

24th October

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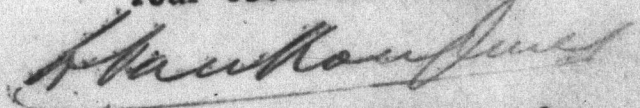
Sir:-

With reference to that portion of your letter of the 15th instant, in which you refer to two very deserving Indian families who have been burnt out and left in destitute circumstances to whom you think it would be advisable to give assistance, I have to request that you will state what quantity of assistance you consider it is absolutely necessary to render to these families. You will take note of the fact that the Department does not as a rule furnish assistance to Indian families the heads of which are able-bodied and ^{should} therefore supply their own needs, and only under very extraordinary circumstances such as those described by you is assistance rendered to Indians of the above class, and such assistance alone as is absolutely necessary is even then given to them.

You will therefore guide yourself by the above considerations in describing what you consider should be given to these families.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant

Deputy Supt. General of
Indian Affairs.E.T. Ferguson, Esq.,
Indian Agent,
Barrington, N.S.