

ME 642-

Ottawa 2nd April 1902.

Sir-

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th Ultime, enclosing a Petition of the Restigouche Indians to the Department for permission to allow Messrs D. Thompson, of W. Russell, P.Q., to build a Saw-Mill on the Reserve at Mission Point, partly, as you state, on the Church land and partly on the Reserve and in reply to state that inasmuch as the Saw-Mill would be a benefit to the Indians, and as the supply of timber would be taken from lands outside of the Reserve; and in view of the character of the Company who propose to erect the Mill, the Department is favourably disposed in the matter.

In order that a form of surrender can be prepared, it will be necessary for you to ascertain whether or not the Indians are willing to surrender for sale or lease the land required for the Saw-Mill and yard, and if they are, the terms which may be agreed upon between them and the Messrs Thompson.

It will also be necessary to furnish the Department with a Plan and description of the land required for the Saw-Mill, which should be made by a Dominion or Provincial Land Surveyor.

On receipt of this information, the Petition will receive due consideration.

Your obedient servant

Armand Pitre, Esq.,

Indian Agent,

Ste. Anne de Restigouche,

P.Q. -

Secretary.