

Ottawa, Jan. 20, 1909.


Sir,-

The Department has just received a letter from Chief S.B. Nanigishking and Councillors Jacob Shilling and Sampson George of the Rama reserve informing the Department that on the 4th inst. nominations were received and on the 11th an election was held, and in both instances, although you were present, the proceedings were conducted by a Mr. C.W. Myers of Atherley; and the chief and councillors ask why this was allowed.

With reference to this matter, I beg to say that the Department does not expect an election to be held unless it has first authorized the same; and, secondly, no white man other than the Indian Agent and no Indian of another band than the one concerned is allowed to be present at an election without the consent of the Department.

I have to request that you will furnish the Department with a report as to whether an election has been held as alleged. It is the duty of Indian Agents always to report the results of an election as soon as possible in order that the Department may confirm the same if deemed advisable.

Your obedient servant,

  
Secretary.

Duncan Graham, Esq.,  
Indian Agent,  
Cambridge, Ont.