

285,535.

OTTAWA, 17th February, 1906.

Sir:-

In reply to your letter of the 12th instant, No. 132/9, inclosing a letter from the Mackey Syndicate withdrawing their application to cut timber on Reserve No 39, and asking for a permit to cut on Reserve No. 40, Shoal Lake, etc. I beg to inform you that before any further action in the matter can be taken, it will be necessary to have the Reserves carefully examined in order to ascertain the kinds and ^{thereon} quantities of timber, in each Province, and as this and other proceedings would necessarily occupy some time, you may inform the Company that their offer cannot be accepted.

I may state that the only way in which the Department could allow the timber to be sold without surrender and competition, would be by issuing Permits to Indians to do the work of cutting and hauling without employing white labour.

Your obedient servant,

L. M. L.
Secretary.

R.S. McKenzie, Esq.,
Indian Agent,
Kenora,
Ont.

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