

Indian claims by compensation in the form of reserves, annuities and educational advantages. This has led to the chain of Indian Reserves extending over the face of the plains, and to a complete system of Indian Schools, which, though carried on by the churches, has been liberally supported by the Government. When British Columbia entered the Confederation, the Indian Question immediately arose between the two Governments. British Columbia said, the Indian claims have no foundation. The Dominion said, with equal emphasis, the Indian claims are well founded. On that ground the Dominion took its stand, and even went so far as to say that the Indians would be justified in resorting to force to vindicate their claims. This stand may be seen in State papers of the time, and both the Department of Justice and the Department of the Interior are committed to it. And the Governor-General of the day, Lord Dufferin, one of the greatest statesmen of the Victorian era, upon the occasion of his memorable visit to British Columbia, boldly stated that British Columbia was making a mistake in not recognizing the Indian title and treating with the Indians on that basis, and stood alone among the Provinces of the Dominion in taking such a stand. So the matter stood forty years ago. This much, however, was accomplished. A commission was appointed by the two Governments, which went over the ground and delimited a number of Reserves, which were to be handed over to the Dominion Government, to be held by them in trust for the Indians. In defining these Reserves, however, the commission never sought the consent of the Indians. And though forty years have elapsed, the Reserves have not been handed over to the Dominion Government.

Then came a long period of quiet, during which the Indians were undisturbed in their valleys, and only asserted their claims in an intermittent manner. But in recent years, owing to the