

It is contended that the Chief exceeded his authority in giving a portion of lot No. 9 to one of his followers. The heirs of Ross have evidently a good claim to at least a part of the lot. The Agent should state whether any of them are in possession or if they have exercised any act of ownership and any other facts he can ascertain that may assist the Department to arrive at a decision.

A similar report should be obtained from him with regard to lot II. It is very doubtful if Jourdain had entered the Treaty at the time he sold to Lillie as his name is not to be found on the pay sheets.

Unless it is shown that these claims have been absolutely abandoned, they are liable to be brought forward at any time.

It is advisable to close them in an equitable manner. I have therefore to ask you to be good enough to obtain all the information in connection with them that you reasonably can through the Agent, from the Indians and from any interested or other persons.

I have the honor to be Sir
Your obedient servant

Hon B. Laird.

Indian Commissioner

Winipeg

L. M. [Signature]
Secretary

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