

in action to the terms of the Agreement, but that the Commission be informed that the Government would be prepared to receive a general report on the conditions of the Indians with suggestions as to the future policy and administration of Indian Affairs----- and that the Commission will merely convey to the Government the views of the Indians respecting any matters extraneous to the Agreement brought to their attention".

This seems to me to be a very clear limitation of the powers of the Commission to deal only with the matters mentioned in the Agreement, except as to matters affecting the conditions of the Indians and suggestions as to future policy and administration of Indian Affairs, and this is made more emphatic by the fact that the Order-in-Council was promulgated in reply to a suggestion from the Commission asking for larger powers, and which the Order-in-Council practically refused to grant.

I am not informed as to the nature of the two cases mentioned in your letter of the 12th. August, in respect to which the Commission held that the subjects brought to its notice did not come within the scope of its authority, and therefore I cannot state at present whether the Commission was correct in so holding. I feel, however, that on investigation it will be found that it was.