



134461

16th January

1893

No. 18/92.

Sir/

In reply to your letter of 4th instant, No. 9264, I have the honour to state that from the facts stated by you I do not gather that the Crown Lands Department of Quebec became responsible for the advance made by you on 18th September, 1883, to Mr. John Bignall, but before expressing an opinion upon this point I would like to see the correspondence between your Department and the Crown Lands Department. I infer from your letter that the Crown Lands Department merely recommended Mr. Bignall as a suitable person to make the surveys and only recommended the granting of the advance of \$600 to Mr. Bignall.

With respect to the question of making Mr. Bignall refund the amount of the advance, I may state that the question of his liability in the premises seems to depend upon questions of fact which are not set out with particularity enough in your letter to enable me to arrive at any very definite opinion on the matter. A contract appears to have been made with Mr. Bignall for the survey of certain Indian Reserves, and upon this contract the advance of \$600 was made. Mr. Bignall now pretends that he has always been ready to perform his share of the bargain but has never received such instructions as would enable him to proceed with the work while on the other hand you appear to contend that your Department has been constantly pressing for the immediate carrying out of the contract. If, as a matter of fact, Mr. Bignall

has

The Deputy Superintendent General
of Indian Affairs,

Ottawa.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 7764, File 27074-3 Pt.1)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA