

Far from yielding up our rights in this matter, we awaited the occasion when it should seem to us proper to maintain them. In this view, whilst trying to satisfy the Indians, we purposely avoided conforming to the description drawn up by that functionary, a fact which is, moreover, acknowledged by the letter we are refuting and by the extract which accompanies it.

Having thus, under the vexatious pressure of Mr. Vankoughnet, already disbursed for the houses at Gibson more than we were to spend for the 100 houses of the tribe, we now demand in justice, as an indisputable right, that the Government acknowledge that we have no further obligation to fulfil in regard to the log-houses ; since the basis and only basis of agreement accepted by us was, not the description drawn up by Mr. Vankoughnet, but the cost of \$20.00, stipulated in the manner explained above.

It is, therefore, in every way wrong for Mr. Vankoughnet to state in his letter to us : "The Seminary *agreed* to build substantial log-houses, 18 by 24 feet, &c." Neither directly nor *indirectly*, neither explicitly nor *implicitly* did the Seminary ever give such consent.

Reply to Second Complaint.

Let us first observe, Right Hon. Sir, that this complaint relative to the squatters' houses, cannot reasonably come from the Indians themselves—seeing that, as already stated, when in 1883 Rev. W. Leclair, P.S.S., Director of the Oka Mission, went to Gibson, the occupants of the squatters' houses were so persuaded of having no claim against the Seminary that only one amongst them came to present a demand to Mr. Leclair,