the special circumstances existing at New Westminster, and might approve your action in giving advice to the

Indians to follow more decent and cleanly lives, and perhaps would sanction your giving the benefit of your personal supervision in any attempts they might make in this direction through utilising the reserves which at present are little used.

That the Indians will entirely remove from the City I do not think is likely. They have as much right to take up their residence within the City as any other persons, if they live according to the laws and municipal regulations applicable to the general population of the City. The Corporation or owners of lots may of course reject them by legal process from living on the corporate or individual property or lots, but if the labour of the Indian is needed within the town white men or some of the Indians themselves may lease lots and build houses on them and may let these houses for the accommodation of Indians, who thus will continue to live in the Town. Good however probably may be done by inducing at least some of the Indians to live outside of the City upon the reserves land out long ago by the Colonial Govt: for general Indian purposes, but not assigned to any particular tribe. These reserves with a small addition which I have made to them will suffice, under careful management to furnish a means of at least mitigating the evils of the residence of the Indians within the City, if the people themselves will go to these reserves, and will conform to the regulations which you may think fit to assist them in framing for residence there. I think these reserves should still be in the hands of the Indian Department and should not be assigned to any tribe and I have accordingly confirmed and assigned them with a small extension as per sketches sent to you.

Those portions of them suitable for the purpose, should be laid off regularly at the site of an Indian Town - no Indian being allowed to settle on the ground until the whole plan of residence was matured and approved

— and no deviations from the established regulations being afterwards permitted.

No tribe and no individual should be allowed to possess any portion of these reserves but permission to occupy a building lot on payment of a small ground rent might be given.

The Indians would build their houses on the lots at their own expense, and might remove them, but the houses and conveniences should be according to the plan and regulations.

If this matter were made clear from the first, I believe the Indians would largely manage all the town affairs, with very little help indeed.

In connection with these New Westminster reserves, I think it might not be difficult to lay off a certain portion of them for a general hospital, and also for a small pox hospital on some plan based on contributions from Indians visiting the place, and perhaps by and by, if the Govt. were so disposed, aided by some small subsidy either towards the hospital, or towards the salary of a medical officer at New Westminster who might among his other duties undertake the care of the Indian hospital.

I have explained to several of the Indians the principles on which the hospitals for white men supported mainly by voluntary contributions are established and maintained, and many of them seemed to appreciate the proposal and my explanation of their duty to help forward what was for the general benefit of their Indian fellowmen, though perhaps every individual contributor might not have to seek medical aid in the hospital. I give you the idea. The details, I think, can be worked up, but I am too much engaged with my troublesome special business to go further into the proposal in this letter.

I should be glad to hear that it would be in the

power of the Municipal Council to do something to help in establishing or supporting an Indian hospital, though no direct obligation rests upon them in this respect. The general public might also help by contributing. It is a prevalent fallacy to believe that all these obligations necessarily attach to the Dominion Govt. in their capacity as trustees for the landed reserves of the Indians. The Indians however, should have the chief burden thrown upon them, and they should feel that the villages and hospitals were their own institutions and I think further they should be directly represented in the management of all of them.

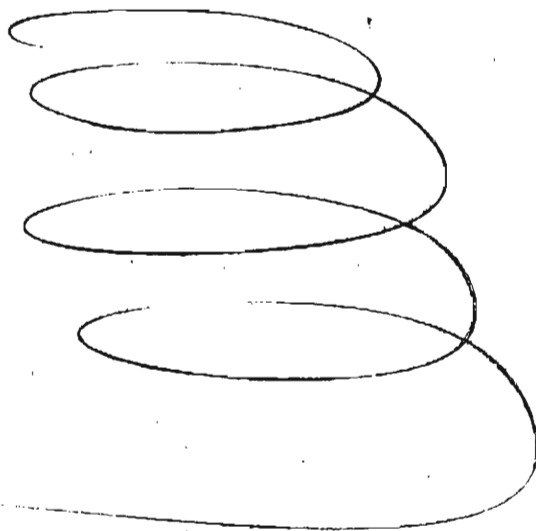
Keeping you to excuse this hasty statement of my views written while busy in camp in the mosquito season

I am Sir

Your Obedt. Servant
 (Sgd) Gilbert M. Sproat
 Commissioner

P.S. The Muskvean and the Langley Indians make claims of a special value to the reserves where Mr Herring has been living I will examine these claims, and inform you how far it is possible to reconcile them with above stated suggestion that no tribe and no individual shall possess any portion of the new Westminster reserves.

(Sgd) G. M. S.



Ind. Mes.^r. Bourmison
In camp - Chamul
10th June 79

Dear Sir/

Can you send to Capt. Jemmett New Westminster by return steamer partentars, with sketch if any, of the 12 acre piece of land at Kicomen Shookan River, as Capt. Jemmett has to survey the adjoining Indian Reserve?

Yours truly
(Sig) J. M. Sprouat

M. Leavelle
Sgt. Agent
Male

Ind. Mes.^r. Bourmison
In camp Chamul
Fraser River
10th June 1879

Dear Sir/

In surveying the Kicomen Indian Reserve our surveyor will have I presume to survey your 12 acre piece to get at a common line.

The shape of yours according to law will have to be on lines N. & S
E. & W.

As you are much out the road, will you kindly leave a note at your house at Kicomen telling the surveyor who will probably be Capt. Jemmett, how you would like your piece laid off.

Yours truly
(Sig) J. M. Sprouat

J. M. Sprouat
Sgt. Agent
Male

Indian Reserve Commission
In Camp Chamblé
1879 June 9th.

Sir / Will you oblige me by causing Capt
Jennett, New Westminster, to be furnished
by return of post, if possible, with particulars
of Mr George Coconis 12 acre claim at his new,
Thompson Mine, with sketch, if any, as Capt
Jennett is about to proceed thither to survey the
adjoining Indian Reserve and will, in order to find
the common line, have to survey Mr Coconis land.
Soliciting your attention to the above, as all
my staff are absent from Victoria

I am Sir

Your Obedt Servant

Wm J Sprout
Comd.

Yours

The Chief Commissioner
of Lands & Works
Victoria

in Triplicate

M.C. B.C. 12 June 1879

I certify that Mr Edward Mohun was engaged in examining the field notes of (of Jewett) and Mr Green for 1870 Indian survey from the 1 Dec 1870 to the 5th July 1879 inclusive

He must render his accounts to show separately the time spent on work for each Superintending
 S. J. M. Stewart
 Commr

M.C. B.C. 12 June 1879 Okanil

Sir

I enclose certificates (in triplicate) of time spent by Mr. Mohun on survey work last winter; also inclosed accts which he sent me.

Mr Mohun maintains that he was engaged on this work from the 17th Nov 1878.

I enclose for his original letter to me dated 29 Nov: showing he had not then begun survey work. Please return the letter.

I am, Sir

Yours Obed Servt

 P. S. M. Stewart
 Commr.

Dr Powell

Indian Dept Victoria

J. M. C. Stewart 12 June 79

James Brundage

Sir

I beg to enclose an acct - of Mr Farwell
chargeable to Survey which I have signed
as correct \$.

This expenditure has been
incurred in connection with the troublesome
Somers Dykes matter which, finding that the
Prov. Govt wd do nothing in it, I have settled
now by direct negotiation with the persons concerned
Messrs. Duly & Co - thus preventing disallowance of acct.

I have had considerable
correspondence with the Dept at Ottawa on this
matter. I was aided by Mr Vanhook's
telegram of 3 apt. to get this special work
done as per original telegram herewith
enclosed for your information which please
return unless you wish to keep it.

Yours truly

J. M. C. Stewart

Dr Powell

Dir: Dept - Victoria

Ottawa 3. apt 1879

note } the following is copy.
for book }

Recd at N West: apt 4 1879 2 Pm

J. D. Stewart Dir: Res: Comr Northwest.

Proceed at once to Cheltenham Surm
and Matsqui ascertain if reserves sufficient
when drained if not what further required
and report. At result - by telegraph.

L. Vanhook (sent)

Mc Namit 1879
June 12

Si

Dear Madam

Referring to my letter to you of 3 March
on survey, & your reply of 3 March I have signed Mr
James pay out divided for the two Superintendents &
given it to him.

As B. Leekins, being absent, I cannot
today send the acct for small stores at New West: in
connection with Mr James work such as rent of office
use of stove & table, stationery &c, but I will do so
in time for the financial year, with any other survey a/c.

Mr James is no
longer in the service. He has given me
great satisfaction by his assiduity.

I am now fully assured
that my estimate of two months for plotting and
mapping H 1870 survey work was correct. With
good arrangements, it might even take less time.

Yours &c
J. S. Macdonald
Com

J. S. Macdonald
Asst Sup. Victoria

Indian Reserve Commission
 British Columbia
 Inland New
 Okanogan, Fraser River
 12th June 1849

13424
 Sir

Agent at Kamloops

I have received to day your letter of the 23rd May on the subject of a suggestion made by the Rev^d Father Grandinier that an Indian Agent should be appointed in the Kamloops district.

It is somewhat difficult to form a satisfactory opinion upon this suggestion without some reference to the general policy which the Government may be likely to adopt in improving the administration of Indian Affairs in general, but after giving a little further thought through my former work at this mosquito-infested portion of the Fraser, I will do my best to submit respectfully a short Report on the points which you mention.

Considering the hold of the Catholic clergy upon the Indians in a portion of that district, and the good work done by Mr Grandinier, some care should be taken not to disregard his recommendations and another matter is that the Indians' views upon the Agent whose name is suggested should also be quietly ascertained.

I can probably do something in this latter direction by unofficial inquiries from some of the Kamloops Chiefs whom doubt will be present at the great Lytton meeting which I am invited to attend and propose to attend while the vessel is getting ready for coast work, after I get down again to the mouth of the Fraser.

The Hon:
 The Superintendent General
 of Indian Affairs

I am Sir
 your Obedt Servant
 Signed J. A. G. & Malcolm Stewart
 Commissioned

Indian Reserve Commission
 British Columbia
 In camp near Wapauw
 12th June 1879

(Subdivision of Reserves into
 Individual Holdings—)

Sir/
 I occasionally submit for your consideration matters which perhaps are a little outside my special duties, because every week I more fully appreciate that Indian business in this Province should be treated as a whole in order to save money and secure good management.

If the Government does bit by bit, what is required to place Indian Affairs, as a whole, on a good footing, it is obvious there will be successive expenditures under the head of "transport", and such items as "interpreting", first for one bit of business and then in respect of another bit on the same ground. The adjustment of the question of the Indian Land Reserves—intricate, difficult and expensive as the work is will be only the first step in the administration of Indian Affairs in this Province.

Some plan of subdividing both the old and new Reserves into individual holdings must be devised and carried out. This is probably the only way in which the evils of chiefship can be lessened and quietly extinguished in time, and it is a simple means of giving the Government a most useful power of admonishing the idle and encouraging the industrious. The Chiefs from jealousy and various reasons, often interfere to prevent young men becoming comparatively well off and powerful in the tribe, as the possessors of good farms. They force them to abandon cultivation or to limit its extent. Nothing pleases many of the Indians more than the hope of having their holdings secured to them by a government "paper". This is an authority which no Chief would question. If a reserve taken as a whole is not properly cultivated the Agent of the Government

at present can only scold the tribe as a mass, and his scolding must give pain to industrious members of the Tribe, or men who would be industrious, if they had a chance, and knew that their labour would not be wasted.

If however, Indian Law, or *Seik* or *Jo* had his piece of land, the scolding could be concentrated upon his head if he could not give a good reason for neglecting to use his land, he could be warned and finally dispossessed if he proved incorrigibly lazy, or he could be praised and encouraged if he worked well.

A good deal of judgment and patience would be required for such work, owing to the necessity, in subdividing, of taking account of existing interests, and of making as equal a division, in value as possible, of the surface of reserves of very different kinds - some wooded and fertile, others unwooded and barren, some needing irrigation for culture others requiring draining, or to be dyked against tides or *unsi* "pestets". Many disputes exist on the old reserves as to individual holdings, which often are patches of land of small value in the eyes of civilized men, but of great value to the Indian claimants, owing to the local position, circumstances and associations. The ownership sometimes depends on rules of inheritance and tribal customs, not of course in record anywhere for examination, and it is often mixed with transactions between the parties extending over several years, and seldom illustrated by any documentary proof.

I have, experimentally and without stopping the progress of the Commission, done some of this subdividing and adjusting work myself and I have been surprised at the keenness and ingenuity of some of the claimants.

The question of expenditure is largely one of transport &c. - The Government first sends round the Reserve

Commission - then it sends round surveyors to survey the outside boundaries of reserves - and then unless essential matters are left untouched, it will have to send round men again to subdivide. Knowing the cost of transport would it not be advisable to consider whether under a compacted system, the bulk of this work could not be finished as the ~~progress~~^{work} progressed - more work being done over for all within perhaps a narrower area than can now be covered?

This perhaps could not have been done at first because the people regarded the government with suspicion, but on the whole, now, it may be said they regard them differently, through the Reserve Commission, and the confidence which they ~~show~~ in the Commission is a fair business element which might be utilised. Outside of the work of the Commission, as an arbitrating body in fact between the two governments, the Census is at the basis of Indian Administration, next comes the subdivision of the lands among the people or per census - after that, a head of affairs continually moving about with a few local agents or correspondents is needed - and a man, say in Victoria, to have charge of departmental accounts. The Indians should be utilised as much as possible, in all administrative matters, and in the management of reserves. People generally undervalue what the Indians are able to do in this respect. They can do much under direction and in so doing would learn how to do more.

Acting on some singular recommendation from this quarter, the government 40 or 50 years ago, sent out surveyors to survey the reserves into regular divisions notwithstanding the unequal nature and value of different parts of the surface, Some inequality of course must be found in reserves, even in agricultural

^{counties}
 such as Ontario and Manitoba, but here the inequalities are so great speaking generally, that the above plan of division always was impracticable, and I cannot understand how it was ever recommended. The plan I have tried is to make the Indians subdivide their own lands. Everyone has considered this an impossibility, but I have succeeded with a small ~~tribe~~ tribe at Chilloback (where the Indians are more broken up into petty groups, & separated by jealousies than in any other part of the country) and I mention the case illustratively.

I gave the Indians a sketch of the outside lines of the reserve, and in effect said to them: "The Govt wishes to know who is idle and who is not, and what all your talk about not having enough land amounts to. The white people sometimes think you are fools, and can do nothing. I wish to test this. Here is a sketch of the outside lines of your reserve. Take it, get a pencil, set in formal mark what each man is to have and try it to me. I think you can do it. I wish you to do it yourselves for you know your own affairs. If you cannot do it, I will help you."

I enclosed a tracing of the sketch showing outside lines which I gave to these Indians "Tracing N^o 1"

They fully discussed the matter among themselves, and by and by brought back the sketch filled up (See Sketch N^o 2.) with subdividing lines drawn by themselves. I examined it with the census and found all the men provided for. They had good reasons for the different sizes of the areas of the subdivisions, one man had done work; another had only lately joined the tribe or manager; another "was very ^{lazy} ~~lazy~~" and did not want a large piece lest he should be scolded; he was very fond of sleep. An agent of the Government could not go into these matters, and might act arbitrarily and fail to satisfy the Indians, but they cannot complain

of what they deliberately did themselves, with full warning that the division was, so far, final unless approved in open meeting by the people, and by me after referring to the census.

The restlessness of the savage mind was shown by their coming afterwards (on the investigation I think of a white man) to say that on reflection, they thought the man had too much. Knowing this was mere restlessness, I put my hand on the paper and said "This is final" and they were quite satisfied.

You will observe that they provided a strip for their village and church, with little gardens, so drawn as to give easy access to the farms, and it is worthy of notice that they have arranged so that a very small portion of the land is required for roads. The graveyard is very large for the small number of people. They have their own reasons for all these things.

Having a surveyor on the spot examining the existing scheme, I asked him at odd times, to survey this small reserve, wishing to send it to you as a sample (Sketch No 3). He found that the Indians had very clear views as to the dividing lines, so much so that they did not wish the line to run - for instance over one side of a small tree. Their agreement among themselves was that it should run on the other side. To complete this work a coloured sketch should be hung up in the village, and a titual book opened containing a sketch and the ~~As~~ of the lots and the occupants names in Indian and in English. This very simple plan would immediately reduce all the land affairs of the Indians to order.

At first "weak papers" should be issued, to each owner; then "stronger ones" according to this work, or in case of neglect, he should be dispossessed. On acquiring full powers they could easily understand the need of registering transfers, and perhaps in lieu of a title

some record of the listators wish made in the record book might suffice - the wife giving consent - if it could be known who was the wife.

As soon as this reserve done then the neighbouring tribes insisted theirs done too, but of course I could not undertake the work.

~~When~~ I gave an outline sketch to one large tribe which has been noted for intestine disputes, partly religious & partly wrong headedness, and they brought it acutely divided, but on reference to the census I found some Indians excluded, who were absent. I gave them a severe lecture, pointing out their meanness to their fellow tribesmen, and asking if they were trying to cheat the Queen, and said I should like to know what fool advised them. I did this purposely for ~~the~~ effect upon others. The Interpreter tells me the tribe is much afraid and chagrined, and ~~will~~ will have every thing in order as I pass down the river. I mention this merely to give an idea of what subdividing the reserves means.

I am sorry in conclusion to inform you that this reserve among others, is one which might be affected by an exercise of the road making powers assumed to be given by the Gazette notice of the 10th May issued by the Provincial Government. (see my letter of 24th May on the subject.)

I am Sir

Your Obedt Servant

(Sd) Gilbert Malcolm Sproat
Commissioner

The Honourable
The Superintendent General
of Indian Affairs
Ottawa

Poppoicum, 15th June 1879.

L. Van Koughnet, Deputy Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

I have written fully explaining
question respecting Survey.

#2 p. 9

(S) Sproat

Indian Reserve Commission
In Camp Chulchuk
1879. May 3^d

Sir,
I have the honor to enclose herewith by the direction
of G. M. Sproat Esq. Indian Commissioner, copy of a
letter from Wm. Lang-Mearns Esq. T.P. of Sisson Dry
Creek. recd at this Camp on the 25th Ultimo

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your Obedt Servant
G. M. Sproat
Surveyor

James Lemihaw Esq
Indian Superintendent
New Westminster

Copy of Mr. W
Lang-Mearns letter
sent to Hon: Superintendent
General and Chief Surveyor
of Lands
See Index 191.192
Book 3.

Indian Reserve Commission
 In Camp. Popocon
 June 14th 1879

Gentlemen

I am directed by the Special Agent
 Indian Commission to state to you the result
 of my examination of the supposed encroachment
 of the West boundary line of lot 247 group 2. Dew
 Westminster District, on the Cheam Reservation.
 I beg to inform you that after carefully examining
 the said line I find that there is a strip of vacant
 land between lot 247 and the Indian Reserve.

This strip of land I am authorized to state
 has been added to the old Reserve by the Commission.

I have the honor to be
 gentlemen

Thos. A. Smith, Knight
 Popocon
 Fraser River

Your Obedt Servant
 W. A. Furwell

Indian Reserve Commission
 Chulchuck

W. A. Keever, 16th June 1879

Sir,
 Will it be convenient for you to meet me
 tomorrow, and at what time, at above address
 to give me an opportunity of examining any
 papers you may have connected with your occupation
 of Dominion lands on the Cuttus Lake road.

I can call on you if you wish it, but I have my
 books here.

Yours etc.
 (By) G. W. Sprout
 Agent.

