

INDIAN RESERVE COMMISSIONER-- BRITISH COLUMBIA.

(In Camp beyond Lytton),
1st July, 1878.

Sir,—Having noticed in the new-papers that certain lands immediately above and below Yale on the River Fraser have been reserved truly by the Provincial Government, as I suppose, at the request of the Dominion Government for some purpose connected with the deposit of steel rails in the neighborhood of Yale, I think it well to ask whether I may proceed with the allotment of Indian Reserves at that place without any reference to the above (presumed) railway reservation or whether, upon consultation with the Public Works Department, you have any instructions to give to me upon the subject.

The Indians have important fisheries beginning about one mile above the toll-house at Yale, which is near the northern boundary of the town; and though without examination I cannot say what it will be advisable to give them, I know they expect a considerable portion of the land on the right bank of the river beginning about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile below Yale and extending towards Raity's Bar.

The Indians generally along the Fraser River ask many questions about railway matters, and express a hope that if any of their land should be taken at any time for railway purposes they will be paid for their lands, and in this respect treated like white men.

I enclose for your information a copy of my letter of 15th May to the Chief Commissioner of Lands about reserving lands at Yale and on the River Fraser, pending my examination of Indian Land question in that district.

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

G. M. SPROAT,

Indian Reserve Commissioner.

The Honorable,
The Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS,
OTTAWA, August 31st, 1878.

(Memorandum.)

The under-signed reports that by the eleventh clause of the agreement, under the terms of which the Province of British Columbia entered the Dominion of Canada, the Government of British Columbia engaged to convey to the Dominion Government, in trust, to be appropriated in such manner as the Dominion Government might deem advisable, in furtherance of the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway, an extent of public lands along the line of railway throughout its entire length in British Columbia (not, however, exceeding twenty (20) miles on each side of the said line), equal to the area which might be appropriated for the same purpose by the Dominion Government from the public lands of the North-West Territories and Province of Manitoba; the conditions of the agreement further providing that the quantity of land held under presumption, right, or by Crown grant within the limits of the tract of land in British Columbia to be so conveyed to the Dominion Government, should be made good to the Dominion from contiguous public lands.

The under-signed further reports that by several Orders in Council in that behalf the necessary public lands of the North-West Territories and Province of Manitoba along the line of the said railway have been withdrawn from sale and settlement, pending the appropriation thereof for the purposes of the said railway; and the route of the line of railway through Manitoba, the North-West Territories and British Columbia having been now defined by Orders in Council, it is advisable that