

pumping plant in lieu of a substantial compromise with the Indians for a sufficient quantity of water from the creek and springs.

If the Comptroller of Water Rights cannot give some more definite assurance than the proposal he has made, there would appear to be very little inducement for the Indians to give Mr. Gellatley a free hand to legally throttle them later on by granting him permission to complete his works on the reserve. The Comptroller may have in mind something better for the Indians than we know of, but if he has he doesn't appear to have stated what it is.

If Mr. Gellatley can be brought to arbitration or conference of some kind for arriving at a compromise, I think it would be well for the Department to choose some one other than the Agent or Inspector to act on behalf of the Indians, for J. H. Christie by reason of the encouragement which has been given him appears to have managed to inflame the Indians to such an extent against officials of the Department that any agreement which they might effect, no matter how favourable, would not be accepted by the Indians as satisfactory. Tomat of Westbank is a liberal contributor to the Christie agitation fund. That circumstance in itself will show my reason for recommending as I do in this matter. Recognition by the Department in any shape or form, of a man like Christie cannot but prove fatal to the influence and prestige of officials
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