W. A. Gibson Jr.

Indian Res. Comm^{rs}
 Wm McKewen's
 Chulivhaek
 16th June 1879

Sir/
 Will it be convenient for you to meet me tomorrow
 and at what time at above address, to give me
 an opportunity of examining any papers which
 you may have connected with your occupancy
 of Dominion lands near the Kew Kooa qui oose
 Reserve, or if more suitable to your convenience I
 shall have pleasure in calling upon you at your
 house tomorrow. I make the first suggestion,
 however as I have my books &c here, and cannot
 conveniently carry them.

I am going away on Wednesday by the Steamer

I am Sir
 (By) Robert Malcolm Spout
 Comm^r
 Miller Esq

Indian Reserve Comm^{rs}
 Chulivhaek
 1879. June 19th

Sir/
 Understanding that you propose taking up land
 in the neighbourhood of the Indian Village at Harroon
 River. They to inform you that these lands are within
 the railway reserve and that, consequently, no one can
 acquire any right but that of a squatter, and further
 that such rights will not be recognised by the Dominion
 Govt., if opposed to Indian requirements. You will therefore
 occupy land at your risk, pending the adjustment of the
 Indian Land Question for the Harroon river Indian, which
 the highway prevents me from undertaking at present

Wm
 Called "Juni" by the
 Indians

I am Sir
 (By) R M Spout
 Comm^r

Indian Res: Commission

In camp Chilliwack
20 June 1879

My dear Cheelikeetsa,

I have thought it well that your Reserves should be surveyed soon, and Mr Mwhun goes to Kioles for this purpose.

I have remembered all that you said to me, and all that I said to you, and what I said stands fast, and Mr Mwhun has been informed of all our talks and of my decisions.

The Government think that the arrangement made is suitable and has no doubt that the whites and the Indians will get on well.

I told you that in giving your Indians the place at the foot of the Lake which had been the subject of dispute between you and S. Long Cuo San - I thought that the cropping place of the Indians should be there with a considerable area of grass land conveniently adjacent but not closing around the lake, and further, a commonage area between Indians and whites on the ^{NORTH} end of Incola Lake River, together with sundry fishing places, the old race course &c.

You finally agreed to what I decided but asked me to represent to the Government that you had a Ketiwill house and corral on what was Mr Roe's land or claimed by that gentleman and you wished to know what the Gov^t thought about this matter.

The Gov^t is of opinion that the Indians in getting the fine piece at the foot of the Lake are well supplied, and that neither yourself nor any other Indian should settle upon any lands not given by the Com^{rs}. You should not stay when the Ketiwill and corral are, but should go within the proper Indian

lands. But the Government, at the same time, think that you should receive some compensation, if you will accept it, but the Government do not offer this not knowing how you may feel; they only say that you must not stay on that land or the law will take hold of you, which all who know you as one of the old chiefs of the country, and nobody more than myself, would deeply regret. I have authorized Mr. Inkun to pay or arrange for payment of \$500⁰⁰ for expense of moving your corral etc if you choose to accept it. Whether you do so or not, you will have no right to the land.

I said I would write to you about this, as soon as it could, to Mr. Gullie, or some one at Kevler, but as Mr. Inkun is going, I send word by him, and with best wishes for you and your people.

I am, my dear Chilikeetoo
Yours truly

Sd. J. M. Sprunt

Your reserve is a very good one, and I am trusting greatly to you to promote whatever is good among your people, giving up old ways and adopting a new fashion which will bring you peace and contentment among your children and people in your old age.

J. M. Sprunt

Indian Chief }
Chilikeetoo } Nicola Valley

Indian Res Com^{rs}

Chilliwack 20 June 1879

Gentlemen,

I beg to enclose herewith for your information a sketch showing approximately the addition that has been made to the Skowkayn and Yastkw. a. h. v. o. v. h. v. Reserves and adjoining them

Mrs. Willis & Wacker }
Hooper & Co }

J. M. Sprunt
Sd. J. M. Sprunt Com^{rs}

Indian Res. Commissioner

In Camp Hillisook
20 June 1879

Sir,

I enclose a letter for Chilliheba of this date which please deliver to him and get it read to him if you can.

I have opened a credit for you for \$50⁰⁰ with the Leland Co Indian Sup^y & Clothing in case Chilliheba chooses to accept that sum.

I annex copy of the list made by me on the spot of the various subjects of conversation between that chief and me before the decision as to his reserves.

Yours truly

E. M. Leland Co. C. B.
En route for Hillisook

J. G. McSproul Com^r

Fishery at Moores - refused
Amendment of line No 1 Reserve - refused
Grass addition thereto
Disputed Land at foot of Douglas Lake
Grass area adjacent
Grass Commonage -
Hoodoo Reserve - race course &c claimed by Woodward
Indians want some of the Hayland there - as well as the Race course &c
Quichen also Richardson Chapperton & Chapperton Lake
ancient piece between them and Lake for fishery land.
Rights of fishing streams and Trout Lake
Two fisheries much frequented above near Salmon Lake.
Water rights to all streams for irrigation including water from a stream south of wagon road about 2 1/2 miles from Douglas Lake

Jim and his brother's piece up stream
desired by Mr. Donald but refused.

It would as a matter
of policy be desirable to mark off Chiliketwa's
own land on the foot of the Lake reserve. I said
he might have 40 acres including his house out
of which he can give his son Alick a piece.

If Chiliketwa refuses to leave
Mr. Rae's place on the Reserve on which he is
squating you might say to him that probably
the Govt would probably refuse him these
40 acres.

Time will be short for the work but it
would greatly help the people and quietly have the
effect of curtailing the chiefs powers were at least the
portion suitable for little farms on the reserve at the
foot of Douglas Lake along east side of the stream flowing
into S.W. end of Douglas Lake roughly subdivided or slated
off into about 10 acre portion. You would not have time
to do the whole Reserve probably, but this lot would be
easily done and would be a guide for them for the rest.

The Chelivack Indians had subdivided their own
Reserve. Chiliketwa through jealousy might oppose this,
but you could tell him you had your orders. The
people are anxious about it.

Wm. Surveyors

Enclosed in the box are

Instructions as to Chiliketwa's

Bob Hamilton's Ok — Hancewotkins

Cold Water — Skuppah

Kanaka Flat — and Siska

Pincoman

See fol
316

I propose being at Lytton on 15th July and would like to show Jemmett the Skway-army (above named slide, reservoir).

I send these above reservoirs on this side of Lytton so that Captain Jemmett may either work there or at Incomen, as as to be somewhere near when I get to Lytton.

The Potato gardens &c I will send on to Proben. Please leave word at Lytton after reading these if any explanations seem to be required and I will attend thereto.

Mess^{rs} Proben & Jemmett

W. G. M. Spratt

June 20 - 1879

Indian Reserve Commissioner
Chilliwack

June 24th 1879

Sir,

Will you kindly inform "Augusto" the Principal Indian Chief, that I am unable to send him a sketch map of his reserve at present. Please also explain to him that no maps can be made until the Commissioner has sent a survey party to Okanil.

Yours &c.

(Sig) W. Farwell

Surveyor

Owen Jones Esq
Jones' Landing
Okanil

Copy
Telegram

Chilliwack to P.O.

23 June 1879

Mr. Hamley Coll. Customs
Victoria

Wood American schooner be permitted to transport Indian Com^{rs} about Br. Columbian Coast. I cannot find any other suitable one. Please telegraph reply - W. G. M. Spratt

Copy
Telegram.

24 June 1879

Hon: Super: Gen:

Indian Affairs } Ottawa.

Most suitable vessel for my coast work is American please ask Min. Customs if permission to use her on Br. Columbian Coast can be given for purposes of Indian Commission.

St. Spwal
Chilliwack

Copy
Form No 3

Triplicate

Form: to Ch: Comr
Land & Works

See in District Register 1050

1873

Br. Columbia
Land Act 1874

Certificate Record of Unsurveyed Land

District of Yale

Stawloops division, name of section in full - Oregonian Garcia.

Date of Record June 16 - 1877

Number of acres, in words, Three hundred & twenty

Where situated - Cold Water R. Nicola.

Description of boundaries of land.

North by Crown Land. South by Crown Land. East by mountains and west by Cold Water River. From State 1 a line

running East 580 yds to State 2. Thence South 1760 yds to State 3

Thence West 880 yds to State 4. Thence North 1760 yds to point of starting.

The above boundaries are subject to confirmation with and rectification upon Official Survey.

Signature of Commissioner

St. M. Crocker

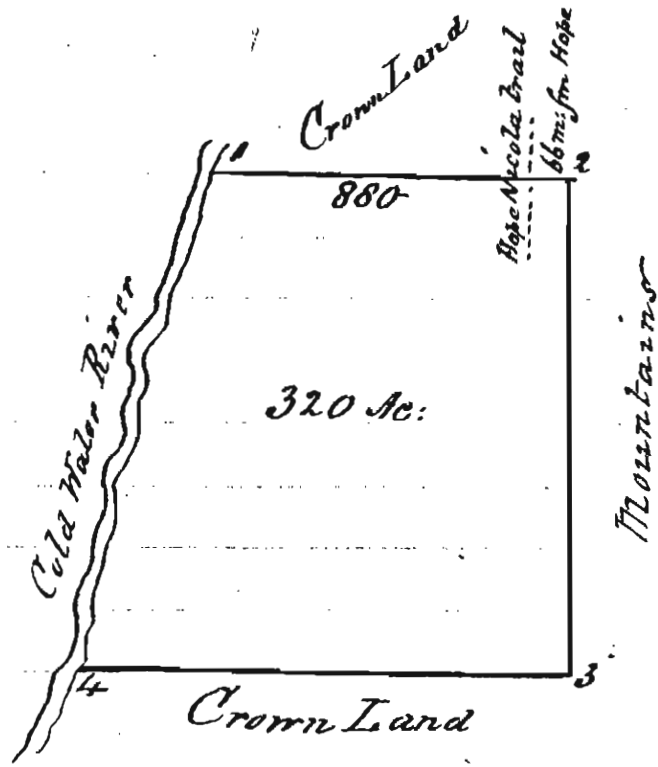
1476 Application

no date 50 - 22 May 77

1477 Form No 2. Declaration

50 - 22 May 77

77 N.B. Plan of the land to be drawn on back of this sheet in accordance with clause 6 of the Land Act 1874.



Mem.
This came from J Richards
on 25 June and is
supposed to be the
sketch to accompany
Gregoria Garcia's
Record.

Chilwack 26 June 1879

Sir,

I am directed by the Indian Bureau
Commissioner to forward you the enclosed copy
of Gregoria Garcia's "Certificate of Record" also a
sketch on the back from Mr. J Richards supposed to
be of Gregoria's claim. The sketch on tracing
paper was made by me in error, but under the direction
of Mr Richards on the 2nd June.

C. Prohm Esq. C.E.
En route to Nicola Valley
C/o Barnard & Co. Yale

I am Sir

Your obedt. Serv^t
St. Geo. Plentinsop
Secy. to I.R. Com^{rs}

Telegram

L. VanKoughnet
Dep. Sup. Gen. Indian Affairs
Ottawa

Provincial Government
having done nothing in respect
to irrigation, I am preparing
for Court work in pursuance

of your instructions in that event, and being offered
an American vessel cheaply my intention in telegraphing
you was to ascertain if American vessel can be
permitted to navigate British Columbian waters for the
purpose of Indian Commission.

New Westminster B.C.
28 July 1879

St. Sprout

New Westminster 28 June 1879

Sir,

I forwarded you by last mail all the Vouchers in my possession relating to the Survey branch of the Indian Commission.

Mr Lane, who is travelling towards Nicola, has kindly offered to take the portable ink bottle, which I have given him.

Mr Ross of Kamloops writes to me to say he has forwarded all the stores left in his charge by Captain Semm to, with the exception of those marked on list, now enclosed.

I am Sir,

Your obed^t servt.

W. Geo. Pleunkinop, Secy.

E. Nolan Esq. C.B.
 en route to Nicola Valley
 of J. Murray Esq. Sp. Agent

Minutes of Decisions.

In virtue of Commissions and instructions issued by the Governments of Canada and British Columbia, empowering us to fix and determine the number, extent and locality of the Reserve or Reserves to be allowed to the Indians of British Columbia, We, the undersigned, having in each case made full inquiry on the spot into all matters affecting the question, hereby declare the following to be the Reserves for the undermentioned Indian tribes, respectively,

Muskevean
 "Muskevean Tribe"

Original Reserve as per official Map confirmed and an addition made of Lots eight and nine, north west corner of Sew Island.

See page 224

Burrard
 Inlet

False Creek
"Skwawmish Tribe"

Reserve confirmed, and increased, by line north, from the north west foot, to sea, allowing shore line to north east foot of reserve. Addition subject to rights of timber.

Kah, pil. Lab, no Creek
 Burrard Inlet
"Skwawmish Tribe"

No. 5
 A reserve confirmed and increased by addition of a tract of land bounded as follows: from the north west corner of Lot 264 by a line running true north to its intersection with Kah, pil. Lab, no Creek. thence down the left bank of Creek to northern boundary of original reserve, thence easterly along said boundary to its intersection with the western boundary of Lot 264, thence north up said boundary to initial point.

No. 1
 Mission Reserve
 Burrard Inlet
"Skwawmish Tribe"

Original Reserve as per Official map confirmed

No. 2
 Seymour Creek,
 Burrard Inlet
"Skwawmish Tribe"

Original Reserve confirmed and increased by running from the north west corner true north 20 chains

False Creek
"Skwawmish Tribe"

No. 6
 Original Reserve confirmed, and increased, by running line north from the north west foot, to sea, thence following shore line to north east foot of original reserve, addition subject to rights of timber lease.

Stat. fil. Lab. no Creek
 Burrard Inlet
"Skwawmish Tribe"

No. 5
 Original reserve confirmed and increased by the addition of a tract of land bounded as follows, from the north west corner of Lot 264 by a line running true north to its intersection with Stat. fil. Lab. no Creek. thence down the left bank of Creek to northern boundary of original reserve, thence easterly along said boundary to its intersection with the western boundary of Lot 264, thence north up said boundary to initial point.

No. 1
 Mission Reserve
 Burrard Inlet
"Skwawmish Tribe"

Original Reserve as per Official map confirmed

No. 2
 Seymour Creek,
 Burrard Inlet,
"Skwawmish Tribe"

Original Reserve confirmed and increased by running from the north west corner true north 20 chains

thence true east to Seymour creek, thence
down creek to north east point of present Reserve,
Addition subject to rights of timber lease.

Reserve near North Arm.

W. 3

Parrard Inlet.
Skwawmish Tribe.

Original Reserve confirmed and increased by
running from the north east corner post true east
to the eastern boundary of New Snowy Nelson
Timber Lease, thence south to the north west
corner post of Lot 230, thence along the
western boundary of said Lot to the shore, thence
westerly along shore line to the south east post
of original Reserve, subject to the rights of
Timber lease.

Fishing Station at head of North Arm.

Fishing station at head of North Arm,
Parrard Inlet.

W. 4

In. laila. wa. tak.
"Skwawmish and Mukkeam Tribe"

Situated on the left bank at the mouth of the
river and estimated to contain about eight acres.
This being a new reserve, we give a
rough sketch of it, and the following particular
description.

From a large hemlock marked ↑
about 2 chains above an Indian house on left
bank of river true east to base of mountain,
thence following base southerly to end of flat,
thence up stream along shore line to point of
commencement, and, in addition with above,

the small grassy island at the mouth of the River
and on the eastern side of the main channel -

New West B.C. }
15 June 1877 }
Sd, A.C. Anderson - Comr. Com.
Sd, Archibald Kenley - Pres. Com.
Sd, G. McSprou - Joint Com.

Indian Reserve Commission

New Westminster 1 July 1879

Sir,

In adjusting the Chilliwack Indian Reserves
(in which after much difficulty and time I have
succeeded better than I hoped) I assigned the
N.W. 1/4 Sec. 22 - T26 for Indian purposes.

This is the only
piece of grass land on the prairie that the Indians
have, and it is assigned for all the Indians
to cut grass on. I mention this piece in advance
of my informing you as to the Reserves, generally,
at Chilliwack, as it is on what is known as
the "Big Prairie" where probably settlers may squat
or apply for land.

I shall accordingly be glad
if you will note the above assignment, to which
Mr Dealy, for his part, has agreed.

The Hon
The Comr. Lands & Works
Victoria

I am &c &c
Sd, G. McSprou Comr.

Telegram

Michl. Ind. Comr. Interpreter
Lytton

New Westminster July 79

Will reach Lytton on 14th. Can
wait few days for chiefs -

Sd, Sprouat

Indian Res. Commission

New Westminster

3 July 1879

Sir,

I beg to enclose Census of Indians visited by me in 1878 and part of the present year, for the information of your department.

A copy has been sent to Ottawa.

I am Sir &c &c

J. D. McSpreat Com^d

Jas Lemkau Esq^r
New Westminster
Indian Supt

Indian Res. Commission
British Columbia

New Westminster

3 July 1879

Sir,

Census

I beg herewith to enclose the Census of Indians visited since the last census was sent to the Department - total 4937.

You will be pleased to notice the numbers of cattle and horses which these people already possess.

I respectfully ask your attention further to the interesting report from Mr Geo. Blankenship, Census Enumerator, which accompanies the Census. This gentleman is a very efficient officer.

I am Sir &c &c

J. D. McSpreat

Com^d

The Hon.

The Supt. Gen.

Indian Affairs Ottawa

Original
Commission of Canada

\$1500⁰⁰

Victoria BC 3 July 1879

Received from the Res. General of Canada through the hands of the Bank of the Columbia at Victoria the sum of Fifteen hundred dollars being amount advised from Ottawa per wire

Signature

J. M. Sprunt
Officer Res. Com^{rs}

British Columbia
Ind Res Commission

New Westminster BC
4 July 1879

Sir

Your instructions with respect to the Standard have been duly noted, but there is scarcely any work in the way of printing connected with the business under my care - The only advertisement we have had was about Survey Stores and that was sent to the "Standard"

The decisions of the Commission, describing the boundaries of Reserves, will be published in the "Gazette" which is under the control of, and published at the expense of, the Provincial Gov^t. There might be some advantage, however, in giving these a wider circulation within the Province than the Gazette affords -

I am Sir

Your obedient

J. M. Sprunt
Com^r

The Hon

The Sup. Gen. of Indian Affairs
Ottawa

Indian Reserve Commission

New Westminster

14 July 1879

Sir,

Understanding that stakes have been placed by some one (probably showing an intention of purchasing) within the lands reserved for the Indians of the Lower Similkameen or Kerevens - (see mine to you 13 Feb^r last to which I await reply) which lands are as follows - those portions of the Lower Similkameen Valley which were not occupied 20 Sept^r 1878 by whites, also from the Old Custom 1/2 along the Osoyoos trail and 2 miles on each side of it to the third lake (the one on the higher part of the divide) ^{boundary} from Kerevens the valley along the Pantictos trail to the stream about half way to Pantictos which flows from the north west feeding the Long Lake at its head. I beg leave respectfully and earnestly to express a hope that the Provincial Gov^t will not deal with any of the above lands without the consent of the Dominion Government - otherwise the difficulty existing with respect to the sale of portions of the Osoyoos Reserve will be reproduced in this neighbouring district.

