

their complaints, before the Department of Indian Affairs at Ottawa. This request I have consistently refused to comply with, advising them instead, that they should secure the services and counsel of some lawyer, though I was unable to recommend them to any particular member of that profession. As I pointed out to them, I had been active in causing the Department to send their Commission of Enquiry, Messrs. Ramsdean and McDougall, to the reserve in connection with the surrender of the Long Lake Reserve, in favor of Mr. Cummysky and his partner in the deal, the former being now Inspector of Reserves.

This commission having severely censured the principle in connection with and the method employed, and the Department having before them the full report of the commission and the sworn evidence taken before it, nevertheless this same Department of Indian affairs appoints this same Cummysky to guard and care for—to generally superintend the Indian's welfare and interest. What use or what sense is there in appealing to the Department against their own deliberate act? The appointment is made for their own good reasons; they will maintain it against your protest. Because I did help you before, the Department would say I was interfering in your affairs, for personal interest or for unworthy motive. Your Department has not made good their promises to me, made on your behalf, viz: that they would provide schools on the reserves here to give your children the rudiments of an education. That promise of schools was to be my reward for my services at that time. Hence my refusal to have any further correspondence with your Department.