

PRELIMINARY.

To whom it may concern :

I think it right to say that the report contained in this pamphlet has been printed at my request. By some it may be considered a little piece of vanity, that I hope to correct some errors or mistakes which, in my humble judgment, have existed respecting all parties who have had to do with the Indians of the Lake of the Two Mountains. It is also my desire to show that the Government of this Dominion—I may say each successive Government—has not failed to use all proper and lawful efforts for the benefit of the Oka Indians. Whatever may be said to the contrary, there is abundant documentary evidence that the Indians have all along been made aware of their dependent position, which, however, was never so expressed as to justify any oppressions or cruelties which have been alleged against the agents of the Seminary. It is high time these misunderstandings and hostilities should cease, and I will express the hope that such means may be adopted as shall prove satisfactory to all parties.

As it respects anything I may have said or written to the Indians of Oka, or in reference to their claims, I can conscientiously affirm that I have been influenced only by a sincere desire to promote their highest interests for both worlds. I have reason to believe they are satisfied on that point. They have regarded me as a friendly mediator. I will also here say that the gentlemen of the Seminary have always treated me with the utmost respect, and I fervently pray that a peaceful settlement of all past disputes may be speedily attained.

• WILLIAM SCOTT.

OTTAWA, 22nd January, 1883.