

H.C.A.  
Jan. 15.

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Pierreville, Que., Jan. 15, 1913.

The Hon. the Supt. General of I.A.,

Ottawa.

Sir,-

At a council of the Abenakis of St. Francis presided over by the agent and attended by Chief Nicolas Panadis, the councillors and members of the band, your letter No. 98631-2 of Nov. 19, 1912, dealing with the request of the Quebec, Montreal and Southern Railway Company, <sup>that</sup> ~~it~~ be leased for five years more the land of the reserve that was leased to it about six years ago when the terminus of the railway was only at Pierreville, was read. At that time we were told that when the terminus should be farther off the 'Y' would no longer be necessary here. Things, therefore, appeared to us to be represented frankly, that is to say, according to necessity, although we had seen at the time that the company could quite easily <sup>try to acquire</sup> ~~be satisfied~~ with so large an extent of land when it had already obtained an excessive quantity of our reserve where it could establish a 'Y' or a turn-table such as railways use elsewhere in the localities of white men where lands are not obtained so prodigally by companies.

Our new agent, Mr. Joseph Cote, who does not know all the difficulties that there have been through the too great covetousness of the said company, and the Abenakis who wish to manage their small reserve; that ~~there~~ have been almost clashes between the chief men of the band and the hottest employees of the said company wishing to become masters of the land of the Abenakis without having obtained it, which has caused much correspondence, even trips to Ottawa by the chiefs in order to convince the officers of the Government of the strong reasons that they have against