The Hon^{ble}
The Chief Com^r: Lands Works
Victoria

I am, Sir,
Yours faithfully,
G. M. Sproule Com^r

Indian Reserve Commission
The Camp near Coombs Bay
22nd July 1879

Indian lands Cooyos District

Sir/

Having noticed today in a newspaper a statement purporting to be an extract from the Gazette relative to the sale of land in the above district next month; I beg respectfully to say that, while not doubting that the matter has received your attention in issuing the above notice, you may pardon my reminding you of the condition of Indian land matters in the Cooyos District caused by the sale of a portion of the Cooyos Reserve (now the subject of correspondence between the two governments) and I ~~would~~ would also again call attention in good time before the proposed sale to my letter to you lately with respect to the reserved lands for the Indians of Teremeos and the Lower Similkameen in the above District.

I am &c.

(Sig) G. M. Stewart

The Commissioner

The Honble
The Chief Commissioner
of Lands & Works
Victoria

Clipped from
"Standard"
Notice above referred to.

PUBLIC NOTICE.
OSOYOOS DIVISION OF YALE DISTRICT.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, in accordance with Section 5 of the "Land Amendment Act, 1879," that all the surveyed, unappropriated, unoccupied, and unreserved land, in Osoyoos Division of Yale District, will be offered for sale at Public Auction, at the upset price of one dollar per acre, on Friday, 15th day of August next, at the office of T. McK. Lambly, Esq., Assistant Commissioner of Lands and Works, Okanagan.

GEO. A. WALKER,
Chief Commissioner of Lands & Works
Land and Works Department,
Victoria, 11th July, 1879. Jy14

Indian Reserve Commission

British Columbia

20th July 1874

In camp Lytton

N^o 11.537

Mr Duncan of Comox

In reference to your letter of 27th June, enclosing for my information copy of a letter of the 14th May last from Mr Duncan of Comox to you, further complaining as to the assignment of Indian Lands at that place, and stating that my previous report on the same subject is "false", and that I only know the land by report from local government officials at Comox, I have to remark that these lands were not assigned by me but by the three Commissioners, that Mr Duncan's complaint simply is that he could not acquire a title to an old settlement which the Commissioners confirmed to the Indians: that the whole question was fully investigated at the Land Office Victoria and also on the spot at Comox, and that Mr Duncan himself with the three Commissioners and their Surveyor walked over every part of the land.

I have further to state that the Commissioners did not take or attempt to take a single acre of land from Mr Duncan or any other gentleman at Comox, and if they had done so prejudicially to legal rights their assignment would have been invalid.

I assume that Mr Green's survey is in accordance with decision of the Commission.

The other portions of Mr Duncan's letter seem to be irrelevant, so far as the Dominion Government is concerned, referring as it would appear, to disputes between Mr Duncan and others at Comox, of which I have no knowledge. The "Officials" he refers to are, I presume, local justices. I am not acquainted with these gentlemen. The small Indian Reserves at Comox should be fenced

and trespass prohibited as soon as the surveys are completed

Yours &c.

The Honorable

Wm. Galt

The Superintendent General
of Indian Affairs
Ottawa

Commissioner

Indian Reserve Commission

British Columbia

In camp near Lytton

26th July 1879

Cowichan Reserve
Intrusion by W. Sutton

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 28th June last No 9756 enclosing copy of a letter to you from S^r Powell dated 21st May last, suggesting a method of settling the question ^{between} the Cowichan Indians and W^m William Sutton caused by the sale to him of a portion of the Cowichan reserve by the Provincial Government.

I entirely appreciate the position of W^m Sutton but it is necessary to consider also the position of the Dominion Government in relation to these Indians whose feelings I know and whose history in respect to their lands I have investigated for 20 years past and have communicated to both Governments.

Free as the Dominion Government is at present from arbitrary dealings with Indian Lands in this province, it would be a pity to ruin the possibilities of an improved administration by destroying the faith of the Indians in the Canadian Government at the outset by a worse and more marked proceeding than the acts of any former Government of this country

particularly in reference to such Indians as those of Cowichan who, as my memoranda and letters show have not been well treated and were dealt with in a confused manner even during the administration of Sir James Douglas.

During three years conversations with Indians in different parts of the country I have not met with any group of Indians who had in their hearts such deep distrust of all governmental action as the Cowichan Indians have, and with good reasons.

It would make me hopeless indeed as to Indian affairs if such a suggestion as that made by Dr. Powell were entertained by you.

The whole management of the Indians here and I suppose elsewhere, is a question of confidence.

At all hazards the confidence of the Indians in the Canadian government should be maintained, because if the Indians confide in the government, you can do what you like with them, and they will meet the government far more than half way in any action considered necessary to overcome difficulties.

Confidence on the part of the Indians means economy to the government in the most direct way and in every way. Nothing can be done with sullen Indians who stand aloof, with distrust in their hearts; costly effort in such cases is money wasted.

Dr. Powell's suggestion is that without any communication with the Indians, or explanations to them or their consent obtained the two governments should "erase" a portion of the decision of the Reserve Commission embodying one of the most formal, deliberate and solemn acts which the Crown could place on record.

There is not the least suggestion that the Reserve Commission ^{misused} their powers, or were negligent in giving information to the Provincial Government as to what had been done at Cowichan. The land was free, and it was wanted.

though poor in quality.

The Provincial Government had written decisions and maps in their hands 9 months or a year - I forget which - before they sold the land to Mr Suttow, and besides it was in the Railway Reserve.

What arguments does Dr Powell use in proposing that the Dominion Government should consent to the above "exchange"?

He says that, otherwise, some of the Indians might object to have their land cut off. I am glad to think they would object, for if they did not, they would be a class of persons whom the Dominion Government could not hope to improve. But the fact is they, like very many of our Indians, are keen, independent and with an appreciation of fair dealing, as well as its reverse.

In all questions affecting their rights they should be dealt with precisely as white men, or indeed rather more carefully where the Government is concerned, and it is very bad policy to seek specious arguments to justify such a proposal as that made by Dr Powell. Whether the question concerns a rood or a hundred acres, it should be borne in mind that the persons concerned, though Indians, are men not devoid of intelligence and certainly with a strong sense of justice, and their minds, for many years past, have been turned towards land questions, so that roughly speaking they test the whole action of the powers that be by what is done as regards land.

I disapprove entirely Dr Powell's proposal as one that would place the Indian Department in a wrong position, tend to embarrass Indian Affairs and perhaps irreparably wound the sense of justice in the minds of a group of Indians whose history entitles them to such consideration from the Dominion Government.

The statement that Dr Powell has conferred with the Provincial Government with reference to the proposal, and

that they concur with him in thinking that the course or confiscation of the land of the Indians would be the most direct and feasible mode of settling the matter does not appear to require comment from me.

Of course the Provincial Government - the party in error - and the Government not charged with direct responsibility for the administration of Indian Affairs, would be of this opinion.

These observations will make clear my opinion as to the position of the Dominion Government in this important matter, and as to all similar matters at Cowichan or elsewhere.

But the fact remains that the land is not arable land, and that the Mill is likely to be useful to the Indians, though it is a singular argument to use that a man's land may be taken from him arbitrarily and without compensation for the purposes of a manufactory which by its ^{many} ~~means~~ ^{advantages} may possibly benefit him.

This is a matter of which the Indians are well able to judge, and the business of an agent would seem to me to be to submit the matter to them in a frank, business-like way, taking care that they understood it both as regards the possible value to them of being near to such a manufactory and the possible disadvantages if any for instance the effect on their fish traps of hanging logs down the river.

When the difficulty first became known, I tried to impress these views on the Provincial Government and on Dr Powell, and urged the former to agree to the small expenditure which a visit then from Dr Powell to Cowichan would entail with a view to settle the matter; but nothing seems to have been done, and now it seems the whole trouble and burden are to be thrown on the Dominion Government, which is only concerned in so far as it is bound by law to eject Mr Sutton.

The proper way of course, is to tell the Indians all

about the difficulty, and to ask them what they wish done. They are the persons mainly concerned, and they are as well able to judge as any other persons.

You may not understand why there should be hesitation in adopting this course.

The truth is as my history of these affairs shows, the state of feeling among these Indians is such, and they are so numerous and resolute and there are unsettled questions "Munro's" "Gods" "Maconno's" &c to wit - of such importance at Cowichan, that no one likes to try to adjust any single question, especially one like Sutton's coming on the top of the others.

It is not disrespectful on my part to say of Dr Powell that he has a feeling of dislike to attempt this, which I myself share.

It might possibly be settled easily - tact and money might settle it, or tact alone, if the people had confidence. If money is required why should the Commission not pay it? In what are they to blame? I said long ago, to the Provincial Government "fit out of this difficulty before the Indians think much about it. Give Dr Powell \$500.00 and let him go up; the error is yours." Dr Powell, in his letter of the 21st May 1879 says that "unfortunately the late Commission did not allot land to the different tribes in Cowichan District but simply confirmed to the Indians generally the old reserve with some additional lands of little or no value. One tribe would therefore have as much right to the land on which Mr Sutton's Mill is placed as another &c"

On this I have to remark that the Cowichan reserve always has been, and now is, in one block.

The reserve has been partly laid off under an impracticable system of subdivision into 20 acre lots, which were surveyed some years ago, under Dr Powell's supervision.

The suggestion is that a Reserve Commission costing \$70.00 or \$80.00 a day - a great portion of which was then paid by the

Provincial Government, should have remained at Cowichan to make tribal subdivisions of the lands, which would not have been possible without examining the nature of individual holdings under the above system of survey—a system had in itself—here— which holdings were held probably by intermixed Indians.

To state such a proposal is sufficient to condemn it in reference to any work the Reserve Commission had to do, and certainly the Provincial Government would not have sanctioned any expenditure for such specially— administrative purposes.

But the Indians of Cowichan at their first interview with the Commissioners lost no time in insisting on one point above all, that the Cowichan Tribes were one people and desired to be treated as such, and it was manifest that a main reason in their minds was their distrust of the Government, and some little appreciation of the fact that "union is strength".

This suited the agreement between the Governments that so far as possible, "nations" or I suppose, good large administrative units should be dealt with.

Dr. Powell would ~~not~~ probably not recognize his own argument, were it turned, as it legitimately might be into the following form.

"Had the Commissioners but disunited the Cowichan Indians instead of leaving them a combined population of 850 souls, it would have been easier to have dealt arbitrarily with their lands in such a case of that of 'No Sutton' a case I may remark which has arisen in my opinion, like that of Mr. Tharvimer, from the fact of the member for Cowichan having been in the local ministry, and having been desirous of doing what he considered to be for the good of his constituents without a proper regard for the rights of the Cowichan Indians to lands assigned to them previously by the Reserve Commission on which the Provincial Government

was fully represented.

I have at your request expressed my views plainly with reference to Dr. Powell's proposal, out of no disrespect to that gentleman, but on account of the importance of the question to the Dominion Government in its relations to the Indians.

It is not possible, even for so intelligent a gentleman as Dr. Powell, to reside in Victoria, and have a knowledge of Indian Affairs, elsewhere.

So far as I can learn, all the essentials of Indian administration as regards the different tribes dealt with by the Resene Commission several years since, remain untouched and are where they were —

The Cowichan group especially should have been visited — but lived amongst, their lands properly subdivided — or prepared for subdivision their views on schools and all matters ascertained and guided — their hearts softened towards the Government by friendly and frequent conversations.

The same should have been done and should now be done elsewhere. If the Indians are left alone and no one interests himself in their little day by day affairs, and the only view they have of the Canadian Government is a flag, or a ship of war, I do not see how they can be improved.

There has been far too much man of war business on the coast and too little plain kindly dealing.

But I presume these matters are appreciated at Ottawa, and it is not necessary for me to add to these remarks.

I am &c.

(By) Hubert Malottum Spruit
Commissioner

The Honourable
The Superintendent General
of Indian Affairs
Ottawa

Indian Reserve Commission
 British Columbia
 The Camp near Lytton
 26th July 1879

Sub: Agency question

Sir/

I have now respectfully to submit for your consideration my views on the matter referred to me in your letter of 23^d May (N^o 13424), and mine to you of the 12th June last, namely the recommendation of the Necht Father G. J. Grandier of Kamloops that an Indian sub-agent should be appointed.

I have had the advantage since writing to you on the 12th June, of making myself acquainted with the opinions of the Nechla-Kap-a-huk Indians assembled in formal Council at Lytton with respect to administrative subjects and I respectfully think that the whole question of Indian administration should be considered with some reference to the proceedings of these Indians which are described in a separate letter. I rode up to boats Ferry and met Mr. Ross, the gentleman mentioned by Father Grandier and explained to him, in general terms, the nature of the employment which an Indian sub-agent would have to undertake, informing him at the same time, ^{that} so far as I know, the Department at Ottawa had not decided on any action at present, and that I was merely making inquiries.

I may, however, say that I think Mr. Ross would suit. He is a sober man, so far as I can ascertain, and has been a long time in the country; and has a general knowledge of Indians, though, of course, as an administrative officer he would have everything to learn.

The Indians know nothing against him, and would probably be disposed to cooperate with him. If they knew that I had recommended him to be employed on general business.

It is something to say that though a protestant, Father Grandier, a zealous Catholic missionary, recommends him. He appears to have the requisite physical hardihood for travelling in this wild, mountainous country - a point of the first importance.

The duties of the office which I chalked out for his information were sufficiently hard, and the proposed remuneration small, according to ideas here, but Mr Ross, finally, said that, if appointed, he would undertake the work. I explained to him, as a servant of the Public Works Department, that in coming under the Indian Department, if he should be appointed, he would find matters conducted in a different manner and in reference to absolute requirements laid down as the result of practical experience in Indian work and travel.

A person wishing to hold the office alluded to must have the following qualifications

- (1) he must be able to ride 50 miles a day comfortably on mountain trails.
- (2) Must manage his riding and pack horse without assistance.
- (3) Must cook for himself.
- (4) Must have some knowledge of out door life in this country.
- (5) Must be acceptable to the Indians.
- (6) Must undertake vaccination and the administering of simple medicines.
- (7) Must know Chinook, and undertake to learn thoroughly at least one Indian language.
- (8) Must be ready to go anywhere within the Province at a moment's notice, and to do whatever he is told to do.

His pay should be at the rate of 85 per month summer and winter - The government allowing him a horse and saddle (cost not over \$100⁰⁰) and pack animal.

Equipped (cost not over \$75. and cost of shoes and supplying him with camp kitchen outfit and tent — also with a small Indian house for winter quarters in such place as may be fixed upon, the house to have a stove in it and a locked desk or chest for official papers.

He should board himself at all times except when "in the field" which would be probably for about 8 months in the year, and "in the field", during a time attested by his journal, following his instructions, he should be paid in full at the rate of 50 cents a day.

The whole expense of the agent thus would be, — approximated roughly, Per Month:

Pay	\$85.00
Shoeing horses	6.00
Food in field. (\$15.00 a month)	} 10.00
travelling 8 mos.	
Current expenditure per month:	<u>\$101.</u>

Fixed expenditure horse equipped \$100

Pack animal do. 75

House & stove 50

\$ 675

There is another item of current expenditure which cannot be estimated — food for horses — which is \$1²⁵/₁₀₀ to \$1.50 per day in stables near the wagon road.

I would propose that the Government pay the actual expenditure under this head, giving, however, the instruction that the horses are to be stabled only in emergencies, and as a rule are to be hobbled on grass, the days journey being made to suit.

A moderate tariff for horse feed when got from Indians on the reserves might be fixed and would come to be understood. I have stated the foregoing figures for your information, but it occurs to me that, to simplify accounts, if the agent were paid \$115.00 a month in full, for pay, shoeing horses, food of self and horse in field and all travelling expenses,

the arrangement might work well, and be simple (The 50 cents a day, which I have put down, is scrips.)

Then the Govt. would merely build the house, with stove, and give him a bonus of \$175⁰⁰ ~~for~~ ^{initially}, for supply of bedding and pack horse and saddles, (to be replaced at agents cost when necessary) and the Govt. might pay for tent and kitchen outfit and stationary.

The Agent, who in winter would not be much employed except perhaps in office work, should provide his own firewood.

The place of residence for the agent in winter might be determined next year when it is known better how the Indians are getting on with the management of their own affairs. In the meantime The Public Works Department might permit Mr. Ross, if appointed, to continue to inhabit their house at Kamloops which he has lived in while employed by the Railway Survey Branch.

Viewing the field of work generally, and the movement of the Atkela-Kap-a-muk's in the direction of managing their own affairs, with the probable effect of their action on other people; such as the Shuswap (Kamloops) and Okanagans, I do not think that an agent should be assigned for any district at present.

He may live temporarily at Kamloops as above said, but possibly Nicola may prove to be more central. In fact however he will be in his tent most of the year. He should. I think be appointed at present to do what he is told to do anywhere.

His instructions, which would be much detailed, should be prepared here and submitted for your approval.

The principal matters calling at once for an Agent's help are the organization of the Atkela-Kap-a-muk's and aid to the many important matters engaging their attention.

The stopping of whiskey drinking, if possible, among the Shuswap, and very urgently, as winter approaches, the protection of the Indian winter ranges selected by

we after much labour and cost; yet damaged almost in some cases beyond recovery since my assignment of the lands. Last winter thousands of cattle were driven upon some Indian ranges, one or two I have seen this summer and hardly recognize them.

The Indians said the whitemen drove their cattle on, and they could do nothing. This is a most grave evil. The white men have recklessly wasted the grass in many parts of the interior, and now that I have found ranges for the Indians, they proceed to eat them up. The bunch grass, once destroyed, does not again grow but is replaced by sage.

A repetition of last winter's proceedings will nullify much of what I have done to provide winter ranges for the Indians, and it is essential that an Agent should exist to help the Indians in this among other matters. An Agent, however, who has no knowledge of the work, must be instructed. It is no use turning an uneducated man loose into a district without instructions, and under no kind of discipline. If I jealous he might confuse matters and get the Department into constant hot water. If not I jealous, he would probably dandle about among the Indians, fishing and shooting.

This is the weak point of the proposal to appoint a Subagent.

The appointing of an agent is a little step; the real question is what he has to do, and to be made to do.

There is an expensive administrative machinery in this province, but in so important a matter as the proposal to create a new office I must not conceal from you the fact that there is no motive power by which the business of such an office could be regulated or directed. If an official in a new office starts badly it is not always easy to get him on the straight course again.

In speaking to Mr. Ross, I merely said that the Department would probably not pay more than \$85 a month and 50 cents a day for board when in the field.

I did not mention to him the \$115 a month to cover everything, but I am inclined to think this cost proposed would work best for the Department.

There cannot be much of a margin either way, and if the Govt. only provides the first outfit of riding and pack horse the agent will be more likely to care for the animals as the burden of replacing them would fall on him, and he would be put, on his mettle in the matter of food for the animals.

It should be part of the instructions that he should not use his official influence to get the Indians to supply horse feed gratis. The Indians supply the Catholic missionaries horses gratis, but for the horses of a Govt. Agent there should be a tariff and the \$115 would include such expense.

In conclusion I may say that provided Indian Affairs were under due control the whole administrative expenditure in the Southern Interior of the Province — say from Cache Creek to the frontier 220 miles, and east and west from Fort Hope to Shuswap Lake will be surprisingly small if the above arrangement is carried out.

This will be largely owing to the discovery that the Indians can do so much for themselves upon due suggestion and supervision.

If you sanction the organization of the N'k'la-Kop'a monks and appoint a cheap agent like Mr. Ross and provide for direction and control, I think there will be few areas of Indian business in the Dominion so cheaply managed without sacrificing the hope of efficiency and progress I am not sure but that the same organization could ~~also~~ manage the New Westminster District also, but time will show. It must be an unpleasant expenditure of public money, when the Department feel that no results are forthcoming, but I think there need be no such misgivings in regard

to proposals based on the principle that the Indians manage their own affairs and that the Government support their efforts.

I am &c.
 The Honourable: (Sir Gilbert Malcolm Sproat
 The Supt. General Commissioner
 of Indian Affairs Ottawa

Therap. Lytton July 30th 1879

"Snake" saddle and halter, bridle sent this day to Charles Penny Thompson river.
 (S) J. H. S.

Lytton B.C.
 July 30th 1879

Dear Sir/

Will you kindly add to the paper and sketch, given to the Indian Alee, relative to the land at Cameron Bar the following words.

"The flume to the Chinaman's and it may remain on the Indian Reserve until the Chinaman's mining is finished - The bar in the river is outside the reserve" (S) J. H. S.

You will also be pleased to explain the meaning of the above to Alee.

I by Carl Sproat
 Home Farm
 near Lytton

I am &c.
 (S) J. H. Sproat
 Compt.

Indian Reserve Commission

Yale B.C. August 2 1879

Sir/

In reply to your letter of July 28th requesting that you may be provided with a copy of my instructions to surveyors, as regards the Squi-amny Reserve, on which Mr. Nelson's plot stands, I have the honor to enclose herewith a copy of the instructions as requested.

You will please attach the document to the other papers in your possession relating to the same matter

I am &c

Capt Gemmett

Survey Comdr

Squi-amny

Assessment & Land Mail

Sy J. MacPrest

Commissioner

Indian Reserve Commission

Yale B.C.

August 2^d 1879

Sir/

At an interview with the Indians at Langley on the 27th June last, Mr. Nelson stated that you were under the impression that you were required to pay the full amount due on your land on the 10th August 1879, or forfeit your land and improvements. I said to Mr. Nelson that I would inquire into the matter on my arrival at New Westminster, and write you on the subject.

The permanent Agent informs me that your land is described as lot 317 group 2 and contains 160 acres, on which is due the sum of \$160, being \$1⁰⁰ per acre. This amount is payable in four yearly instalments of \$40⁰⁰.

The first payment of \$40⁰⁰ must be made on the 10th of this month (August)

I have &c

W James Nelson
Langley

Sy J. MacPrest
Commissioner

Indian Res. Commission
 Yale B6
 August 24 1879

Sir/
 Mr John Sheehan a gentleman who has been working in the neighbourhood of Sumass and Chulchuck for some time was anxious to obtain some land on the right bank of Nicomech Slough near a creek below Mr Farmer's claim. On the 26th June last I took Mr Sheehan in my canoe, so as to understand clearly, by personal inspection the land he desired. On arriving on the ground it was clear that the ground he required had been previously assigned to the Indians. At the same time I pointed out that the Indians were about to give up the small reserve on the right bank of the Fraser below Sumass (32 acres) and that as soon as the necessary arrangements could be made between the two Governments he could have an equal right to squat on it, of course subject to the railway reservation rights.

I trust you will be good enough to explain this to Mr Sheehan, and excuse my troubling you in the matter as Mr S. is unable to read or write.

I am &c.

Wm Gladstone
 Commissioner

W & Mullevy & Co
 Sumass

It may be a considerable time before the Indians formally surrender the reserve above mentioned, probably not until the whole of the Westwater District Reserves are surveyed, and meantime no one can touch fruit-trees or any improvements on the reserve if any such exist.

Wm Gladstone

For covering letter see Fol. 357

Indian Meeting at Lytton 17th July 1879

"Resolutions" and explanatory notes by W. Sprout.

Resolutions adopted by the Nekla-Kap-a-muk Indians in a meeting at Lytton, British Columbia, summoned by themselves according to their rules, and held in the presence of Commissioner Sprout on the 17th July 1879.

The Council

(1) Our affairs shall be managed by a Council consisting of the Queen's Commissioner or Agent, the Head Chief, the Chiefs of the several tribes, and thirteen councillors.

The Council shall meet at least once in every year at such time and place as the Queen may direct, and shall proceed to business on the day appointed notwithstanding the absence of any chiefs or councillors, provided due notice of the meeting has been given and the Queen's Commissioner or Agent is present.

The Head Chief

(2) The Head Chief shall be elected at such time and place and in such manner as the Queen may direct, and such Head Chief shall do what the Queen directs him to do, and he shall hold office for three years (unless the Queen removes him for incompetency or misconduct) and he shall be eligible for re-election.

(3) Michel of the Spuzgum tribe is elected as head chief.

"The Tribal Chiefs"

(4) The present Tribal chiefs as mentioned in the Barsas shall continue to hold office until their death, resignation or removal by the Queen. On any tribal chief ceasing to hold office, the tribe shall, as directed by the Queen

Elect a chief in his place by the vote of a majority of the male adults. Such Chief shall hold office for three years (unless sooner removed by the Queen) and shall be eligible for re-election.

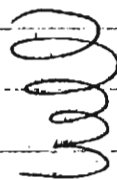
The Councillors

(5) The thirteen councillors shall be elected in the same manner and hold office on the same conditions as the head chief for a term of three years. In the event of any Councillor ceasing to hold office, the head chief and a majority of the remaining councillors shall appoint a successor to hold office until the end of the term. A new election of councillors shall take place on the head chief ceasing to hold office.

(6) The rules and regulations made by the Council shall be observed by all the people; and in each tribe shall be put in force by a tribal committee of Council consisting of the Chief and not fewer than three of the councillors.

The following Indians are elected as councillors

- | | | |
|---------------------------|---|----------------------|
| (1) Ptah-ki-yoo | } | of Styton |
| (2) Tim-il-a-kweetza | | |
| (3) Sua-kiwi-a-ya | | |
| (4) Choo-woy-ik | | of Ashcroft |
| (5) Teet-li-neetsa | | of Penny-nose |
| (6) Tuk-ah-jesk-et | | of Lower Nicola |
| (7) Kah-ahp-kein | | of Styrue |
| (8) Kway-a-ortlo | } | of Silloet Trail |
| (9) Skoo-tackew | | |
| (10) Kivil-kivil-soot-lum | | of Spuzzum |
| (11) Francois | } | of Upper Similkameen |
| (12) Baptiste | | |
| (13) Jim | | |



(7) No church matters shall be introduced at any meeting of the Council or tribal committee of Council, except proposals connected with Schools.

Thereby certify that the Indians passed the above seven resolutions in my presence.

System 17th July 1879

(Sig) Gilbert Maitland Sprat
Commissioner

Explanatory notes. Apekla-kap-a-hunk organisation

As to the "Council"

The constitution of the council is wholly the resolution of the Indians themselves.

I think it is based on the idea that they would like a head Chief of their own whose presumed acquaintance with the "Queen's mind" and knowledge of the white men's ways and laws would connect their efforts agreeably with those of the Government.

Next all the tribal chiefs are members of the Council

Then 13 Councillors elected by all the people from different places are supposed to represent the popular element, and to be likely to give satisfaction while sitting as judges with Tribal chiefs.

I had thought of many ways of forming a Council, which in case of need, I intended to suggest to the Indians, but they formed it as above.

The number 13 is settled upon as the whole number of just good men qualified for and willing to hold the office, whom the Indians could find among themselves after long discussions.

As to the Head Chief

The Head Chief will be practically a sub-agent. The progress of the organisation would depend very much on his efforts

and advice, as the Indians scattered over 200 miles of country would have to be constantly visited. Left alone, though willing to act in common with their people, isolated chiefs do not know quite what to do and become either listless or timid. They ask whites men but the whites men cannot advise them, or, some may give mischievous information unthinkingly. Thus a year might pass and things be pretty much where they were.

I write a letter separately as to the position of the "Head Chief".

As to the Tribal Chiefs

The people seemed pleased with the provision of the "Indian Act" that the old chiefs should not be disturbed, but were equally pleased that their successors should be elected.

It is not proposed to ask the government to pay the Tribal Chiefs, but they should have a cape trimmed with fur or some badge to wear on official occasions.

As to the "Councillors"

While in completing the organization and pushing things on generally, the Head Chief for the present, is the most important personage, the Councillors will be the really important municipal officers. Long debates took place before their election. Some good Indians shrank from nomination being distrustful of their own ability. As a rule the Councillors are youngish men.

It is not proposed to ask the government to pay the Councillors, but they should have a neat fur cape or some badge of office to wear on official occasions, similar but differing slightly from that of the tribal Chiefs. They hold office for three years which will give them time for useful work.

As to the "Tribal Committees of Council"

These will be executive and judicial bodies. I thought at first that each tribe should choose its own Councillors to

help the Tribal Chief, but the Indian plan of giving the Tribal Chief the help of not fewer than 3 of the Akka-Kap-a-muk councillors has many advantages.

The Councillors will be of superior authority when elected by the whole people, and as some of the tribal Committee of Council sitting in judgment will belong to different tribes more confidence will be felt in their impartiality.

In any case of moment, the whole 13 Akka-Kap-a-muk Councillors might sit with a Tribal Chief. There must not be fewer than 3. I told the Indians that a Court of 4 would not work among whitemen, for 2 might think the same and the other two differently, and so there would be a deadlock, but they said such a thing could not happen in an Indian Court.

It really seems that though they debate vehemently and at great length, the minority in the end quietly disappears.

As to the non introduction of "church matters"

This appears to be a useful arrangement to secure fair play to the efforts of all the churches, now here, now away, in the field.

The mixture of Church and Municipal matters might tend to confuse the minds of the Indians. But an exception is necessary as to proposals connected with schools, for a Church might wish to submit such proposals to the Government, and this would cause the matter to be brought before the Council.

(Signed) Herbert Mullerham, Agent
Commissioner

Lytton July 17th 1849

For covering letter see No. 357.

Rules and Regulations framed by the Kekla Kap-a-muk Council, sitting at Lytton British Columbia the 17th July 1879 for their own people:

- School Tax- (1) Every man shall pay a school tax once a year which money shall go from the respective tribes into the hands of the Government to be kept safe until the amount is large enough to be used for school purposes.
- (2) Amount of School Tax } The Council shall decide after further inquiry how much the school Tax is to be and the mode of collection.
- (3) Subjects to be taught } When schools are established the children are to be taught arithmetic and to read and write English. They must be kept clean in their persons and clothes and have their hair brushed, and shall go to school for as many days in the week as the Government (compulsory) require and their parents or friends shall not take Attendance } them away from such school attendance without the leave of the Tribal Chief or the school Teacher.
- (4) At each yearly meeting of the Council all the people present are to be told how much school money has been collected and what is being done about schools.
- (5) ^{Subjects to} ^{School Fund} } The half of all fines levied under these Kekla Kap-a-muk rules and regulations shall go to the School fund.
- (6) School House } A school house with a room for meetings of the Council is to be built at Lytton within a year.
- (7) Medicine Tax } Every man also shall pay a medicine tax

once a year when the Council has decided on the amount and the mode of collection, which money shall go from the respective Tribes into the hands of the government to be kept safe until the amount is large enough to be used for medical purposes. The school matters are to be attended to first, and then the medical matters

(8)
 Fines and
 money to
 Medical Fund } One half of all fines levied under these Akla
 Kap-a-Muk rules and regulations shall go
 to the Medical Fund.

(9)
 Duties of the
 Tribal Committee
 of the Council } The Tribal Committee of Council (consisting
 each of the Tribal Chief and not fewer than three
 Akla-Kap-a-Muk councillors sitting with
 him) shall adjudicate upon and attend
 to the following matters

(10)
 Drunkenness } Every person who gets drunk shall be fined
 not more than \$50 for the first offence \$75 for
 the second offence and \$100 for the third offence
 Getting liquor } Indians who give other Indians the means of
 getting drunk shall be punished as if they
 themselves were drunk

(11)
 Cessation of
 the old custom
 of the "Pat-lach" } The "Pat-lach" is to come to an end and every
 person who "Pattaches" shall be fined \$50 and (if
 the Queen thinks fit) shall be disqualified for
 life or for a term of years for the office of Chief,
 or Councillor, or constable.

(12)
 Gambling for
 articles of
 value forbidden } Every person who plays cards, or gambles, for
 articles of value shall be fined not more than
 \$50 for each offence; but the Indians may play
 cards for amusement.

~~XXXX~~
 Betting at
 Horse races } The Council this year have made no rule against

letting on horse races, but they desire that moderation should be observed in this matter and they propose to think further about it.

(13)

Subdivision of Reserves } The arable portions of the Reserves are to be subdivided or prepared for subdivision into individual holdings in a fair way as to values of the respective portions and in reference also to existing interests.

(14) The number of useless dogs is to be reduced.

(15)

Clean Villages and Camps } The villages must be made to look well and the ground and houses kept clean, and the fences are to be neat and strong.

(16) Every person who, after being warned, keeps a dirty house, or leaves dirt near the houses shall be fined not more than \$5 and every one, who after being ~~warned~~ warned, leaves his crop unweeded or his fences too weak or ugly shall be fined not more than \$10⁰⁰.

(17)

Trespass } If any animal belonging to an Indian trespasses on the land of another Indian and does damage, The Committee shall decide who is to blame and shall make the one who is to blame pay a reasonable sum of money to the other for the damage done.

(18)

Less fieldwork for women } The women are not to work so much in the fields as has been the case hitherto, when the men were doing nothing. The women are to look more after the houses.

(19)

Fish Roe & Fish traps } No person is permitted to take fish Roe, or to place fish traps entirely across streams.

(20)

Hunting out of season } No person is permitted to kill game between the following times,

See elk, reindeer Caribou or hare 10th Jan^y and 10 Aug^t.
 grouse, partridge, prairie fowl,
 quail, meadow lark, thrush

and Robin 20th Feb^y and 10 Aug^t

Waterfowl known as Mallard Duck 1st March and 15th July

(21)

Proceedings } The Tribal Committees of Council must give notice
 of Tribal } to the tribe that they are going to sit to hear a case
 Committees } and they must hear it and state their minds
 of Council } and their decision in open Court and their
 decision must be noted at the time so as to be
 remembered, and must not be changed after the
 sitting of the Court.

They are not empowered to imprison or whip
 persons, but if anyone, does not pay taxes, fines or
 recovery of } assessed damages the Committee may take his
 fines be } property for the same and sell it, and if the person
 has not sufficient property, or the Committee choose
 for good reasons, not to press for all the fine at once
 they may give the person time to pay it in, but the
 whole amount of the fine must be paid and the
 particulars of all outstanding fines or portions of
 fines or monies due in respect of taxes or assessed
 damages must together with the names of the
 defaulters be reported by the Tribal Chief to the Council
 at its annual meeting.

(22) Every person in a tribe is strictly enjoined to
 respect the proceedings of the Committee of
 Council and to assist in enforcing their decisions
 Lytta B.C. 17 July 1879

The Kikla Kap-a-muk Council framed and
 agreed to these twenty-two rules in my presence and
 requested me to submit them for confirmation by
 the Governor in Council in accordance with clause 63
 of the Indian Act-1876

Res^d Gilbert Malcolm Sprout
 Commissioner

Indian Reserve Commission

17 July 1879

Notes on the Rules and regulations framed by the
Atkela-Kap-a-Muk Council.

"Education"

There are 903 children among these Indians, scattered over great distances, and no school of any description.

The people are very anxious about Schools. What they desire is that their children should learn arithmetic and to read and write English, they feel their own disadvantages in not being able to read, or add up shop accounts, or to record transactions among themselves, or to write messages to their friends. No doubt, also, they have some idea of the value of a knowledge of the above arts may help the general advancement of their people.

I think that the arrangements for schooling should not be of too ambitious a character, but should accord with the wishes of the people. It might be found that the Indians in general who propose to tax themselves in aid of schools would not like to see their money spent in training a few of their number in mechanical arts which might be useful only to the recipients. Many of these Indians having worked for and observed the ways of the whites, are good farm hands and can make irrigation ditches, and they build their own houses. The capacity for continuous labor is what they need more than skill, and this capacity will come in time, following habits of the will based on self interest.

The Indians know they cannot have many schools all at once, but you will see they have fixed on Lytton as the place for the first one, and they propose to build a School House (which also will contain a Council room) within a year. They already have purchased over \$100 worth of lumber for this purpose. They will pay a portion of the cost of Teachers as soon as the Council has decided on the School tax its amount and mode of collection. The winter is the time when the Councillors "sit and think": in the meantime the

building is to be made entirely at their own expense. I think pending the completion of the above arrangements, a beginning might be made with an infant school at Syttou. This practical step, following the resolutions of the Council, would encourage the people over the extensive Kékla Kap-a-Muk District - help the incoming of the School Tax when levied - and serve to test, to some extent, the interesting question whether in those parts of the interior where no school exist, and it is not proposed by Churches or societies, to establish schools for the Indians, cheap ~~and~~ teachers sufficiently educated to teach, at least to small children what the Indians wish to be taught, cannot be found in the locality. For instance at Syttou, an infant school might be started immediately at a cost of \$30 a month for the teacher, \$5 or \$7⁵⁰ a month for a temporary building (including stove) until the Indian School House was finished, and the benches looks to. The Indians would supply firewood.

Miss Matilda Haunter, a young lady of 17 or 18, whose parents live in Syttou, and who understands the Kékla Kap-a-muk language colloquially, would undertake charge of the school at the above salary, and the Indians might choose a few Indians and whitemen or women as school visitors. Miss Haunter was educated at the Sisters School New Westminster, and has had no experience in teaching, but might do well with the small children, who I think would be docile.

By and by, if, as I believe, some grown Indians wish to be taught, and they cared to contribute, or if the school fund were ample, a higher class of teacher might be got, but it will not be easy to find such who know the native language. Miss Haunter's manners and character are unexceptionable. The Council have determined that the children must attend school regularly, and be clean in their persons and clothes. I think that every day or almost every day instruction but for short hours.

would suit best in such a school; and I would begin with the infant school as an experiment, leaving the question of school age to the School Visitors or Government Agent.

If this experiment succeeded, it might be found that other cheap teachers, knowing the language, might be found where they could have the shelter of a home near the scene of their school employment. There are educated half-breed girls who owing to prejudice, are unfortunately placed on leaving school - to whom it would be well to open a useful career as school teachers. Some of them know the Indian languages.

"Medical"

Second only to Education is the medical question on the minds of the Indians. They are willing to give up their old medical system, and, consequently, the numerous and superstitious connected with it, but they say truly that the medicines of the white people are hard to use and without a doctor they do not know what to do.

They cannot suggest much as regards the medical provision that is required, and leave that to the Government after resolving to collect a medical fund. They would like good medicines, a doctor and an Hospital by and by.

The most feasible plan to my mind is that the Indians and the Government join their contributions and offer a sum per annum to a doctor on circuit lecturing. He takes his chance of extra remuneration - a pretty good chance - among the white people. Such a medical man might be found, and he might report on Sanitary matters generally, and whether prevalent diseases were attributable to bad water, food or housing &c -

The fines of the organization takes effect will soon start both a medical and school fund.

"Drunkenness"

Both the Dominion and Provincial laws against drinking are of little effect, and it is difficult to suggest amendments. The present is an attempt on the part of the Indians themselves

to check the habit, and it will be interesting to see the effect of it. The advantage is that the regulations can be amended promptly at annual meetings of Council as a result of the past year's experience.

