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19th. Feby.

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Sir:-

Referring to the matter of planting of wild rice in the waters in which it does not now grow, with a view to affording the Indians a wholesome article of diet of a farinaceous kind, I beg to inform you that it has been suggested to the Dept. by His Honor the Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba and Keewatin that it would be well to cause wild rice seed to be planted in some of the waters on or in the vicinity of Indian Reserves within the Manitoba Superintendency; and that the Supt. General has concurred in the suggestion, and has decided to request Mr. F. C. Gilchrist, who planted during last year wild rice in waters on or in connection with Reserves in the North West Superintendencies, to perform a similar service next season at the proper time in the Manitoba Superintendency. Permission has been obtained from the Dept. of Fisheries, whose Officer Mr. Gilchrist is, for his employment in the above respect.

I presume that Mr. Gilchrist's services can be obtained on the same terms on which he was employed last season. His employment, however, and the terms on which he will engage to perform the work should form the subject of communication between yourself and that gentleman.

The Indian Commissioner,
Regina,
N.W.T.

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Indian Affairs, Letterbook,
12 February 1889 - 25 February 1889, (R.G. 10, Volume 4612)

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