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Ottawa, December 5, 1906.

Right Reverend Sir : -

I have the honour to refer to your Lordship's letter of 23rd ultimo and prior correspondence, relative to the moral conditions alleged by the Rev. Geo. Prewer to obtain among the Indians under his spiritual oversight, and to transcribe for your information the following excerpts from a report on the matter obtained from the local Indian Agent, viz : -

" ..... The Sheguiandah Indians as a rule are not addicted to drinking habits but are as a rule well behaved, sober and intelligent, of course, there are a few of them that will partake of intoxicants frequently if the same can be procured but these Indians are by no means a lot of drunkards neither are they going to the bad to such an extent as described by Mr. Prewer. I have visited the Sheguiandah Reserve quite frequently during the last year and I have yet to see one of these Indians under the influence of liquor.

In regard to the Indians of Whitefish River I beg to state that these people are scattered at the various ports of the North Channel working in the lumber yards from the opening to the close of navigation and the Rev. Gentleman would have a hard time to find an Indian on the Reserve during these months. I visited this reserve within the last three weeks and saw the majority of the Indians there was not a sign of anyone having used intoxicating liquor nor did I hear of any complaint along this line.

Right Reverend G. Thornloe, D.C.L.,  
Bishophurst,  
Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.

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