"Jails"

Some of the Chiefs wished for jails in the reserves and the question was ~~discussed~~ debated hotly and finally referred to me. I decided against jails, explaining to the Indians that the management of jails was a delicate affair, and I feared they could not do this. They might put a man in prison and not give him regular food, or might go off and forget him. It is likely they will worry the fines out of persons without imprisonment. A defaulter would not like to be brought up at a general annual meeting.

"The Pottack"

The inveterate custom of the "Pottack" the system of giving property lavishly - to gain honour as a giver - was doomed by the Council, but few believe that it will die otherwise than hard, complicated as it is with a suppressed indebtedness among Pottack givers. It is the very stronghold of the "old fashion" of things among the Indians. I have known a Coast Chief distribute \$5000 worth of property, tearing blankets into shreds so that he might give something to all.

If the Tekla-Kap-a-muk Council have killed it, it will a great feat and will afford a notable example. The Chiefs debated it long, and at last announced to me their difficulties and said, that if I said I thought it should die at this meeting, the meeting would kill it. I thought my hand down on the table, and said the "Pottack" must die. Their answer through the interpreter was that the "Pottack" was dead, and they presented a book in which I wrote their decision which the Head Chief signed. The disqualifying for office penalty attached to "Pottack" giving strikes directly at the Chiefs, and as the Indians highly value office under the Crown

Probably this will be more efficacious than the money fine of \$50. To help the Indians in abandoning this custom I said "you give to get honour" for giving, and for that you "make yourselves poor." "Give donations to the school and "Medical Fund and you will have honour from the "Government and be doing good to your people. If you "give anything it will be marked in the books and when your "children can read they will see it. If you will give a "large sum your name will be marked up in the Council "Room. Thus the "Wattack" is not so much abolished as it "is changed and you will have greater honour. Give also "entertainments of food, tea and food to your friends - ask "them to dinner as white men do."

"Gambling"

It is not to be expected that men will give up rooted habits at once, but it is something when the people of their own will decide to try, and adopt an organization of their own to enforce the decision of their council

gambling for money is condemned, but it would be cruel to insist on their giving up card playing altogether though doubtless quiet gambling will accompany it.

The power of public opinion is not an inconsiderable force among Indians, and this opinion will probably soon be more or less in accordance with deliberately framed laws of the people themselves through their Council.

"Horse Racing"

The Indians will pull off their shirts and stake them on horse races, but as I feel sometimes like doing this myself at a race I could not join in any theoretic condemnation of betting though I urged moderation.

"Subdivision of Reserves"

The Indians quite approve subdivision of their tribal reserves and would like to have scrip for their holdings and have their titles registered in a tribal Register wherein also their wills that is testaments could be registered, for instance where a man had two wives (See my letter of 12th June)

last on subdividing Reserves)

The women do so much work that, could it be found who was the wife, I think she should join in any — transference of cultivated land from Indian to Indian.

"Dogs"

The dogs are so numerous as to be a nuisance, and the Indians do well in deciding to kill some of them.

"Villages"

In the upper country the heat is so great during some months that the Indians live outside in mat houses, through which the breeze blows, and they take their house mats with them to their berry and fishing grounds. The villages at these seasons look deserted. I have laid great stress on having sightly and clean villages, well chosen for health, and aspect, and this is one of the first things the Indians will attend to.

The Head Chief without whom the Tribal Chiefs do not at present like to act in this matter has many applications from tribes that he should confer with them in reference to improved new village sites and the improvement of existing villages, over about 200 miles of country.

"Advice to Councillors"

When the Councillors had been elected they came forward in the great meeting, and I shook hands with them, and afterwards addressed some words to them, telling them that they had been chosen to do justice, and that no personal feelings must ever be in their hearts when sitting in court, and that they must always lean to the side of mercy, seeing that all of us were liable to err.

This seems to explain the rules and regulations as far as is necessary.

H. J. Sproct
Commissioner.

In enclosures
See fol. 342
to fol. 356. enclosure
##

British Columbia
Indian Reserve Brumby's arm
The camp near Lytton
25th July 1879

General letter covering letters and documents respecting the Indian meeting at Lytton - See your letter to me "No 10690" 16 Dec. 1878.

Sir/

I beg leave to send herewith the following -

(1) Resolutions passed by the Indians at Lytton when they appointed a Council; to which resolutions explanatory notes are attached.

(2) Rules and regulations framed by the said Council also with explanatory notes attached.

As this action on the part of the Indians, is so far as I can judge, in the right direction, and the resolutions and rules appear to be within the meaning of the Indian Act, I ask that, if approved, they may be, as soon as possible, confirmed by the Governor in Council as required by Clause 63 of said Act with respect to the proposed organization in general; and as to the Head Chief and the thirteen councillors who have been elected to act with the Tribal chiefs.

The names of the Head Chief and the thirteen councillors are contained in the resolutions. The names of the Tribal chiefs are in the Census. My recommendation that the chiefs and councillors (who are to get no pay from the Govt) should have official caps or badges (Should not these be of one pattern for the whole Province?) will not escape your notice, and I would further solicit your early and favourable consideration of the proposal in my letter A respecting the Head chief and 2 constables or at least in the meantime the Head Chief. And the proposal respecting a school at Lytton mentioned in the explanatory notes to the Resolutions of Council under head of "Education". I send also a letter of this date generally

describing the meeting at Lytton

I am Sir

Your Obedt Servant

Wm Gilbert Malcolm Sproul
Commissioner

The Hon:

The Superintendent General
of Indian Affairs
Ottawa

Indian Reserve Com^{rs}

British Columbia

In Camp near Lytton

26th July 1879

Letter A referred to
in my letter of this date
as to Indian meeting at Lytton

Sir/

My idea is that the Government might save money and largely foster self-reliance among the Nklla-kap-a-muk Indians who number 2675 souls, by encouraging the organization of these people which they themselves have commenced. If these people are organized and to some extent managing their own affairs, there will be less need of a comparatively expensive white agent for them and the agreeable spectacle will be presented of the Indians meeting the Government more than halfway in all matters of administration. The value and effect of such an example upon all the Indians in the Province would probably be great.

Instead of having a white Agent, I think a small salary say \$60 a month to the Head Chief with 50 cents a day board money when in the field under orders and small salaries of say \$15 a month to two constables together with the cost of official capes for the chiefs and councillors would be the whole expense required and I would particularly point out that the greater part of

This expense, namely, the pay of the head Chief, would really not be an outlay for management; for the head Chief being thoroughly qualified could act as a Departmental interpreter for the two nations of Nekla-Kap-a-muk and Flatheads - about 5000 Indians - indeed it would be well perhaps not to admit the principle of paying a head Chief but while recognising him as head Chief, to pay him as a Department Interpreter assigned to special duty, namely, for the present to work up the Nekla-Kap-a-muk organization. Everything, in my judgment depends on this being done, for after a great effort such as those Nekla-Kap-a-muk's have made, it is natural for savage people to become listless. They need judicious spurring and guiding, and no one can better do that than their own elected Head Chief, who from having been for 3-4 years interpreter to the Reserve Commission, knows everything that is required better than any white man who could be selected, he will be invaluable at this time from his knowledge, energy, judgment and linguistic attainments - a cheap Indian sub-agent in fact with special qualifications, including that of interpreting both within and without the Nekla-Kap-a-muk district at any time when required. The enormous mass of work waiting to be done among these Indians over 200 miles of country in connection with the organization of the people before next winter may be judged after perusing the Resolutions of the Nekla-Kap-a-muk Council, and considering the duties of the Tribal Committees of Council, and of this work the head Chief in the present state of affairs must do the most, unless things are allowed to fall back. I should be glad to know whether you authorize the employment of the Head Chief Mitchell in this capacity, as his means will not permit him to be unemployed, and it would be a pity to see a man capable of rendering such services at this time being obliged to sever his connection with the business and work at ordinary work for his living. His linguistic field with the Commission is exhausted. I am going among people whose language he does not know.

I enclose a portrait of the Head Chief Michel. I was greatly pleased to see the large extent of new cultivation along the wagon road above and below this place and in the lower portion of Nicola Valley, which I hurriedly visited to amend survey instructions, and next year I think that a great advance might be manifest in municipal and social matters among these Indians, if present opportunities are not neglected. By Tribal extraction Michel is a man of rank, but the reason which I think has induced the old Chiefs, to withhold their pretensions, as competitors for the office of head Chief is the desire on the part of the people to have for head chief some one who they think, knows the views of the government, to which the Indians generally wish to conform. It will, I am afraid, be sometime before the Okanagans and Shuswaps organize themselves. They are discontented on account of open questions caused by the action of the Provincial government, and I have been told of very rough speeches being made by chiefs whom I left in good humor two years ago. But with an agent such as Mr Ross judiciously doing what is possible among them, and with the Nekla Kap a muk stepping forward to form a municipality, the Okanagans and Shuswaps may get into a better frame of mind, that is to say if the Prov^l Govt realizes facts.

By and by, even the Flat Heads of the lower Fraser, broken as they are into ridiculously small sects by Tribal divisions, and by Church divisions, and hurt ~~xxx~~ though they have been by governmental lavishness in presents, may pick up spirit, and do something for themselves. The Nekla Kap a muk Head Chief, Michel, of whom I write, speaks the Flat head language familiarly and is influential among the Flat Heads, but at present he would have abundance of work among the Nekl-
Kap-a-muks.

Y^{rs} truly

I am &c

The Superintendent Genl
of Indian Affairs
Ottawa

Sgt Gilbert Malcolm Groat
Bourne's River

Indian Reserve Commission
 British Columbia
 In camp near Lytton
 26 July 1879

{ Indian Meeting at Lytton }

Sir/

I have attended the Indian meeting at Lytton, and have now to describe what took place. The meeting was the most interesting Indian meeting which has taken place in this country, for it was convened by themselves for their own purposes, and the whole business was managed by themselves. The discussions, I am told, embraced a variety of subjects such as the Govt would wish the Indians to consider. They came to decisions on some points, and left other matters over for consideration, or for my decision as their referee in open Council. I annex a list of the Tribes present or represented. They form a large group of Indians extending about 80 miles Fraser River, about 50 miles up the Thompson River, about 80 miles up the Nicola River and 30 miles on the Similkameen River. Though scattered over this great extent, they are sharply defined as a "nation" or "group", distinct from the Flatheads in the New Westminster District and also from the Shuswap and Okanagan. South east and north of them. The Tekla-hap-a-muk people lie in among the other Indian people in the Interior that it is probable that others will follow what they do. I therefore beg your attention to the proceedings of the Tekla-hap-a-muk people in account of the general effect of their actions as well as on account of the laudable efforts which they are making for their own good. About 1000 or 1200 Indians and 1500 horses were present and the tents and flags made a pretty scene. They were quiet and well behaved during their visit, which extended over two weeks.

Their plan was to discuss certain questions and come to a decision on them in anticipation of my arrival.

It will give you some idea of the people's spirit, that

they erected a very pretty building with beaded sides and canvas roof ornamented tastefully with green boughs, and having a raised platform with chairs and tables at one end, which was approached under an arch with a pendant crown made of boughs.

They also had an ante-room, and lunch table with tea, fruit, sardines &c. I think it would cost nearly \$500. to erect such a building and it shows good feeling towards the Queen, and no small self-respect that these Indians should have gone to this expense in a year of great dullness in the Province. They had a cannon and saluted me with 12 guns as I approached the building. I informed the Provincial Government of the intended meeting, and invited the Chief Commissioner of Lands to accompany me to it, but I did not receive a reply to my letter. What the Indians did was shortly as follows. They elected a head chief and 13 Councillors. They made certain laws which all the tribes of the Nektla Kap-a-Munks bound themselves to observe.

They provided machinery for carrying out these laws. They held over certain subjects for further examination by the Chiefs and Councillors. I was not present at their daily meetings, and did not direct their discussions. They did it all themselves, sending occasionally a committee to confer with me on knotty points, and as to what would not be against the laws of the Province.

It is certain that these Indians can be easily trained to manage their own affairs largely, with a little guidance and encouragement at the outset, and thus the expense of white agents amongst this large group of Indians might, except for visits to be convenient, be saved to a large extent, because the chief administrative officer could do almost everything through the Head Chief.

I write about this in a separate letter marked A

The Hon.
The Superintendent Genl.
of Indian Affairs
Ottawa

I am &c.
H. J. M. Sprout
Agent

Enclosure

Nekla-Kap-a-muk Indians present by
themselves or representatives at the Indian
Meeting at Lytton British Columbia
17th July 1879.

General Census 1879
Tribes Nekla-Kap-a-muk Nation

NAMES. of Tribes	ADULTS. YOUTHS. CHILDREN.						Total as tribe	REM
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
Spuzzum	92	76	6	7	28	28	237	
Boston Bar	115	97	12	11	44	37	316	
Boothroyd	81	76	3	9	46	36	257	
Lytton	266	231	8	32	149	132	818	
Nicomew	34	26	4	3	15	71	93	
Cook's Ferry	90	81	3	7	50	57	282	
Nicola	125	138	13	21	115	110	522	
Similkameen	14	16	-	-	13	13	56	
Total	817	741	49	90	460	418	2575	
 Bonaparte	39	30	3	3	10	15	100	
Total	856	771	52	93	470	433	2675	

Private

British Columbia
 Indian Reserve Commission
 Yale 29th July 1879

Sir / The Messrs J B Ford here has given me a reading of your report of the 31st Dec 1878 in which the circumstances of my succeeding the Commission of three are clearly described in accordance with Report of Provincial Committee of Council 30 Jan 1877 and letter of Prot. Secretary to the Minister of the Interior 27 Jan 1877, and, further, in accordance with Privy Council Committee Report of the Canadian Govt 23rd Feb 1877

I respectfully remind you that though the above documents are probably the only ones officially in order in Council at Ottawa, yet as a matter of fact, the arrangements thus made have never been in operation.

On receiving notice of these arrangements I informed the Provincial Government that I could not be the instrument of attempting to carry them out, as unknown to the Dominion Government, they involved a complete change of policy towards the Indians and were otherwise quite unworkable and certain to cause needless expense to the Dominion Government.

Upon this, the Provincial Govt, by order in Council gave me power to make final decisions on the spot within the extensive District of Yale in which I worked last year, and in my letter of April 29th 1878 to the Superintendent General, I sent a copy of the Provincial order in Council, and stated my reasons for requiring it.

Since then Mr. Walker's Government, on my asking for full powers to enable me to work efficiently in other districts than Yale stated - see my letter to the Supt General dated 28th May 1879 that my powers were ample.

were ample and no further orders in Council were needed - that is to say I had simply succeeded the

three Commissioners. My decisions are made on the spot - unless I choose to hold them over and they are not subject to the approval of the Chief Commissioner of Lands, and as a consequence there is no referee.

I respectfully submit, for many reasons already stated in correspondence, the one great point in this Indian Land adjustment on which the Canadian Government must insist (should any proposal to change existing arrangements be at any time made) is that decisions, whether by one or three, must be final on the spot - subject of course to persons legal rights - and that there must be no change of policy towards the Indians.

The position, when only one Commissioner is employed, is no doubt an unprecedented one in powers and responsibilities - the whole Crown Lands of the Province having been in my hands for Indian purposes and now being so, but I did not seek the position - all I say is that whether one or three are employed decisions must - continue to be final on the spot, if the question will not be settled for 20 years, and Dominion money would be wasted in visits and revisits and referees all of which, as you know, would be very costly in this country from the expense of transport. I may take the opportunity of stating the pleasure with which I read your opinion as to the proper way to manage Indian affairs cheaply and well in this province. A head man on the nose, with sub-agents, is in truth the only way to get value for money.

The work is hard and disagreeable, but there is another way of doing it. You foreshadow a change, when the reserves are surveyed and conveyed.

This is a long time ahead. I have some work to do yet, and am already several seasons ahead of what two Survey parties can do. You will notice the effort I have made to recommend its being tested whether by making the Indians take a hand themselves, the expense in sub-agents may not be greatly reduced.

I continue of opinion that Stope, dismal hamlet though it be, is the natural centre for Indian Business as between the Coast people and the Interior people. You can get up the waggon road to Lytton &c over the mountains by two trails respectively to Nicola (and thence Kamloops & Okanagan) and to Similkameen and Osoyoos on the frontier. And on the other hand by steamer twice a week or canoe any time you can reach the seaboard and go where you like.

From Stope to New Westminster there also is a waggon road made at great cost but lately out of repair.

There is a telegraphic office and post office at Stope.

I mention this as I see you allude to a "Central place" for Indian quarters, and as I am going to Stope on my way down the Fraser en route for Coast, I will lay off a piece of ground for Indian purposes if I can find it, which, if not required, can be returned to the Province.

I am &c.

A. Van Koughnet
Ottawa

By J. M. Sproul

British Columbia
Indian Reserve Comm^{rs}.
Yale July 29th 1879.

{ Proposed organisation of
the Flat Heads of the river }
Fraser

Sir/

In my letter of the 26th instant marked A. page 9. I expressed the opinion that the example of the Nkela-kap-a-nukke in attempting to organise themselves under the Indian Act, would be followed by others. Of this I have already some proof. Several chiefs of the Indians between Yale and the mouth of the Fraser - called upon me here while en route

and send all the tribes between Yale and the mouth of the Fraser numbering about 1900. Indians ~~wish~~ wish to do what the Stikla Kap-a-mut's in the upper country have done. I told them they must not be too great a hurry, they must try to abate the prevalent jealousies among themselves and limit the number of ridiculously small tribes, and then by and by if they should find sense and business like news, I might write to Ottawa on the subject of their wishes. At present I would not do so.

At the close of the interview two women came forward to ask me to settle an old dispute between ~~them~~ their families as to a piece of land. I heard enough of the case to see that it was an intricate question, and I said to the Indians that if they were organized, the Chief and a few Councillors could form a court and settle the question. A white Government Agent, though he could read and write, and the Indians could not, could in reality settle such questions with difficulty. The Indians knew all the facts and details of the question themselves, and they knew the broad principles of right and wrong just as well as white men did &c.

Next day the Chief informed me that he had held a Court and settled the question. I mention this to show the capabilities of the Indian people.

I would also ask your attention to the fact that Trickett the Elected Head Chief of the Stikla Kap-a-mut's (see my letter 26th Instant marked A) would from his knowledge of the Flat Head tongue, and his prestige among the Indians generally, be very useful by and by in assisting to organize the Flat Head Indians of the Lower Fraser. I mention the organizing of the Tribes with interest, as it gives a pleasing view of the capabilities of the people; and as I think if judiciously carried out it would tend both to the

Efficient and Economical Conduct of Indian
business in this Province under the direction of the
Department

The Hon:
The Sup^r General
of Indian Affairs
Ottawa

Jan^{ce}.

(Sg) J. Sproat
Commissioner

Telegram

Hope.

August 10th 1879

To Geo. Blewitt
Victoria

In Second thoughts, and examination of letters
took the only date required by you to complete
all the letters is April 29th ~~1878~~ 1878. which date
accordingly insert in ~~my~~ letter to Vancouver;
and post all letters immediately.

(Sg) Sproat

Indian Reserve Board.

Spencer Bridge.

21st July 1879

Sir/

Whillyheeta has sent his son Alexander
to me at Lytton to state the desire of his tribe to
surrender the fishing reserve at the mouth of
Hamilton's Creek, as their young women are made
drunk and exposed to temptations there during the
fishing season and he thinks it better ^{to} have his
reserves more concentrated, for which no doubt
there is something to be said. Alexander has stated
the above in my presence and in that of Pa^r Murray
J.P., but I cannot accept his statement and would
only be satisfied by that of Whillyheeta himself
for his people.

