

244,301.

Ottawa, April 30, 1913.

Sir,-

I beg to inform you that Mr. Geo. W. Fowler, M.P. has sent your letter of the 18th of March to this Department, complaining about the Indians cutting trees on your vacant lot, and inquiring about remuneration for the loss sustained thereby.

In reply I have to state that there is no such privilege given to Indians either by law, or custom.

The Department cannot be reasonably expected to compensate owners of lands on which Indians have trespassed and there is no money available for such a purpose.

You have the same right of action against Indians who trespass on your land as you would have against white men in similar cases.

Your obedient servant,


 Asst. Deputy and Secretary.

H. T. Hayes, Esq.,
 Sussex, N. B.

Dept. of Indian & Northern Affairs, Letterbook,
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