

Indian Office Manitowaning
May 7th 1877

My dear Sir

Yours of 1st just has just reached me. With regard to the price that should in my opinion be charged for land on the Shesalou River Reserve I should suggest that all the land be put in the market at \$1⁰⁰ per acre.

I make the distinction drawn between the ~~settled~~ and improved, and the unsettled and unimproved land, but assuming that the Department will concede to the settlers the preemptive right to the land they have improved, I do not think they should pay anything more than the usual price of the land.

A higher price than \$1⁰⁰ per acre would cause dissatisfaction, especially as Crown land can be bought adjoining the Reserve at 20¢ per acre.

I am aware that the quality of the land varies greatly, and that some will be likely to remain unsold for a long time, but as the first comers always pick up the best lots, I think \$1⁰⁰ per acre will be a fair price to start with, and if found necessary a reduction can afterwards be made for those lots remaining unsold.