It is however impossible for me to visit Chillyketa at present except at a cost which would be disproportionate to the importance of the matter.

I therefore authorize you to ascertain formally from Chillyketa if his people submit to me the above proposal and if it is for the reason stated, and I beg you to send me an official memorandum on the subject so that I may consider it.

Please to survey the Reserve and send me notes and sketch of it, no matter what Chillyketa says about it

Mr. M. H. Douglas
Douglas Lake

Mr. M. H. Douglas - see his letter of 13th July Chillyketa would to answer the reserve and for the reason stated in his message sent by his son

J. M. L. J. Lam. &c.
(Sgt.) J. M. L. J. Lam. &c.

Indian Reserve Commission
In Camp Hope

Aug. 11th 1879

Sir/

I have received your letter of the 10th ult. requesting me not to lay off Indian Reserves in the valley to the north and east of the Similkameen River in Townships 52 on account of the number of white settlers already established there, to whom the Indians might be a source of annoyance. In reply I beg to state that I have no intention of laying off any further reserves at that place than those laid off in 1878, referred to in my letters to you of the 14th July last and 22^d July last (to which I respectfully ask your attention), but should any such further reserves be required, I shall not allot them without communicating with you. I may remark that, if the valley meant is that through which the Peapleton trail passes from Keremeus, those are / outside of the Keremeus settlement proper described with maps, in mine to you of 13th July last) no settlers except two Indians who have a farm there which they

had taken up, as they stated, and as appeared to be the case, because the white people at Keremeus had appropriated the irrigable land and water, and they had to go where they could grow a crop.

Mr J. Ellis of Ross Point has, I believe, a sheep corral about 14 miles up from Keremeus, but I do not know of any other settlers or squatters.

I am &c.

(Sd) G. J. Sproul.

Comd.

The Hon:

Chief Commissioner
Lands & Works
Victoria

Indian Reserve Commission
Le Camp Hope.

Aug 6th 1879

Sir

The two survey parties under the care respectively of Mr C. T. Johnson and Capt. J. J. Bennett are engaged in surveying up and down Nicola Valley so that the boundaries of the Indian Reserves there may be known at the earliest possible time to the Provincial Government and to persons wishing to acquire land.

I wish, at present, to mention to you that Mr Anderson a gentleman who has lately settled on Rob. Hamilton on the Donalds Creek (which flows north into Nicola Lake) has included within his preemption described lines a piece of land which is distinctively an Indian settlement - having been for many years the place of Teen-a-melst one of the most enterprising Indians in the Interior a man well known to many of the oldest settlers. This Indian has 18 children and possesses 104 good horses and 13 cattle and is still in the prime of life. I did not report this matter to you last year because I desired to make some arrangement that would suit both Teen-a-melst and Mr Anderson (though I included Teen-a-melst's

piece within the reserve there) but having learned that Mr Anderson is about to have the land surveyed on his preemption lines, possibly with the view of completing his title I beg to ask you to do what is necessary to prevent the embarrassment and disputes that must arise should Mr Anderson be permitted to intrude upon these Indian lands.

The Hon.
Chief Commissioner
of the Northwest

I am &c.
(By) G. M. Sproat
Counr.

Indian Reserve Commission
Hope en route

11th August 1879

Sir-

I have received your letter of the 28 July in answer to mine of the 21st July and note that it is the wish of Chillysheeta and his people to surrender the fishing-reserve at the mouth of Bob Hamiltons Creek.

You had better survey it and keep notes & sketches separately.

I shall have to consider the matter in connection with these other embarrassments that are cropping up in that quarter. It may or may not be cut off.

I see no objection however, I may say, to your surveying such moderate piece at Trout Lake in lieu of the above, as you may think fit and I will confirm your action thereon.

I am sorry that Mr Anderson cannot agree to a compromise. The Dominion Govt certainly cannot permit Stern-a-melst's rights to be overridden. I have ascertained from many old settlers that the place is his in the full sense in which having reference to the ^{habits} of the people, a stock raising place can belong to an Indian. You will accordingly have to survey the reserve to include Stern-a-melst's place. I enclose copy of my letter of

today on this subject to the Chief Commr of Lands for your information. I also enclose original letter to Mr. McDonald which, if the facts are as you state may be delivered to him. I am Sir

Your obt^d Serv^t

E. Mohun Esq^r } (sg) G. M. Sproat
Nicola } Commr

I. N. Caw route.
Hope " Aug^r 1879

Sir,

It occurs to me that you might mention to Mr. S. M. McDonald the piece of swampish land which Mr. Gen. Arnytage wished for, and which, on that account, I did not give to the Indians. It is roughly shown on tracing herewith. Whether the Domⁿ Govt act quickly or slowly, men will ultimately find they waste their time by intruding on Indian reserves.

Your obt^d Serv^t

E. Mohun Esq^r } (sg) G. M. Sproat Commissioner
Nicola } Indian Reserve Commission

Hope August " 1879

Sir,

I am sorry to learn that ~~that~~ you have placed yourself upon ^{land} which had previously been assigned to the Dominion Government for the use of the Indians. It will be necessary for you to remove, as you cannot obtain any legal rights to land so assigned. I do not know whether you have pre-empted the land or not, but if you have, you must (not knowing the facts) have made a wrong declaration that the land was not Indian land. I shall be extremely sorry if you are disappointed, but the Government, as the presence of two survey ~~survey~~ parties in Nicola Valley attests, are doing their best to define the Indian lands without delay. Mr. Mohun, Surveyor, will show you the Indian boundaries.

Mr. S. M. McDonald } Yours Truly
Nicola } (sg) G. M. Sproat
Commr

Indian Reserve Commr.
en route Hope

August 11 " 1879

Dear Sir,

Will you oblige me by sending to "Mr. E. Mohun,"
"Indian Reserve Survey, Nicola Valley," a copy of Roger
Elphinstone's original pre-emption which is about
22 1/2 miles from Spruces Bridge up Nicola Valley.

The applications to purchase (3) 23 May 1878
I have copy of. Both these letters would interfere with
Indian lands, but I do not suppose Mr. Elphinstone (who
seems practically to have abandoned his pre-emption) means
to buy. The two Survey parties under Mr. Mohun &
Capt Gemmett are working up & down Nicola Valley so
as to define at the earliest time the boundaries of
the Indian lands

Yours Truly

John Usher Esq.
Kamloops

(By) G. M. Sproat

Commt.

Indian Reserve Commission
British Columbia
New West.

en route Aug. 12th 1879

Sir/

I omitted to enclose the photographic
portrait of Michel the elected Head Chief of the
Nekla Kap-a-tunk Indians in my letter A.
26th July last. I now beg to do so.

Yours Truly

(By) G. M. Sproat

Commissioner

The Hon:

The Superintendent Genl.
of Indian Affairs
Ottawa
Canada

Indian Reserve Commission
 The Camp Hope - en route
 1879. 14 Aug.

Sir / I have received through Mr Mohun an intimation from you, ^{that} my old friend Moses, the late chief of the Kananagan at the head of the Lake when dying, expressed a wish that his eldest son - Quills-cheenigan (I do not find this name in our census - Perhaps he has two names) should succeed him in the office of chief. In reply I have to thank you for having mentioned this to me. The law made in Canada for all the Indians, commonly called the "Indian Act" says that while the old chiefs like yourself are not who disturbed in their office, unless they prove to be bad men, the chiefs who come after them, when the old chiefs die or resign office, are to be elected by their people. This is, I think, a good law, because the people themselves know who will be best man for chief, and if the government appointed one, the people might not be pleased, I am much pleased to hear of your good acts and hope that everything will go on comfortably with your people; and that you yourself may be happy in your old age.

I am
 (Signed) G. M. Sprat
 Commissioner

Mr. Chulikeeta
 Longlac Lake

Sent to
 Mr Mohun Esq
 Longlac Lake
 Aug 14th 1879

Indian Reserve Commission
 British Columbia
 Hope En route
 1879 Aug 14th

Sir/
 I have to thank you for your letter of the
 12th inst advising me that you had ^{paid} through
 Mr Jennings clerk the \$50. of which you kindly took
 charge to meet a draft of Mr Mohr's in favour
 of bill tickets, with which money I troubled you
 as I did not know where I might be when the order
 came forward

I am &c

James Lemhany
 Indian Supt
 New Westminster

Wm Sproat
 Commissioner

Indian Reserve Commission
 British Columbia
 Hope En route
 1879 Aug 14

Sir/
 I beg to enclose for your information copy of the
 resolutions of the Sekla-Kap-a-Muk people at their
 great meeting at Lytton on the 17th ult; and also of
 the rules and regulations framed by their Council as
 authorized by clause 63 of the "Indian Act"

I send copies to the Supt General who instructed me
 to attend the meeting. The Indians, however, did nearly
 all the work themselves and you will be pleased with
 the proof thus afforded of the capabilities of these Indians

I am &c

Wm Sproat
 Commissioner

James Lemhany
 Indian Superintendent
 New Westminster

Indian Affairs Commission
 British Columbia
 In camp Hope en route
 1879 Aug 12th

Sir/

Enclosed please find pay certificates for Mr. Mathews work divided for the two Superintendencies - the general certificate of which I sent you on 12th June last.

I am &c.

W. Powell Esq. M.A.
 Indian Superintendent
 Victoria

Wm. G. Woodroffe
 Commr.

(Mount. Coast Division - 30th ¹⁸⁷⁸ Dec to 5 Feb 1879 186.47.
 Interior Division 1 to 29th Feb 1878 140.32)

Indian Affairs Commission
 B.C. Hope en route 1879
 Aug 12th

Sir/

As I am travelling without the records of the Commission, I cannot refer to the arrangement with Mr. Gillie, until I reach New Westminster. I believe he had a copy of it, but have learned that his copy was burnt with his house. The only part of it that will require surveyors action is the piece of land on the river, which Mr. Gillie kindly said he would exchange and water therefor - Ten acres would be satisfactory. The important part of the ~~matter~~ arrangement as to the right of root gathering on the whole pointage of the farm does not require surveyors attention. In marking off the hill land care must be taken not to interfere unnecessarily with settlers who habitually have been using neighbouring crown lands. Mr. Gillie was good enough to make a proposal which enabled a difficult matter to be settled.

to satisfy the Indians, and I therefore think he is entitled to consideration, but at the same time the action of the Commission is always designed to lessen difficulties and make things as comfortable as possible for all concerned without reference to extreme views of right.

Mohun Singh }
Nicola Valley }
Belg }

I am &c
(Sg) J. M. Sproat
Commissioner

Indian Reserve Commission

Hope In. Note: 1879 Aug 12

Sir/
I have received your letter of the 5th Ult, and have certified to the pay certificates for the two superintendents and have posted them to Sr. Powell as you request.

I signed a general certificate for these sums on 15th June last, and would have done so at any time sooner had you rendered them correctly.

The further amounts which you mention are not in my opinion due to you from the Government.

Mohun Singh }
Nicola Valley }

I am &c
(Sg) J. M. Sproat
Commissioner

Hope 17th Aug
1879

Telegram

John Murray
Spencer Bridge

Please send ~~some~~ ^{at his cost} carriage to Mohun Singh or Souplakake, by express, if necessary - Message as follows "cut off south west corner, add purple give reasonable wood privilege farming purposes."

Lander and Beak

(Sg) Sproat

L. M. S. Hope 17 Aug^r 1879
en route

Sir/

I have to day received your letter of the 7th as to a proposed alteration in Chilliheeta's reserve

As the letter went to and came back from New Westminster some time here, I could not reply by to days steamer, and have therefore telegraphed to Mr John Murray as per annexed telegram which explains itself.

Mr Lemham paid the \$50⁰⁰ order in favour of Chilliheeta. You will have to survey Teena Melts place so as to reasonably include his settlement, unless he himself is satisfied with Anderson's line which Mr Jane has run. These conflicts are very embarrassing, but fairness to an old occupier like this Indian should commend his claims to impartial men

E. M. L. D. J.
Douglas Lake

L. M. S.
(Sup. of) Sprout
Mount -

Indian Mes: bow
Hope en route
1879. Aug 17

Sir/

I gave you at Chilliheeta 20 June last - " -
Instructions for the following Reserves

Chilliheeta

Bob Hamiltons Creek

Ka-wee-is-to-Kum

Cold water

Stuppah

Kanaka flat

Siska

Niornen

I now send you by post "Mixed Indians" 20 to 25 miles up Nicola.

See J. L. D.
313

I gave Capt. Gemmett instructions for "Potatoe garden Indian"

This you and Capt. Gemmett are furnished with instructions for the Nicola Valley people.

In case you make good speed and the winter should prove open I will send you some instructions for other surveys in a short time

I am &c

(Sg) J. M. Sprout

E. M. Humboldt & Co }
Nicola Valley }

Hope in route

1879 Aug. 17

Sir/

I do not remember if I told you, but the understanding of course as to Mr. Gillies' land is that the land he is to get is the hill land, that is ordinary grazing land, not land on which any one would make a homestead with cultivation

Yours &c

(Sg) J. M. Sprout
Commr.

E. M. Humboldt & Co }
Nicola Valley }

Indian Reserve Commr.

In Camp. Malaspina Straits

25 August 1879

Sir/

I have received and will forward to the Superintendent General your letter of the 7th Instant on the subject of the movements of the Reserve Commission.

By the agreement between the two governments, it was left to the Reserve Commission (no doubt for good reasons) to make arrangements for visiting the different groups of people in such order as might be found desirable.

My experience shows me that this was a well judged provision. The Commission itself, in taking the first census of the Indians which has been taken, only learns as it proceeds

the different groupings for land adjustments which is satisfactory to the Indians. Arbitrary instructions to adjust land questions in reference merely to topographical areas would not give satisfaction, and would cause additional expense in the whole work. Again it has to be considered that the avocations of the Indians are systematic and closely connected with the vital question of their food supplies, and that the Commission, having an opportunity of becoming acquainted with the ways of the people, is probably best able to arrange official visits on land business so as to interfere as little as possible with their every day life. At the same time, I believe you know that my wish, as Reserve Commissioner, is to carry on the work, as far as may be, to the satisfaction of both Governments, bearing in mind, on the one hand, the important fact that the Dominion government pays all expenses, and is charged with the whole burden of Indian administration, and on the other hand, that the Provincial government would have to bear the brunt of any inconvenient action on the part of any group of Indians caused by discontent. I would respectfully remark, that on reading your letter, it did not appear obvious why you should state as new information which had reached you, detached from former official correspondence, the act of the Commission in undertaking work on the coast during the remainder of the season.

The enclosed memorandum which I have prepared for your easy reference to facts, shows the history of the matter, and particularly the views and instructions of the Dominion government relating to it, and the memorandum also shows that these have been regularly communicated to you, and further, that, for some months past, it has rested with the Provincial government to fulfil certain requirements of the Dominion government with respect to work in the Interior.

These instructions of the Superintendent General were

my judgment; reasonable instructions and should not be described "as most impolitic".

The Dominion government, which pays the cost of acquiring land matters, and has on its shoulders also the burden of surveying the Reserves, and the great responsibilities of Indian administration in general, object, as I understand, to have additional unnecessary expense thrown upon them as a consequence of the inability of the Provincial government to adjust matters which require their attention and co-operation, and which have been brought officially before that government a long time ago and repeatedly.

The land question in the Interior no doubt presses for solution, even after the successful work that has been done, but I may say that within the past six months I have had as urgent messages and reminders sent to me from Indians on the Coast as from Indians in the Interior. The water question especially requires the co-operation of the Provincial government, and as requested in mine of the 31 May last, still unanswered, I shall be glad to know the time when, and the manner in which, this co-operation will be given.

The opportune interval which now exists for adjusting the water and other outstanding questions should not, I respectfully suggest, be permitted to pass, without being utilised.

I am etc

H. J. G. (H. J. G. (H. J. G.))

The Hon.
Chief Commr of Lands Works
Victoria

Enclosure

Memorandum to accompany Mr Spratt's letter of the 29th August 1879, to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works Victoria B.C.

On the 18th April 1879 the Sup. Genl instructed Mr Spratt by letter "To proceed with the allotment of reserves on the Coast of British Columbia leaving the Reserves ^{for} the Indians in the

"Northern portion of the Interior until the important question
" of water for irrigating the same is settled"

Before Mr Sproat received these instructions he had written
on the 26th April to the Chief Commr of Lands & Works, on the
subject of the discontent of the Indians, in the Williams Lake
District, and he said further -

"This subject has been brought to the notice of the Provincial
" Government on various occasions - see my letters of 6th and
" 13th May 1878 to the Hon: the Provincial Secretary, & to yourself
" 23 June 1878 and 20th March last. The adjustment of the water
" question which has been officially before the Provincial Govt
" for about a year is very closely connected with the work of the
" Reserve Commission in the Northern Interior."

Having received the above instructions from the Superintendent
Gaul, Mr Sproat, on the 5th May 1879, wrote to the Chief Commr of
Lands & Works, Victoria, to inform him of their purport, and he
added,

"I believe that the above instructions from the Superintendent
" Gaul are given because it is expected that better work can
" be done for the money on the Coast than in the Interior,
" where the efficiency of the work of adjusting the reserves is
" liable under present circumstances to considerable interruption,
" and consequently, loss of money to the Dominion Govt. from
" the difficulty of settling important questions, such for
" instance as that of water for irrigation without a more
" complete understanding between the two Governments."

The Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works on the 7th
May 1879 replied to Mr Sproat that -

"The Govt is not at present able to say whether the suggestion
" to take up the West Coast Reserves is good or not. There is
" much dissatisfaction amongst the Indians of the
" Interior especially from Soda break down."

Copies of the above were sent to the Superintendent Gaul.
The Superintendent Gaul on the 19th May 1879 repeated his
instructions to Mr Sproat as follows - in a letter from
which the following is an extract -

" I have to refer you to my letter of the 18th ultimo instructing
 " you to proceed with the allotment of Reserves on the Coast
 " of British Columbia; leaving the Reserves for the Indians
 " in the northern portion of the interior until the important
 " question of water for irrigating the same has been
 " settled by the Provincial Government"

On the 25th May 1879 Mr Sproat had an interview with
 the Chief Commissioner of Lands & Works, and at the request
 of that gentleman he embodied, on the 28th May, his
 views in a short written statement from which the following
 is an extract: "As to the Lillooet District the difficulty
 " from a Dominion point of view, is connected with the
 " expense. If the water questions there, as some tell me,
 " interfere greatly to prevent a rapid final adjustment,
 " a second visit might be required: hence the Superint.
 " General says, in effect, "Complete the survey and census
 " arrangements for the season; then work on the Coast
 " as vigorously as you can," Thus giving the two parties
 " an interval to come to an understanding as to the
 " irrigation water question, after which, one visit to the
 " Lillooet District would suffice for a final adjustment."
 In reply to this the Chief Commr. of Lands & Works wrote
 as follows to Mr Sproat 28th May 1879.

" From the representations recently made by well informed
 " persons who can hardly be classed as alarmists, I think
 " it would be very advisable that the Indian Reserves in
 " the Interior, in the vicinity of Blinton and as far north
 " as Soda Creek should be defined before any work on
 " the Coast is undertaken. The irrigation question offers
 " no more embarrassment in the Lillooet or Cariboo section
 " of the Province than was met with in Yale and out to
 " New Westminster"

Mr Sproat on receipt of the above letter had another
 interview with the Chief Commr. of Lands and Works, and
 afterwards, on the 29th May 1879 telegraphed to the Superintendent
 General as follows:—

"Provincial government desire me to visit interior this
 "summer owing to continued accounts of Indian
 "discontent. Shall I use my discretion after further
 "inquiry"

The reply of the Superintendent Genl 30th May 1879 was
 as follows. "May locate reserves in Interior provided Provincial
 "Government arrange satisfactorily irrigation and any other
 "questions affecting the same."

