

64,041-2

Ottawa, May, 20, 1911.

Sir:-

Having reference to your letter of the 18th. instant reporting that Malcolm Shabogashie and Peter Commanie have been convicted and fined amounting to \$100.00 imposed upon them by Game Warden Geo. H. Parks, for having beaver skins in their camp. I have to say that while the Department regrets that these men should have had so heavy a penalty imposed upon them, yet it cannot but remind you that the members of the Hipsitong Band should all be aware of the danger they expose themselves to by not observing the provisions of the Provincial Game Laws.

It is known to you and doubtless to the Indians, that for some time past an effort has been made to have a stated case brought before the courts to determine the rights of the Indians under treaty, in the matter of hunting and fishing. The Department has been informed recently, that it will be impossible for the case to be heard at the earliest before the sitting of the Court of Appeal for Ontario to be held in September next.

A request has been made to the Superintendent of Game and Fisheries to have the Indians exempt from the operation of the Game and Fishery Laws, so far as the Robinson Treaty is concerned until a decision is given in the stated case.

Yours, P. Gossburn, Esq.,

Indian Agent,

Sargison Lake,

Ont.

Dept. of Indian & Northern Affairs, Letterbook,
15 May 1911 - 29 May 1911, (R.G. 10, Volume 5346)

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