

47,441

Ottawa, December 7, 1917.

Sir,-

In reply to your letter of the 30th ultimo asking for information as to the position of the Stony Indians in regard to the Game Laws of the Province of Alberta, I beg to say that so far as the treaty made with the Indians mentioned in regard to this matter is concerned the agreement entered into with them on the 22nd September 1877, reads as follows:-

"Her Majesty the Queen hereby agrees with her said Indians, that they shall have right to pursue their vocations of hunting throughout the tract surrendered as heretofore described, subject to such regulations as may from time to time be made by the Government of the country, acting under the authority of Her Majesty, and saving and excepting such tracts as may be required or taken up from time to time for settlement, mining, trading or other purposes by the Government of Canada, or by any of Her Majesty's subjects duly authorized therefor by the said Government."

It will be seen therefore, that the right of the Indians to hunt was granted subject to such laws as might be enacted relating to the matter.

Owing to numerous complaints being received against the Stony Indians of destruction by them of game, it was considered advisable to bring them under the provisions of the Game Laws of the then North West Territories from the 1st. Jan'y, 1895. This action was taken under the terms of the Indian Act, as enacted by 53 Vict. Chap. 133, which provided that,

"The

John W. Hugill, Esq.,  
Barrister at Law,  
Calgary,  
Alta.

Indian Affairs. Letterbook,  
3 December 1917 - 19 December 1917, (R.G. 10, Volume 5697)

Proc.  
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