Mr Sproat on the 31st May 1879 communicated this reply
 of the Superintendent General to the Chief Commr of Lands
 and Works in the following letter.

Copy

Victoria 31st May 1879

Sir/

I beg to Enclose copy of telegram received from the
 Sup^t Genl 30th May received this morning, giving me
 permission to visit the Interior instead of the Coast,
 provided that you arrange satisfactorily, irrigation and
 any other questions at issue affecting the Indian Lands.
 I beg to ask if this provision can be fulfilled.

I am &c

(Sd) J M Sproat.

The Hon:

The Chief Commr of Lands & Works }
 Victoria }

The Chief Commr of Lands & Works did not reply to
 this letter, and has not, so far as Mr Sproat knows,
 taken any steps to comply with the requirement of the
 Superintendent General as regards work in the interior.

The Superintendent General on the 5th June 1879, confirmed
 by letter to Mr Sproat, his above telegraphic instructions,
 of the 30th May 1879, and, subsequently, on the 9th July 1879
 again wrote to Mr Sproat referring him to the said letter
 of the 5th June 1879, and to the telegrams, as containing the
 instructions of the Superintendent General with respect
 to the operations of the Reserve Commission.

These instructions are shown by the foregoing to have been consistent, and may be summarised as follows:-

"Work on the Coast, but if the Provincial Government will fulfil certain requirements then work in the interior"

The Provincial Government have not, as far as Mr Sproat knows, fulfilled these requirements of the Superintendent General, which, in reference to the operations of the Mesquac Commission for the season, have been officially before that Government since the 5th May 1879, and the instructions of the Superintendent General to Mr Sproat to work on the Coast are thus in force.



Victoria 9 July 1879

Sir,

The Kekla Kapamuk Indians have during a week past had a meeting at Lytton for the purpose I believe of electing a chief and discussing matters connected with schools &c.

They have sent me an invitation to be present and I propose to be at Lytton on the 15th. The occasion will be interesting and I shall be glad if you could be present to observe the efforts these deserving people are making to do what both governments would approve in relation to the matters above mentioned.

I am Sir

Your obedt Servt

Sr. G M Sproat
Com^{rs}

The Hon^{ble}

The Ch^{ief} Com^r

James W. H. K. S.

Victoria

D^m Cash contra C^m

Indian Reserve Commission G M Sprout in A/c of H^m Dom - 1879

1879	April 1	To Balance	1166.25	April 30	By paid
	May 29	Remitt ^{ce} for Ottawa	2700.00		J. R. Com ^{rs}
				1.	Field Acc ^{ts} 1209.00
				2.	R. C. Anderson 20.00 - 1229.00

May 31	J. R. Com ^{rs}
1.	Field Acc ^{ts} 1229.50
2.	E. B. Marvin 20.00 x
3.	R. J. Williams 15.00 x

Mem^o Vou^l a S. Farwell 167.⁵³ Surveys

This should have been a S.F. Pay 124.68

J. R. Com^{rs} Board a. S. F. 42.85

George Plantings

4.	A. S. Farwell 167.53 x
5.	J. M. Fair 15.00 x
	<u>1447.03</u>
	Balance 31 May
	<u>1190.22</u>
	<u>\$ 3866.25</u>

New Westminster B.C. }
 10 July 1879 }
 Sd. G. M. Sprout Com^{rs}

D^m Cash contra C^m

Indian Res. Com^{rs} G M Sprout in A/c of H^m Dom - 1879

1879	June 1	To Balance	1190.22	June 30	By paid
					J. R. Com ^{rs}
				1.	Field Acc ^{ts} 1185.00
					Balance 30 June
					<u>5.22</u>
					<u>\$ 1190.22</u>

New Westminster B.C. }
 10 July 1879 }
 Sd. G. M. Sprout Com^{rs}

Copy

Statement Sundry Amounts due and unpaid
30 June 1879

Michel Commission Interpreter
Expenses on Departmental
business } 47.50

Ashdown Green
Expenses regarding Comptroller
Revenue - inquiries at Land
Office &c &c } 29.00

R. C. Cridge
Making Sundry Land Office
inquiries, sketches & Reports for
Surveyor preparing plans &c } 35.00

Ed. B. Kirkpatrick
Petty Cash disbursements.
Telegrams to Ottawa 22.88

A. S. Farwell Surveyor 140.32
A. S. Farwell Surveyor 150.00 - 290.32

Indian Res: Com^{rs} Board for Surveyor
in the Field 50.75
Ind: Res: Com^{rs} Ditto. 52.50 - 103.25

Indian Res: Com^{rs} Sundry disbursements
for rent of office & furniture }
Coals fire wood and stationery }
for Inds & men employed in }
plotting surveys & making maps }
for conveyances & for surveyors }
instructions. }
Victoria Superintendency }
Fraser Superintendency } safe - 123.49

Walter Loran Herding & feeding four
Government horses } 64.00
\$ 715.44

Original for Depositor

No 3107

\$ 5²²/₁₀₀Bank of Br. Columbia
Victoria 15 July 1879

Received from G. M. Smart Ind. Res. Com^{rs}
at Victoria B.C. the sum of Five dollars Twenty two
cents to be placed to the credit of the Receiver
General of Canada on account of Refund Expen-
diture Revenue.

Signed in Duplicate

Entered

St. Char. S. Jones

Jan. Cooper Keith
Accountant

Manager

Ind. Res. Commission
Br. ColumbiaIn Camp Pitt River
10 July 1879

Sir,

I beg herewith to enclose original and
duplicate accounts for June showing 5²² in hand
at 30th which amount has been paid to the credit
of the Res. General in the Bank B.C. as per
receipt herewith.

I also enclose original and
duplicate Vouchers for the above accounts and notes
thereon.

I further enclose a list of accounts
due but unpaid at the 30 June 715⁴⁴ for which
in being placed in funds I shall forward
original and duplicate vouchers.

I am advised
by the Bank of a credit of \$1500⁰⁰ 3rd July but
do not propose to use any part of this new year

remittances for the above accounts unpaid 30 June.

While on the coast I will do my best to take advantage of any passing mail to send monthly accounts if kept in funds, say at the beginning of each month.

I have not quite closed arrangements for coast transport but am glad that I can at least say that the cost will not be more than I have been paying.

I should my closing of the 30 June accounts not be found in accordance with your regulations I shall be obliged by your instructing me to amend them by return, as I shall probably be somewhat beyond regular communication in a short time.

I am Sir or Ma

The Hon,

The Supd: Gen,

of Indian Affairs (Ottawa)

A. G. M. Sproul Comr

Indian Res. Commission
Bor Columbia

10 July 1879

Notes on accounts for this month, June,

The explanation given in notes on accounts for April and May relative to the discharge of the explorer during the temporary employment of a Surveyor in this populous district, and the credit given accordingly for the explorer's pay seems to be all the comment here necessary.

Int. G. M. S.

Indian Res. Commission
Br. Columbia

In Camp Pitt River
10 July 1879

Sir,

original
duplicate

I beg to enclose herewith accounts for April and May showing 1190²² on hand at 31 May

I also enclose original & duplicate vouchers and notes thereon.

Having been unintentionally engaged on the River, I could not sooner render these accounts and have taken a day now to make them up before leaving for Lytton where I learn several thousand Indians are assembled to meet me.

I am Sir yr
St. J. M. Sprout Com^r

The Hon.
The Sup. Gen. of
Indian Affairs. Ottawa

Indian Res. Com^r
Br. Columbia

Notes on accounts - April & May 1879.

The months of April and May are included in the same statement of account as I was short of money to close the month of April by itself.

Voucher 2 - 20⁰⁰ to Mr. Anderson - see my letters to the Dep^y 15 March and 26 April 1879 explaining this item.

May Voucher 1 - 1229⁵⁰ Having to employ a regular surveyor for some of the more important portions of the

New Westminster district work, I did not at the same time require the services of the replorer, and accordingly credit the sum for his pay 2⁵⁰ per di-

It will not be necessary to employ a regular surveyor beyond the middle of this month or thereabouts and not only will the work in the district be completed subject to a few questions in abeyance but all the instructions and maps for surveyors for this district will be ready leaving no such survey arrangements as existed last year for other districts. This is obtained by insisting on daily completion of all field work as far as possible.

May Voucher 2 - 2000 Salary - The Indians attach so much importance to flags that I did not like to represent the Govt at the great Syllow meeting without a new flag in lieu of the patched one hitherto used.

Voucher 3 - 1500 - These Census forms have been filled up and sent to Ottawa.

A.S. James & Voucher 4 - \$167⁵⁰

This is for the Engineer who with me inspected, in accordance with Mr Vancouver's telegram, the numerous aboves at Chilliwack, Sumas and Mudgeon in connection with the Dyking scheme. The Report is ready but I have not been able to find time to review it before forwarding, and I fear I shall not be able to do so for a week or two.

The 12⁰⁰ per week is board when he was detached from my camp and had to stay at the houses of a settler - the district being very extensive.

Int^d 9. m. S

10 July 1877 }

Indian Res. Commission

New Westminster

19 August 1879

Dear Sir

Michel is not any longer Interpreter to the Commission as I am going where he does not know the language, but he has Government work to do for which he is to get \$600 a month until otherwise ordered - but this is in full - He has to pay his own board. His time will count from the 20 August.

I will write to you from Victoria as to the manner of paying him, but meantime whatever you pay him not exceeding the above I will repay you.

He has about \$100⁰⁰ due to him for balance of wages which I will probably remit for him thro' you when we have adjusted matters which we cannot well do travelling hurriedly.

Thos Mc Intyre Esq
Lytton

I am
Yr S.M. Sprout Com^d

Indian Res Com^d

Mr C. Penny

Will be kind enough to deliver to Michel the four Government horses - The claim of Mr Fearn against the Govt will be remitted to him very shortly -

Yr S.M. Sprout Com^d

Horses

Tom. Higger
and two pack Horses } 4

Kindly keep the saddles on till we require them.

New Westminster Aug 19 - 1879 -

Copy

New Westminster 19 August 1879

I hereby acknowledge to have received on loan from the Dominion Government four horses lately pastured at C. Pennys and I agree to pasture them free and take good care of them and return them on demand (mortality excepted), if I am permitted to use them in my work in helping the organization of the Heklakap-a-bunks. I also have received on loan a Government saddle.

The Government must shoe the horses

True copy
George Allen Knapp

Signed Michel

Indian Reserve Commission

In Camp Malaspina
Inlet N. Columbia
29 August 1879.

Sir

I have the honour to enclose copy of a letter dated 7 August which I have received from the Ch. Com: of Lands, and copy also of my reply thereto of this date, with a memorandum showing how the matter stands to which the Chief Com^r refers.

You will notice that the Prov. Com: have by letter and in conversation been repeatedly requested by me to do what you required as the condition of my continuing work in the Interior of the Province, and that, so far as is known to me they have not taken any steps to conform to that requirement and do not even refer to it in the letter of the 7th August.

I delayed as long as possible making arrangements for work on the coast in the hope that the Provincial Gov^t would do what was required, and was ready to arrange for undertaking work in the Interior, but on the Prov^t Gov^t failing to act, I proceeded under the instructions which you sent me on the 18 April, last and confirmed on 19 May.

I fully explained to Mr. Walker that the Gov^t should not delay too long their answer to mine of the 31 May on the above subjects, as the work of the Commission could not be suddenly changed without loss to the Hon^r Gov^t as fresh inquiries and copies of maps and records from Land Office, different arrangements for transports, different Interpretations were required for different districts, and after arranging for one kind of work I should not be suddenly called to work in another district.

This was specially of interest to the Hon^r Gov^t, as the payer of expenses.

The Ch. Com^r in his letter of the 7 August entirely ignored all the previous correspondence and communications on the subject matter of his letter, and in particular the fact that I was waiting for the decision of the Prov^t Gov^t in reference to the condition on which you had authorized me to work in the Interior -

Any discontent there may be among the ~~Western~~ Indians in the Northern Interior has been caused by the action or inaction of part Government of Br^t Columbia, and when as now, the Canadian Gov^t are ready to do their part, or more than their part to adjust matters, it does not seem reasonable that the Prov^t Gov^t should by their deliberate inaction embarrass and tend

to increase the cost of the work -

My arrangements were such that in changing from the Interior to the coast, I did not lose an hour, having taken steps beforehand as soon as I found that the Provincial Govt. did not propose to do anything;

On the general question of the movements of the Com^{rs} it appears from the following Extract from the Agreement between the two Govts. under which I believe I am acting that the Com^{rs} itself has to decide upon its movements.

Copy of a Report of a Committee of the Hon^{rs} the Executive Council approved by His Excellency the Lieut. Governor on the 6th Jan^y 1876:

" On a memorandum dated the 3rd Jan^y 1876 from the Hon^{rs} the Attorney Gen^l, reporting upon a Minute of the Hon^{rs} the Privy Council of Canada, bearing date the 10th Nov^r 1875 and making the following propositions for the settlement of the Indian Land Question in this Province:-

1st That the adjustment of the question be referred to three Com^{rs}, one to be appointed by the Hon^{rs} Govt., one by this Govt. and the third to be jointly named by the two Govts.

2nd That the Com^{rs} shall meet as soon after their appointment as possible at Victoria, and make arrangements to visit, with all convenient speed, in such order as may be found desirable each nation (meaning by nation all Indian tribes speaking the same language) in British Columbia, and after full inquiry on the spot into all the matters affecting the question, to fix and determine for each nation separately, the number, extent and locality of the reserve or reserves to be allowed to it.

3rd That in determining the extent of the Reserves to be granted no basis of average be fixed, but that of each nation of Indians be dealt with separately."

In my letter of this date to the Chief Commissioner of Lands (copy herewith) I suggest several good reasons which probably influenced the Government in making the arrangement which certainly, as my experience shows, is a good one, for I learn as I proceed what groups of people can be best dealt with together to give them satisfaction.

There is the further advantage that a dead lock is prevented, when, as in the present case, some difference of opinion exists between the Govts.

It has however to be remarked that since the Agreement was made it has been modified in the important particular that the Dom. Govt. pays all expenses and this fact must make the wishes of the Dom. Govt. potential in any question of movement in which extra expenditure is likely to be incurred.

I am Sir &c &c
 W. A. M. Sprual Comr.

The Hon.

The Secy Genl of
 Indian Affairs - Ottawa

Indian Res. Commissioner
 Br. Columbia

In Camp Malaspina Inlet
 29 August 1879

Transport on the Coast.

Sir

I have to advise that in carrying out your Instructions to work on the coast the means of transport which I have chosen is by canoes with a schooner as a base of supplies, and for transport where canoes would be less useful.

So far as I have tested this arrangement there has been, on the whole, no loss of time, as compared with our former work in the steamer "Leonora" and it enables me to visit places with safety places where the "Leonora" could not go without danger.

The time spent in occasionally beating to windward in a schooner is balanced by the time lost in finding fresh water and cutting wood to supply the "Leonora".

With respect to cost my experience, so far, is too short to enable me to say more than that it will not exceed the cost of the "Leonora" (which vessel the Com^o employed for two seasons on the Coast @ 17⁰⁰ per day, and that were I to work for some time on the Coast I am almost certain it will be found that I can reduce the cost, a considerable portion of the expense being in fitting out &c. - I will advise you further on this subject after longer experience of the incidents and contingencies of this means of transport.

I enclose a photograph of the schooner the "Thornton". She is an old oil trader which I have had cleaned up, but is sufficiently comfortable and safe, for the purpose, though not much like a government boat -

I am Sir &c
S^t E M Spout Com^o

Thelton;
The Sup. Gen. of
Indian Affairs }
Ottawa

Indian Reserve Commission
 The board of Commissioners "Thornton"
 Off. Vancouver B.C.
 Aug. 21st 1879

Sir/

I promised to send Challoo the Sytton Indian, a copy of the Resolutions, and rules and regulations, passed by the meeting and Council respectively, on the 17th July 1879 - held at Sytton.

I enclose a copy of the documents herewith, and shall feel obliged if you will deliver them to Challoo, and explain them.

Wm. H. Tutty
 Sytton B.C.

Yours Truly
 Sig. J. H. Frost
 Comdr.

Indian Res. Com^{rs}
 Bon. Columbia

In Camp Malaspina
 Inlet

29 August 1879

Sir,

I beg to enclose a tracing which shows the locality I dub, from, and chose Indian places, marked with a red cross, which can be conveniently visited in succession, numbering, I think, about 5000 people, I would hope to complete the assignment of Reserves for all these before the snow comes if the winter is not early and I have reasonable chances, this will be a large step forward with the work in the Province in general and will satisfy the urgent wishes of many Indian tribes who have had no reserves assigned to them.

The history of the land matters of the people I am among will be

instructive, in view of the ^{statement of the} Provincial Government that your instructions to me are calculated to do more harm than good.

The Reserve Commission in 1877 touched these people's lands but had no time to examine them. They consist of three main tribes - the Sli'am, Mon, the Klakhoose, and the Homalchks, whose country is around Malarpina Inlet, Toba Inlet and But Inlet (see tracing). They are excellent Indians who, at the instance of the Roman Catholic Church, have joined in a winter village on the mainland opposite Harwood Id. and have there built a Church for themselves.

The Country is rocky and poor and it will be quite a problem how to furnish them with opportunities for advancement.

Their great wish was to have a piece of timber land from which they could sell sawlogs. They are able to follow the industry of "hand logging".

The village was built where it is, partly in the view of their getting a share of the only good timber land near it.

The Reserve Commission as long ago as 1877 mentioned these Indians to the Prov. Govt. of that day, and hoped some attention would be given to the case of a group of Indians worthy of attention, and who, I should have stated, are among those who have had no land whatever assigned to them, but I am sorry to say this expectation was defeated.

The Commission received several messages from these Indians

and communicated them to the Pres: Govt.

Last year the present Govt, without mentioning their intention to the Com^{rs}, sold several thousand acres including all the good timber land, and coming close up to the village. This became known to the Indians and they were so distressed about it that last January I went to see what their grievance was, and found it was as above.

They at that time expressed great alarm not only the timber land they hoped for but their potatoe lands would be taken from them. It is difficult to find cultivable lands to any extent in their district except at considerable distances.

I told the Indians I could not pay them an official visit but I would do what I could for them. I accordingly wrote an official letter to the Asst Land Com^r of the New West district, asking him to refuse presumptions or purchases until he communicated with me, but that gentleman informed me a fortnight ago that he had not been authorized by the Land Office to attend to my request.

I therefore determined to lose no time in formally assigning the reserves for these Indians, and am now engaged in doing so, and how such humane, necessary work can be called "impolitic" I am not able to understand.

It appears to me not to be creditable, that a number of hard working, well behaved Indians who pay their way so well, that many of them get credit at shops, should have been left for 20 years without any land at all, and notwithstanding repeated explanations of their

position be denied reasonable protection until my actual visit for the purpose of assigning land for their use if I can find any land.

The proximity of the locality of these Indians to Bute Inlet and Lyada Island which are connected respectively with railway and iron speculations makes me additionally anxious that their fair moderate requirements should no longer be disregarded.

