

TADOUSSAC, 9th November, 1883.

The Right Honorable  
The Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs,  
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honor to address you concerning the North Shore Indians (Montagnais), for the information of your Department.

During my stay at Betsiamits, in obedience to some instructions left me by L. F. Boucher, Esq., I duly convicted one Pierre Jean, of a place called "Les Petites Isles" to the eastward of Betsiamits, for trespass on the Indian reserve, and illegal cutting of hay.

I fined him in the sum of twenty dollars and costs, amounting to six dollars. The whole amount has been paid since to the Agent, at least I presume so. Constable Tremblay acted in this case, and his services throughout the season on the Indian reserves, have proved most opportune and valuable.

I am happy to be able to inform your Department that temperance has reigned almost supreme amongst the Montagnais last summer. The presence of a special officer on the reserves, combined with the vigilance of the Agent, and the effect produced by the convictions rendered by me, *re* Cloutier and others, have one and all succeeded in keeping the enemy from our *protégés*.

As you are probably aware, the unfortunate Indians met with little success last winter in the hunting grounds. This sad result is not in anywise due to their lack of industry or activity, but rather to the scarcity of the precious fur-bearing animals. The forests for hundred of miles had been laid waste by fire in 1831, and as a consequence the trapping grounds have been deserted by their usual inhabitants.

In woful want have I seen them these poor hunters at Seven Islands, Moisie, etc., sitting in gloomy silence around their breadless tents. Your agent, M. Boucher acted certainly for the best under the circumstances, but it would have required the renewed miracle "of the loaves and fishes."

Fortunately, I procured employment for some of them with the Jersey firms, as boatmen, shoremen, &c. They did their duty well, and I hope next year to place many of them with good wages. At my suggestion, they were paid in provisions, flour or biscuit, lard, etc., and a small sum was withheld as a reserve fund when their time was up towards the fall.

On every occasion I have done my best to relieve them and better their condition. