

337,660

Ottawa, April 6, 1909.

Sir : -

In reply to your letter of the 25th ultimo, relating to a claim made by the Indians of Lorette that by virtue of a treaty made with them or of a general permanent permit given them on behalf of the Imperial Government by Lord Aylmer they are entitled to hunt on all waste lands belonging to the Crown between the St. Maurice and Saguenay rivers without restrictions and at all seasons of the year; I have to say that a search made in the records of this Department has failed to discover a document of the nature mentioned.

It may be said, however, that a good deal of correspondence took place between the years 1829 and 1834 on the subject of the hunting rights of the Indians of the province. The terms of the correspondence indicate that successive governors held the view that the Proclamation of 1763 conferred upon the Indians certain rights in regard to the lands occupied by them as their hunting grounds. An extract from the Proclamation containing that portion relating to the affairs of the Indians is attached hereto.

Incl.

Certain of the letters above referred to deal with the question of the dividing line between the hunting grounds of the various tribes. To settle disputes regarding this matter a Grand Council was held on July 5 183

S. Dufault, Esq.,

Deputy Minister, Dept. of Colonization, Mines & Fisheries
Quebec, Que.

Dept. of Indian & Northern Affairs, Letterbook,
26 March 1909 - 14 April 1909, (R.G. 10, Volume 5234)

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