I am Sir &c &c,
 J. G. McSproul Com^r

The Hon^r
 The Sup^r Gen^l of
 Indian Affairs Ottawa

British Columbia
 Indian Res. Com^r

Kanaimo Sep 1879

Sir

Having obtained in the newspapers & gazette notices of the intentions of certain persons to apply for permission to purchase land at Port Simpson Skidgate & Telegraph passage, I respectfully beg leave to remind you that no assignments of lands for the Indians have been made in these places, and that it is consequently undesirable that land should be sold or pre-empted in these and other places on the coast now awaiting the adjustment of the Indian land question.

The Hon^r
 The Chief Com^r
 Lands & Works
 Victoria

I am Sir
 Yours obt Serv^t
 J. G. McSproul Com^r

British Columbia
Indian Res. Commission

Cowichan Bay
on route

3 Sept 1879

Mr Sutton's matter
Intrusion on Indian Reserve

Sir,

Being windbound in this neighbourhood I have taken a boat and landed to examine the above question without the Indians knowing of my presence.

I will obtain the Surveyors tracing and again write to you on the subject.

The chief part of Mr Sutton's claim is not upon the Indian Reserve but upon the foreshore which is I presume under control of the Dome Cove.

I think as far as Mr Sutton's interests are concerned the question is susceptible of arrangement but perhaps it may be as well not to instruct Mr Powell to visit the Indians (most of whom are at present absent), until I have submitted to you a further report, with sketch, for your consideration.

I am Sir,
Yours faithfully,
J. E. M. Spruce Comr

The Hon

The Sup: General
of Indian Affairs
Ottawa

British Columbia
 Indian Reserve Commission
 On board Schooner "Thornton"
 Gulf of Georgia
 3^d Sept 1879

(School at Lytton)

Sir/

Since writing to you on the above subject in my explanatory notes ^{in letter} dated 26th July 1879 respecting the proposed tribal organization of the Nekla-Kap-a-muko, I have obtained a copy of the Annual Departmental Report, and notice "that the sum of \$12⁰⁰ per annum" "shall be paid for each Indian pupil in daily attendance," "but that the aggregate amount paid to any one school" "shall not exceed the sum of \$300 per annum".

If this rule of the Department is in force still, and you are pleased to direct its application to the proposed school at Lytton, and if you approve the kind of school and the teacher recommended, there would appear to be no reason why the school should not be opened as soon as the Indians finish the school house, or formally agree, (as they told me they already had determined), to hire, at their own cost, a school room in Lytton pending the construction of the school house on their own Reserve. The Indians of the Nekla-Kap-a-Tank group have more than 900 children, and this school at Lytton is, as I have mentioned, the first which the Council have decided, if possible, to establish. The tribes are scattered but I am assured that at least 25 children will regularly attend at the Lytton school, which would entitle the school to the fixed maximum grant of \$300 a year. The Teachers salary proposed is at the rate of \$30 a month, or \$360 a year, which would leave \$60 a year to be made up by the Indians. They also would build the school house and fit it with furniture. I presume the government would supply apparatus, books.

and prizes. The starting of the school, as I have said, would be most useful in its effect upon all these Indians, in whose minds the education of the children, now that land questions promise to be adjusted, is the foremost consideration. The Indians have agreed to enforce attendance of scholars. This is the subject of one of the formal *Nekla-kap-a-muk* negotiations.

The school should, in all respects, be under the superior control of the Department, and if you appointed a travelling agent such as Mr. Ross, and made provision for his receiving instructions as to this portion, among other, of his duties, and if you approved the general conditions of the Government money grant, I see no obstacles in the way of the experiment. The peculiarity of the school would be that it would be a school started, and as far as might be, managed by the Indians, subject to the above supervision and direction. Periodical visits with not greater than quarter of a year intervals, should be made by the Agent, who then should make up the necessary papers for the Government grant, and report to you through the principal administrative officer, as to the state and prospects of the school.

In management during the absence of the agent on other business, I would trust to the school teacher, and to persons elected as school visitors (and serving gratuitously) by the Indians - say 3 Indian school visitors and 2 white school visitors, constituting a sort of advising board to the school teacher. I mention "3 Indians" to make the suggestion, but I would recommend you to leave the number to be settled on the spot as the Indians, I find, have peculiar ideas on these matters, and are very critical as to the qualities of any of their own people whom they choose for such positions. A white man, after long acquaintance with the Indians, might think himself safe in naming 3 generally respectable Indians, but, after long debates, the Indians probably would present

some Indian whom the white man did not even know, and who did not live at the place. It is best to follow their own decision in such matters. I am anxious only to preserve the principle of Indian management in school, as in other matters.

I would ask you to give some idea what "daily attendance" means. By the reputations of the people, the children must attend the school; and can only be withdrawn temporarily by leave of the teacher or chief of the tribe. This provides for the effect of sickness or unavoidable occurrences, and I presume that the "daily attendance" would be reasonably interpreted particularly as the school visitors (the whites) could assure the Agent on this point, at his quarterly examinations. The school teacher on being appointed, should understand that the teacher has to take the risk of the attendance being insufficient to secure the \$300 from the Government. For any deficiency of salary caused by deficient attendance the teacher should look to the Indians, and not to the Government. I think all this could be worked into shape, so as to have satisfactory results. With these remarks I respectfully ask you to consider the ~~the~~ school question as soon as may be convenient. Some further general observations are suggested to me on the subject of Indian Schools in this province by the receipt of a letter dated 5th August 1879 which has been written to me by the Messrs. N. J. Roberts a gentleman connected with the New England Company, a missionary society probably well known to the Department who appears to be at present in this province partly to benefit his health, but also, it would appear, to communicate information to the New England Company. I enclose copy of Mr Roberts letter. As this province contains about $\frac{1}{3}$ rd of all the Indians in Canada, it would seem to be most desirable to obtain the help of all such societies as the New England Company, and of all churches in the work of improving the condition of the Indians, but

I do not feel myself sufficiently in possession of the views of the Indian Department on School matters to engage independently in the correspondence to which Mr Roberts invites me. I have therefore written a reply to Mr Roberts, in general terms, and, in pursuance of his request, I also have addressed a letter to the New England Company, of this date, the original of which latter I now enclose to be forwarded or suppressed, as you may think fit, after its perusal — or perhaps, you will cause a communication from the Department to be addressed to the New England Company. I would ask you to be good enough to note that I made it from the first a rule of the work of this Commission to forbid the presence of all clergymen and missionaries at interviews with the Indians. After a little experience, also, which resulted in unseemly — interruptions of interviews by white men, I made the same rule as to their presence unless it were admitted that Indians were to be present at official interviews with white men. I, of course, independently, made it my business to acquaint myself most carefully with the views both of clergymen and of all white settlers, and this, in fact, has been the most anxious part of my duties, but as far as the Indians themselves were concerned, I wished to make them feel that "the Queen" (under which name they individualise the Government) wished them to speak their minds freely, holding back nothing as they might have done on account of the presence of clergymen or white settlers (some of them magistrates) with whom they might have disputes. This course was not rightly understood at first, but it has long been admitted that it was prudent, and being carried out without relaxation, it presented the Government and the Commissioner of the Government in the proper, impartial light before the Indian population. They now know that the "Queen", while valuing all churches, societies and

organisations of white men for the good of the Indians, is in a position of vast responsibility in this world, and regards the Indians and white men in the same way, and expects them to obey the same laws.

The white men have "little laws" for the government of their towns and municipalities, which of course must accord with the general law of the country, and the Indians may have under the "Indian Act" similar "little laws" for tribes or groups, without any detachment of allegiance or obedience to the general law for both whites and Indians. The reason of this is that neither the Queen, nor any of her Commissioners can know all the Indian ways; they themselves know their own needs and affairs, and they can know what "little laws" are required and how they can be carried out, and they can change them if not found good. On these principles, shortly stated, the Nekla-Kop-a-Munko proceeded to organise themselves under the "Indian Act". Their great wish was for schools, but the extent of their decisions on other matters was remarkable. They showed a desire to have schools of their own, and to have a say in what should be taught, and what details of practice should be adopted to suit Indian ways and the convenience of their families and children. White men may pretend to know these things, but it was soon evident to me that an agent of the Government had to be more of a student than a director, and that the only safe way was to let the Indians do what, as rational beings, they felt themselves able to do in the management of their own affairs, and particularly as regards their schools. The great affection which the Indians have for their children makes their acquiescence in school regulations a matter to be carefully regarded and required. My great difficulty about Indian schools in this country is connected with the position of the different Churches. What are you to do about the churches? Stand aloof and leave the field quite open,

Let the Indians tax themselves, and give government help for proved proficiency and results in secular branches.

This might be said, but then the government would lose the voluntary contributions of churches and societies in a great work, and also a large amount of zeal and trained capacity. I think it proper that from discussion in official municipal Councils of Indians, Church matters (except as to schools) should be excluded, because if (of which I have some proof) Indian Municipal Machinery should be used - for instance for making collections for simply Church purposes, the government would be in the position of favouring particular Churches. The Nekla-Kap-a-Tunk case may be adduced to exemplify this. The Church of England, with the Rev. J. B. Ford, as missionary, has had a good deal to do with the Nekla-Kap-a-Tunks, but for some reason or other, the Church has no schools among them.

If the New England Company came in, with a promise of government support (it is, I believe, a Church of England Company), the Roman Catholics, who are hard at work among the Shuswaps and Kanagans, and perhaps, for aught I know may be ready to work among the Nekla-Kap-a-Tunks might think that the Department was deviating from impartiality.

It would be different were schools already established. The actual occupation of the field might be a valid reason for asking ~~the~~ for government support; for the government might then say "we give to an existing" "school which fulfils our conditions; we do not" "inquire into its denominational character. we work" "upwards from an existing fact which suits our" "purpose" I therefore think that while the government can safely promise by anticipation to support a purely Indian school in this Province, they probably might require to see the actual existence of a denominational or society school for Indians, before they could state what

they could do for it in a particular District.

In this sense I have written my enclosed letter to the New England Company.

There is another school matter, on which, as I am on the subject of education, I may offer a few remarks, respectfully for your consideration. Every body who proposes education for Indians seems to have as a pet-idea what are called Industrial and boarding schools. The Churches favour these institutions, and Justice D^r Powell has recommended them to Mr Roberts (above-mentioned). Whether such institutions do good, proportioned to their cost, in the Eastern provinces, I do not know, but we are not ready for them here yet - I mean as institutions receiving government support, except in exceptional cases.

Our Industrial school, I presume, has to teach industries. Now the industries followed by our Indians are of a varied character and this varied character is one main reason why the people are self-supporting. They do what the country, by its natural products, happily enables them to do. They are miners, fishermen, fur hunters, and many of them are becoming good farmers. They can make boats as well as canoes, can work tin and construct good frame houses such as rough white carpenters make. In most of their industries, they could instruct their nominal teachers, for in farming and making irrigation ditches for cropping, they already, in many places, have learned, by working for white men what it is necessary for them to know. It has to be considered that, an Industrial and boarding school can only be maintained at a great expense, and that the result would probably be, the outturn of a certain number of good mechanics who instead of going among their fellow Indians to instruct them (which Indians are averse from doing) would follow ordinary human impulse and use their skill as a capital for getting higher wages among the white community for their individual benefit.

This of course may be a pleasing result for the contemplation of a philanthropic society, but it does not seem to be ~~the~~ what a Government should aim at. The Government should look to the reasonable cultivation of the whole field, and the production of an average crop, not to the production of a few extra specimens in a corner. There is nothing required (to continue the above simile) for the production of an average crop of reasonably instructed Indians, except the well-guided active exertions of an officer of the Indian Department who in addition to supervising the schools, also could instruct those Indians who needed instruction, in the elements of farming and gardening, and explain how cleanliness was conducive to health, with such an Agent, and the co-operation of the Indians themselves under such an organisation as is proposed by the *Netla-Nap-a-thukko*, the best results might be obtained for the present, at the lowest cost, and by and by, more ambitious machinery might be brought into use. After a season or a generation during which an average and practicable level had been reached in the matter of educating Indians, and many of them were so proficient that the question of secondary as distinct from primary education became a practical question as affecting many of the people, the time then, would come for a consideration of what the Government might do for advanced or promising scholars. Meanwhile, if any churches or societies saw good in forcing results the Government might in each special case, consider what help it could give, if any, in cases specially submitted for their consideration.

I am &c.

(Sigs) Herbert Malcolm Spreat
Commissioner

Honourable/

The Superintendent General
of Indian Affairs
Ottawa

British Columbia
 Indian Reserve Commission
 on board schooner "Thurston"
 full of scalps
 1879 Sept 3^d

Dear Sir/

I have received a letter dated 5th August from Mr. R. J. Roberts, who states that he is connected with your company and asks me to write to you about Indian matters, and particularly as to Nicola Valley as a school field. My business is that of a sort of arbitrator between the Governments of Canada and British Columbia, and I am not directly connected with Indian Administration, but I will give you any information in my power that is likely to be useful to your company. We have here it is supposed, about $\frac{1}{3}$ ^d of the whole Indian population of Canada and they are an interesting people; who, probably will improve rapidly when their minds are freed from -- anxiety about their land matters. I say as little as possible publicly respecting the past treatment of the Indians as to their lands, for the whole question is in process of slow and painful adjustment by compromises, and the position has to be recognised. Even now, 8 years after Confederation, it requires the watchful care of the Canadian Government to secure the moderate claims of the Indians to a share of the soil. But in a considerable part of the province, the adjustment of land matters is so far advanced that the Indians are willing to think of other things than land grievances, and education is one of these things. I think I may say that Nicola Valley is one of those places. The Indians there are a portion of the Nekkla Kap-a-Munk group of Indians, who lately have proposed to organise themselves under the Indian Act. The Nekkla Kap-a-Munk who live scattered over an extensive District, but yet are distinctively one people; have about 900 children, fine little children, whose future largely depends on the instruction which they may

receive in the next few years. I am quite uneasy about
 the number of Indian Children in this province without
 any means of education. The Nekla-Kap-a-Munko have
 agreed in their provisional Council to try to start schools for
 themselves, and to ask the Government to help them. They
 seem to me rather to like the idea of having a good deal
 to say as regards their schools if they can succeed in
 establishing them. I do not know any better field for
 school work in the Province than amongst the Nekla-Kap-
 a-Munko. Their own idea is to have a school, first at ~~at~~ ^{at} ~~the~~
 (at the junction of the Thompson and the Fraser) and then, the
 next at or near Nehyig or known commonly as the old
 Chief Na-wee-is-ti-Kuis place 10 miles below foot of
 Nicola Lake. The Indians at head of Nicola Lake and at
 Douglas Lake form the tribe of the old Chief Chilleheeta. They
 are half-Nekla-Kap-a-Munko with a large mixture of
 Okanagans and Shuswap. Chilleheeta is an Okanagan
 and one of the powerful old chiefs, and he has not yet
 decided whether his tribe will join the Nekla-Kap-a-Munko
 organization or not. I have given Mr Roberts a census of the
 Nekla-Kap-a-Munko. I cannot state the acreage of the Reserves
 as they are not yet surveyed. The surface of the Country is so
 varied that a crease would give you no idea of the Reserves.
 They are very moderate compared with ideas in the Eastern
 Provinces, but they may be sufficient, if well managed
 and protected. I do not know more about the New
 England Company than its name, and cannot therefore
 address my remarks to meet any probable plan of work
 likely to be adopted by it, but I would earnestly ask the
 Company to help our Indians, if they can. I feel sure that
 a good return will be obtained. My view and that of
 many of the Indians is to have common schools to teach
 English and arithmetic, sewing, baking &c. They and by &c
 if it were found that the scholars were very proficient,
 more ambitious schools could be started. I do not think
 an Industrial school would produce results affecting

the mass of the Indians proportionate to the cost.

Before starting a boarding school to train teachers, I should like to see what material for teachers exists already in the Province, say, young persons fairly educated with a colloquial knowledge of an Indian tongue. Nothing should be done without consulting the Indians.

W. C. Verrill Esq
Clerk to the New England Co
1. Turners Farm
Holborn England

Yours truly,
Gy Gilbert Malcolm Sproat
Commissioner

British Columbia
Indian Reserve Commission
On board Schooner "Thornston"
Port of Georgia.
5th Sept 1879

(Newspaper letter about
the late meeting of the Indians
at Sytton)

Sir / They to enclose a newspaper clipping on the subject of the late Indian meeting at Sytton, with some comments of my own thereon, for your information, as it would not be becoming for me to enter into a controversial correspondence in local newspapers.

The writer, I believe, is not unknown at Ottawa. He is one of a class of "Old Residents" here whose notion of Indian management is terrorism, and who, after many efforts to prevent the Indians getting pieces of land, seems now to have his race-prejudices stored up to its depths by the simple proposal of the Indians to take steps for educating their children and doing other things connected with the material and social wellbeing of the people.

The Hon.
The Superintendent General
of Indian Affairs
Ottawa

I anti
Gy / of M Sproat
Clerk

Copy

Original

Dominion of Canada

Victoria B.C. 25 Aug. 1879

\$ 715 ⁴⁴/₁₀₀

Received from the Receiver General of Canada through the hands of the Bank of British Columbia at Victoria the sum of Seven hundred and fifteen dollars forty four Cents being amount advised to pay out-
standing Accounts for 1878-1879

Sd. G. M. Sprout
Office Ind. Res. Com^{rs}

British Columbia
Ind. Res. Com^{rs}

12 Sept 1879

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No 14841 Form E 1 August 1879 informing me of the examination and correctness of Accounts for April & May and I have also received your letter No 14840 Form A 2nd August 1879 informing me that the sum of 715 ⁴⁴/₁₀₀ had been paid to the Bk. Br. Columbia for outstanding acc^{ts}.
30 June 1879.

I beg, now, as usual, to enclose, herewith, Cash Statement and Vouchers, in duplicate, for the above amount.

With respect to the charge included in the above of 64 ⁰⁰/₁₀₀ Voucher No 3 I have arranged with the Kikla Kop, a. muk chief that the Dominion horses in respect of which the above amount was incurred shall be pastured by the Indians, gratis, in future, when not required for the work of the Com^{rs}.

Shelton,
The Sup^r Gen^l of
Indian Affairs - Ottawa.

I am, &c,
Sd G M Sprout Com^r

Dr. _____ Cash _____ Contra _____ Cr.
 Indian Res Com^{on} _____ P M Sproat in ac^t wth Don, Geo^d
 after due & unpaid 30 June 1879

1879
 Aug 25 To Rem^{to} fire House
 to pay outstanding } 715.44
 Accts.

1879
 Sep 4 By paid
 2, Michel 47.50
 3, Walter Dean 64.
 4, Geo Blew King 22.88 134.88
 5, R. Craig 35.00
 6, Ashtⁿ Green 29.00 64.
 Sep 9 J R Com^{on}
 7, Vick^s Sept 61.74
 8, Inver^s do 61.75 123.49
 Surveys
 9, A. S. Fano 20290.32
 9, J. R. Com^{on} 103.25 393.57
 \$715.44 \$715.44

Printed Columbia
 12 Sept 1879

Signed, P. M. Sproat

***THIS LETTER WAS PAPER CLIPPED TO THE
INSIDE OF THE LAST PAGE OF THIS
LETTERBOOK.***

Indian Reserve Survey

Missla
8th Sept 1879

Gentlemen,
I am instructed by the Indian
Reserve Commissioner to inform you
that you are permitted to cut such timber,
as you may require for use on your
respective farms, upon the Indian Reserve;
and I have notified Whillabetsu to that
effect.

I have
P Edward Mohun
In charge Ind. Res. Survey.

Wm. Beak & Son.