

Mr. Chairman, I have one or two more items to present to the committee if I have the time. There is the question of the Timagami band at Lake Timagami. That band has no reserve. When the treaty of 1850 was signed at the Sault they were not informed of that convention. They were ignorant of the treaty that was being signed. From time immemorial they have occupied Lake Timagami and the surrounding district. I could not say from what part of the country they came, but ever since they can tell they have been there. When the treaty was made in 1850 they included that territory. They ceded their territory including their own aboriginal home. The ancestral home was ceded by the parties who did not know they were there. I suppose if they had known these people were there they might have sent an invitation, but these people were ignorant of the fact that this was done. These people have lost their reserve, the place selected for their permanent home. The consequences are that some years afterwards they found out they had no home.

*By Mr. Lickers:*

Q. What tribe do they belong to?—A. The Chippewa tribe. This is what Alec Paul says:—

I, Alec Paul, a member of the Timagami Indian reserve, aged 74, was born the 22nd day of December, 1873. My father, whose name was Big Paul, and his ancestors occupied the land around Austin Bay as their permanent home. We occupied the whole area and the surrounding lands of Lake Timagami. We have from time immemorial derived our livelihood in this territory. No other Indian, so far as Indian history goes, has ever occupied this area. My father and his family and other members of the band selected the said Austin Bay reserve as their permanent place of abode. When the treaty of 1850, September 9, was signed at Sault Ste. Marie our chief and band were not notified and were ignorant of the treaty making convention as stated before, and therefore we are not a party in any shape or form to the surrender made that covered our territory as well and also included in that surrender our ancestral home. We have always considered up to the present that not at any time have we made treaties with the Crown to relinquish our reserve. The territory covering the rivers, lakes, forests, streams and outlets in the district of Timagami was never surrendered by our people.

He goes on to say:—

Some years after the treaty of 1850 an official of the government arrived in that district and began to take names and pay them treaty money. The following year after that an Indian agent by the name of Walton of the Parry Sound district visited the reserve and paid treaty money at the Hudson's Bay post at Bare Island for the convenience of all parties concerned, and the question arose at that time as to our permanent home. It was then discovered by the Indians that there was no provision made for their reserve. Dr. Walton asked the Indians to make out a map of their reservation. The chief made a draft of a reserve selected and then at that time occupied by our people. At Austin Bay several houses and clearings had already been made and homes established, and the boundary line east and west across the lake is shown in the enclosed sketch.

He had a sketch of the reserve they had really selected. They made a map of it.

Dr. Walton had taken down to show the department what they wanted, and since that they never heard anything about it until recently when the Indian department tried to purchase or did purchase the Bare Island point.