

265940

Ottawa, 25th March, 1914.

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st instant, asking if it would be proper for Robert Sawyer to sell to Chief Laform for \$700 the property which he acquired under the will of the late Elvira Sawyer. The clause of the said will under which Robert Sawyer acquired an interest in this property reads as follows:-

"I give devise and bequeath unto my cousin Robert S. Sawyer all my interest and claim in the south half of lot seven concession two township of Tuscarora, for and during the term of his natural life and after the death of my said cousin Robert S. Sawyer I give devise and bequeath the above mentioned lot to the band of Indians of which I am a member, the Mississaugas of the Credit, to be disposed by the Superintendent of Indian Affairs in any manner he may think best for benefit of said Band."

Mr. Sawyer, you will observe, has therefore only a life interest in this property after which it becomes the property of the band. It does not appear to the Department that it would be a prudent thing of Chief Laform to pay the sum of \$700 for Mr. Sawyer's interest, which, as he is an elderly man, might ~~terminate~~ at any time. Chief Laform will have to use his own judgment in this matter, but the Department desires to

W.C. Van Loon, Esq.,

Indian Agent,

Hagersville, Ont.