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Ottawa, 27th June, 1892.

Rev. Sir:-

In the absence of Mr. Vankoughnet, who has had to take a prolonged holiday owing to ill health, I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 15th inst.

Previous to its receipt Dr. V.J.A. Venner, of Campbellton, had been appointed Agent for the Indians, at Restigouche. Dr. Venner was strongly recommended for the position, and he has acted as Medical Attendant upon the Indians for some time.

As to your suggestion that you should be appointed Agent for school matter, I beg to say that the Department would have been very much pleased if you could have seen your way to accept of the appointment of Indian Agent when it was offered to you, but that it is altogether impossible, now that Dr. Venner has been appointed by Order of His Excellency in Council, to in any way divide the duties appertaining to the position of Indian Agent. Indeed such a division has never been made by the Department. I have no doubt, however, that Dr. Venner will be very glad to receive any suggestions which you may wish to make in regard to educational matters on the Reserve, or in regard to any other matters affecting the welfare of the Indians. The Department will be at all times happy to hear from you on such subjects.

Rev. Theodule Smith,

Ste. Anne de Restigouche, P.Q.

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