

103,781

Ottawa, 10th Sept., 1904.

Sir,-

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 31st ultimo, in the matter of the Onu-ah-way-ha Indian Reserve; and in reply to inform you that it is not questioned that when an exchange is made by which the Provincial Government sets apart a tract of land for Indian purposes and a portion of an Indian reserve is transferred to the Provincial government in exchange therefor the Provincial government has power to dispose of the former Indian reserve as it sees fit. It is obvious, however, that the question as to when such an exchange shall be made and the conditions upon which it shall be made are matters for the consideration of the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs, and must be settled by consultation to the satisfaction of both parties to the exchange.

Applications having been made at this Department for portions of the Indian reserve in question the Department of Indian Affairs cannot relieve itself of all responsibility in regard to the disposition of the land. No desire exists on the part of the Department of Indian Affairs except to serve the public interests in the most effective way, and in as much as the proposition made gives to Mr. Rogers an amount of land which it is understood he considered satisfactory and leaves the remainder to be disposed of as may be agreed

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17 August 1904 - 13 September 1904, (R.G. 10, Volume 5071)

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