

343767

Keido required by the Indians in all respects - including fence poles in place. Besides that, it joins the reserve, and is, therefore, most conveniently situated for the Indians; whereas, the Foster lot is on the opposite side of the harbour about 2 miles distant in a straight line from the reserve, and cannot be reached by the Indians without trespassing on Mr Spraul's lands, or making a detour of five miles or more, which latter they simply will not do.

Now, to my mind the situation is this: - There is wood enough, such as it is, in the Foster lot to provide the Indians of Pidco landing with fuel, and nothing else, for three years, or four at the furthest. While inspecting this property, I happened to meet one of them - in fact, he had a camp there - and when asked his opinion, he said that the wood supply on the place would not last more than three years. He admitted also, when questioned, that the band had been trespassing on Mr. Spraul's premises. But, at any rate, after about four years, the Department will be called upon again by the Indians to procure more wood land for them; and I cannot see where such may be obtained at any future time in that locality, unless from Mr Spraul. There is a chance to obtain it now from him on what I consider reasonable terms, and my advice is to grasp the opportunity offered by his desire to be rid of what he regards as a nuisance.

But I should not approve of moving the Indians from their present location to the Foster lot, as the operation would be too expensive, and I believe would prove detrimental to their interests in most respects, although it is what Mr Spraul and others would prefer.

In order to confine his Indian neighbours to one locality, and free himself from their trespasses