

a permanent home or farm of 80 acres, each single adult 40 acres, and each family of orphan children 80 acres, to be selected by the individuals, within certain tracts; and for which they shall receive a certificate from the Government. After actual residence therein for 10 years, the patent of title is to be issued, and for five years subsequently, they are to have exclusive privileges of purchase of reserved lands adjoining. In addition to this, they are to receive, in the aggregate, \$500,000 in money, with which they may make a fair beginning. At the end of five years, the tribal organization must cease. Here we have an indication of that policy which is to settle the future of the Indians. It is beyond the power of the general government to make them citizens of existing states, but the provisions of the treaty all look to such a result, and the State Government would probably make no difficulty in ceding to them the rights of citizenship."

117. "The system, as we now understand it is to extinguish the tribal organizations, and prepare for the final abolition of exclusive reservations, by giving each family a separate tract of land for residence. Of course, as a condition precedent to the success of such a scheme, it is requisite that the Indians should be civilized, and for that purpose reservations will still be necessary for the wild tribes. At the last Session of Congress, it was proposed to organize the country of the Cherokees, Creeks, Choctaws and Chickasaws into a territory or territories, to be represented at Washington like Kansas and Nebraska, and with the design of converting these Indians into citizens. A part of the project was the abolition of reservations and the requisitions of individual titles by the Indians. No doubt this will ultimately be done, but just at present the agitation on the subject of slavery interferes with it."

118. On the second of Mr. M'Murray's remarks on this subject, suggesting the repeal of the Indian Protection Act (which secures the Indian from liability to debt), I think that one of these questions depends on the other; the justice, I mean, of repealing the Protection Act, depends on the degree of success which attends the scheme of civilization. If an individual Indian obtains any sort of title to his land, the Protection Act should cease to defend that individual; but this indulgence will be extended to but few persons, and it would be hard to deprive a large majority who hold their lands in common, of protection, because a better educated minority can take care of themselves.

All which is respectfully submitted.

(signed) *Bury*,
Superintendent-general.

Sub-enclosures to Enclosure in No. 2.

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Appendix, No. 1.

(No. 71.)

(COPY.)

Sir,

Downing-street, 21 January 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch, No. 22, of the 27th December last, accompanied by an estimate of the probable expense of the Indian Department, for the year ending on the 31st of March 1855; I see no reason to object to this estimate, and it will be submitted to Parliament.

But it will be proper to turn attention to the gradual reduction of the Indian establishment itself, now that the object for which it was organized is in course of rapid extinction. I shall be glad to receive a report from you on this subject.

The Officer administering the
Government of Canada.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Newcastle*.