

Province, conceded to the Indians the right of occupying their *old hunting grounds*, and their claim to compensation for its surrender, reserving to itself the exclusive privilege of treating with them for the surrender or purchase of any portions of the land. This is distinctly laid down in the proclamation of 1763, and the principle has since been generally acknowledged, and rarely infringed upon by the Government." These statements are interesting in connection with the difficulty—referred to further on—as to Indian title in British Columbia. In carrying out this policy, we find the Government paying sums of money to certain tribes, and providing them with annuities as their lands become desirable for settlement. The payments thus made, though often apparently large, were always small in proportion to the extent of territory ceded. The country, for instance, north of Lakes Superior and Huron remained in possession of the Ojibways till 1850, when the whole of this vast region, at least equal in extent to England, and inhabited by between 2,000 and 3,000 Indians was surrendered to the Canadian Government for \$16,640 paid down, and \$4,400 in perpetual annuity. On this, the Commissioners remark: "If we considered that it came properly within our province, we should not hesitate to express our decided regret that a treaty, shackled by such stipulations, whereby a vast extent of country has been wrung from the Indians for a comparatively nominal sum, should have received the sanction of the Government." In a table prepared under the same commission is the following summary of areas of land given up, at different times, by the Indians of Canada, with the price paid to them per acre:

Ojibways, $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ per acre.....	7,373,000
" $\frac{7}{8}d.$ "	6,737,750
Ottawas, Pottawatamies, Chippewas and Hurons, $\frac{3}{16}d.$ per acre.....	2,001,078
Delawares, 2s.	
Saugeen Indians, $3\frac{1}{2}d.$ per acre.....	1,500,000
Ojibways of Lake Superior, as already given. Acreage not known.	

Average rate per acre about $1\frac{1}{2}d.$

In view of such facts, we may well ask upon what principle they have been remunerated for their lands; certainly not by any standard either of their absolute or relative value, rather