

inform you that as regards the desire of the Council to have a deputation sent to England to present their claims to certain lands on the Grand River to which they allege they are entitled under the grant from Sir Frederick Haldimand, I informed Chief William Smith on the 14th instant of the decision of the Superintendent General in regard to this matter, which was to the effect that the Imperial Government are in communication with the Dominion Government of the subject of said claim, the Imperial Government having transferred the matter to the Dominion Government for settlement, and that as soon as the Superintendent General returns from the North-West he would give the question full consideration and that it would be useless at the present time for a deputation from the Six Nations to visit England in the matter, for amongst other reasons that it is not known what Government will likely be in power in England, and it will not be known for some time to come, and that consequently there would be no action taken on the representations of any deputation.

You will please report fully on the charges against chief and secretary Josiah Smith.

L. VANKOUGHNET, *Deputy Supt. Gen. of Indian Affairs.*

J. T. GILKISON, Esq., Indian Superintendent, Brantford, Ont.

INDIAN OFFICE, BRANTFORD, 28th July, 1886.

SIR,—I acknowledge both of your letters of the 23rd instant, which I will read to the Six Nations Council on Tuesday next.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

J. T. GILKISON, *I. S. & C.*

The Hon. the Supt. Genl. Indian Affairs.

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, Ottawa, 2nd August, 1886.

MEMORANDUM.—The attached memorandum from the Governor General's Secretary, dated the 23rd ult., calls the attention of the Privy Council, by direction of His Excellency the Governor General, to a letter dated the 7th ult., informing His Excellency that Chief Wm. Smith, Chief John Buck, and A. G. Smith had been appointed a deputation to proceed to England in connection with the claim of the Six Nation Indians to certain lands on the banks of the Grand River, alleged to have been ceded to them in 1784, and requesting an introduction to the Secretary of State for the Colonies. The Governor General's Secretary further states that His Excellency, before encouraging the deputation to proceed to England and giving them a recommendation to the Secretary of State, would like to know the opinion of his advisers in regard to the suggestion contained in Lord Granville's despatch, No. 120, of the 3rd May last, a copy of which was communicated to the Privy Council on the 22nd of the same month, and it is also transcribed in the memorandum from the Governor General's Secretary now under consideration, from which it appears to His Excellency that, if such arbitration as that proposed in the despatch from the Colonial Secretary were resorted to, there would be no occasion for the visit of a deputation to England.

Attention is drawn to a letter written by His Excellency's direction to the Chiefs of the Six Nation Indians, dated the 11th May, 1885, a copy of which is appended to the memorandum from the Governor General's Secretary wherein the facts of the case in regard to the supposed claim of their people to the land in question were fully set out.

His Excellency invites the early attention of Council to this matter, as he has deferred answering the applicants pending its decision.

The undersigned begs to report that he is informed that previously to the departure of the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs for the North-West Territories and British Columbia, the Superintendent General received a letter from Chief William Smith, reporting that a resolution had been passed by the Six Nation Indians' Council, that the deputation referred to in the memorandum from the Governor General's Secretary should proceed to England on the mission described in