

Wm Spragge Esq.

J. O. Samia  
April 5. 1862

Sir,

In answer to your letter of the 3<sup>rd</sup> ulto, I have the honor to state that for many years the Chippewas of the Thames have paid one of their band to be their Clerk and Interpreter or as they call it to do their business.

They have been invariably appointed at the request of the band. Their duties have been to communicate to the Superintendent, to attend their councils and keep a record of the same, and to act as interpreter whenever required.

As far as I am concerned the office is not necessary, as for a small remuneration I can always obtain the services of one of the young men to interpret what I may have to say.

Although all the young men speak more or less English but few of those over 30 years of age have any knowledge of it.

The first person who was appointed was Adam Fisher, who died, then H. P. Chase was appointed and after him John Berry in April 1855. Berry is a most excellent man in every respect and of superior information having travelled with his father through all Europe and the United States.

Since the system of equal justice to every member of the band has happily been established, the power and influence of the Chiefs has nearly ceased. Of six that held this office in 1855 three have died, and of the remaining three, two are drunkards and the third ignorant.

I have &c

Freome Talfourd  
V.S.A.

William Spragge Esq.

J. O. Samia  
April 6. 1862

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit Reports from the Superintendents and Teachers of the Schools in operation among the bands under my care during the Quarter ending 31<sup>st</sup> March.

In consequence of the change of teacher and the prevalence of the small pox, the Walpole Island school has been open during the quarter, and for this cause no report has been made.

I have &c

Freome Talfourd  
V.S.A.

Wm Spragge Esq.

J. O. Samia  
April 6. 1862

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit an account from Dr. Billington of \$36.<sup>00</sup> and from Dr. Francis of \$4 for medical services rendered at the request of the Superintendent of the Industrial School, to children in that institution.

I have &c

Freome Talfourd  
V.S.A.