

No. 13.

Ma-sit, situated four and a-half miles south east of Cape Beale, contains about 80 acres of rough, rocky, broken land. Though worthless and difficult of access, except in very calm weather, it is prized by the Indians as a halibut fishery, and I have therefore reserved it.

As these Indians at the time of my visit were absent seal fishing, I was unable to obtain a correct census, but according to that taken last year by the local Agent, Mr. Guilled, the total population was 240 of whom Keeshau is chief.

They earn large sums of money during the sealing season, and also by the sale of dogfish oil, of which there is an unlimited supply; they live principally on fish. Salmon, halibut, herring and cod abound in very large quantities at different seasons of the year, and the mountains in the neighborhood are well stocked with game, but I regret to add that these Indians are much addicted to drinking and gambling and appear to live in great discomfort.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

P. O'REILLY,
Indian Reserve Commissioner.

INDIAN RESERVE COMMISSION,
VICTORIA, B.C., 9th October, 1882.

The Right Honorable
The Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honor to inform you that the next tribe visited by me in Barclay Sound, after the Ohiets, were Sesharts, who number 176, according to the census taken last year by the local Agent.

In the course of a long conversation with the chief, Hi-you-pa-nool, and some of the leading men, in which I fully explained the object of my mission, the chief laid claim to fishing stations, extending at intervals from the entrance to Barclay Sound to the first rapids on the Somas River, at the head of Alberni Canal, a distance of 40 miles. He also stated that he wanted for his people a portion of the land owned by the Alberni Mill Company, and also the pre-emption claim, houses, and buildings belonging to Mr. George Clarke.

I told him that while the Government were anxious to secure to them all their fishing grounds, and a sufficient quantity of agricultural lands where it can be found, they must not expect land to be given to them which has already been sold by the Local Government, and that it was not in my power to comply with his request so far as the Mill Company's property or that of Mr. Clarke, was concerned. After a good deal of conversation to the same effect, he accompanied me and pointed out the various places he was desirous of acquiring, nearly all of which were reserved for the use of his tribe.

No. 1.

Tsah-ah-eh, a reserve situated on the right bank of the Somas River about three miles from its mouth at the first rapids, contains 1,150 acres, mostly excellent land and capable of being made of great value; it is the only place in this section of country that can be converted into anything like an extensive farm. The portion fronting on the river is covered with maple, alder and cottonwood, while further back there is an unlimited supply of spruce and cedar of fine quality.