

It is to be remarked that, as far as this Province is concerned, the first intimation of the Robinson Treaties Indians' claims, and the claim of the Mississaguas of Port Credit, was received about the year 1880, and, as regards the other Indian claims, Quebec was only made aware of their existence after the commencement of this Arbitration.

A great source of difficulty and expense, with regard to obtaining information connected with all the matters and claims in dispute, has been that the books, documents, records and accounts relating to them are all either in Ottawa or Toronto, and the Counsel and others, acting for Quebec, have been obliged to make their researches and obtain their information in the Departments and offices in those places. In regard to the Interest question and the Indian claims, it has necessitated frequent Conferences of the Counsel of Ontario and Quebec, before preparing the arguments.

The difficulties arising from these conditions are more apparent when it is considered how many years these researches cover, in some cases going back sixty years, and in all of them as far back, at least, as Confederation, and there is no one living who, at that time, had anything to do with these matters and accounts, who can now give any assistance in the task of investigating the various transactions, which are difficult of explanation.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,  
Quebec, 26th November, 1895.

H. T. MACHIN,  
Assistant Provincial Treasurer.

BELLEVILLE  
SARATOGA COUNTY  
NEW YORK