

Wil di quan no wo, claimed as an old generation ground by Simon Williams, it has I am informed been deserted for years.

Three miles beyond No. 27 is the tribal boundary of the Kispaiax Indians on the Skeena, above that the whole country is claimed by the Kiagegas tribe.

I may add that the land for at least half a mile on each side of the Skeena is from an agricultural point of view worthless being a deep canyon; that the timber is small, and only the possible discovery of mineral upon it would cause it to be of value.

On my return to Kispaiax village I met the Indians. They all reiterated their demands that the whole country be handed back to them. They complained that the prospectors and timber cruisers frighten the bears and that the development of the country and construction of roads and railways has the same tendency; when their women went into the mountains to pick berries the white men drove them back, and when they fished in the river under the ice the white men did not like them to fish on their land. That is why they want the land back so they can be free.

Although the Indians at the meeting were unanimous in their demands it was very evident that they were not all of one opinion. The Indian is no fool and he knows well enough that the coming of the white man was a benefit to him. The old men, that is men from 60 to 70, wish to see things as they were long ago when they were young; on the other hand the younger generation no longer go to the mountains for trapping and hunting, and if they go it is more as a picnic than as a money making venture. It is the same with the fisheries; com-