

To our Great Mother Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen of Great Britain,
&c. &c. &c.

WE, your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Chippewa Indians, of Lakes Huron and Simcoe, of Western Canada, beg leave to address your Most Gracious Majesty on the subject of your Royal Bounty. When we ceded our lands to the Crown, our Great Father, the Governor of the Province, promised us our presents as long as the sun shines, the grass grows, and the waters run. When we heard the decision of your Majesty's Government in the year of our Lord 1845, viz., that all children born after the 1st day of April, in the year A. D. 1846, should be excluded from receiving presents, we felt very sorry for our children, but when we were informed by our Great Father, the Earl of Elgin, the Governor General, that your Majesty's Royal bounty was about to be withheld, and we were to receive no more presents, this made us feel very sick in our hearts. When our Great Father, the Governor was in trouble, and the enemy threatened to invade these Provinces, he called upon us his red children, and again renewed his promises. He said, "If you will turn out and help me in the war against my enemies, your presents shall be continued to you as long as the sun shines, the grass grows, and the waters run." We joined the army, helped to drive the enemy from our shores, and many of our fathers died, and brethren bled; and when our presents were stopped, we were astonished; we remembered the promise, we looked up to the sun, still shining bright as ever, we turned our eyes downward to the grass, still the grass looked fresh and green; we cast our eyes over the beautiful waters, they continue to flow as usual; we again think of our Great Father's promises, and it troubles us very much; and we are constrained to appeal to our Great Mother, and pray that your most gracious Majesty will again grant your Royal Bounty, and restore to your poor red children these presents as in former years.

To our Great Mother Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen of Great Britain, &c. &c. &c.

WE are your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects; the Chippewa Indians of Lakes Huron and Simcoe beg leave to address your most gracious Majesty respecting our lands.

We have a claim to all surveyed and unsurveyed lands west and north of Lake Simcoe and Concheching and the River Severn, to Machedash Bay, up to the boundary line of the lands surrendered to the Government in the year 1798, and following the boundary line of the lands surrendered to the Crown in the year 1815, to the carrying place, from thence to the Talbot River, the dividing line between Mara and Thora. We likewise claim all surveyed and unsurveyed lands east and north the above-named waters, till we come to the lands owned by other tribes. All the above-named we claim, with the exception of the lands on the Cold Water Road, surrendered by us to Sir Francis B. Head in the year 1836. We also claim the Islands in Lake Simcoe, known by the following, viz.: Snake Island, Fox Island, and Georgiana Island. We likewise claim all the islands in Lake Concheching, with the exception of Pumpkin Island, lying conveniently to Orillia. We also claim the Christian Island, Round Island, and Hoop Island, lying at Machedash Bay. According to the last treaty of Captain Anderson, our late superintendent, we also claim all the rest of the islands lying in Lakes Huron and Simcoe, in our names and tribes.

Because there is nothing to show the surrender, and as we received no remuneration for the same, we therefore take this opportunity of expressing our attachment to your Majesty's person and Government, humbly hoping your most gracious Majesty will be pleased to grant the prayer of our petition, and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray for the blessing of the Great Spirit to rest upon you and your Royal Consort, His Excellency Prince Albert, and all the Royal family.

To our Great Father the Governor General of British North America, &c. &c. &c.

WE your red children, the Chippewa Indians of Lakes Huron and Simcoe, comprising the following bands, viz.: Colpoy's Bay, Beausoleil Island, Rama, Snake Island, have agreed in council to request your Excellency to reserve the following tract of land: two townships, 12 miles square, each including Trading Lake. Our lands are nearly all gone from our hands: we are hoping, some future day, to collect our bands together, and invite others who may be disposed to join our tribe.

We have selected lands which we have never surrendered to the Crown. It is altogether unoccupied by white men, there being none within 20 miles of it.

Both the land and fishing are well adapted for an Indian settlement, lying 20 miles north-east from Merskoko Lake.

This land is not surveyed. We wish to have it deeded to our children's children for ever.

We respectfully submit the above for your Excellency's consideration, and humbly pray you will grant our request.