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Aug 10th 81

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the
 8th Instant, asking upon what
 terms you can purchase or
 lease lands in the Burnia
 Reserve for the purpose of testing
 it for oil, I have to inform you
 that the Indians declined last
 spring to surrender any portion
 of their Reserve for a similar
 purpose; and until they agree
 in the presence of their Super-
 intendant to do so, the De-
 partment is not in the
 position to deal with the question

John W. Gray Esq
 Burnia
 Ont.

of