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Indian Branch  
Ottawa 6 April 1872

Sir

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2<sup>nd</sup> inst. and in reply to inform you that St Anne's Island which is an appurtenance of Malpole Island is not disposed.

And if you wish to make a proposal to purchase it, with a view to the subject being brought before the Indians, it

must

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must be made direct to this Department, and not to the Indians; with whom no private individual is permitted to treat, for the purchase either of land or timber. You are in error in supposing that Superintendent Mackenzie can allow you to meet the Indians in Council to discuss that or any similar question.

I have the honor to be  
Sir  
Yours obedient servant  
Joseph Howe