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enfranchisement, to become so as soon as possible; and, upon receipt of applications and of the necessary certificate required by Section 83 of the Indian Act, you should, as prescribed by Section 84 of the Indian Act, "in the event of any possible delay", submit the same to a Council of the Band, and after the expiration of the 30 days given by said

Ottawa, 17th April, 1891.

Sir:-

Section for the filing of affidavits by any of the

Indians, you should, as required by Section 84 of the Indian Act, act in an obstructive manner in the cases of Indians who wish to avail themselves of the provisions of the Indian Act, in order to become, if possible, enfranchised thereunder. The Department.

Your obedient servant

Several instances are given by the informant of the Department, in which you pursued an apparently obstructive course.

Indian Affairs.

I have to inform you that all Indian Agents are expected to use their utmost endeavor to encourage such Indians as are fit for enfranchisement to avail themselves of the provisions of the Act, with a view to that end being accomplished in their cases if possible. You should, therefore, instead of discouraging any fit and suitable Indian from availing himself of the provisions of the Act, with the above object in view, endeavor to persuade any Indian, who, from his general character, would likely prove himself to be competent for

A. English, Esq.,  
Indian Agent,  
Sarnia, Ont.

Indian Affairs, Letterbook,  
6 April 1891. - 17 April 1891, (R.G. 10, Volume 4672)

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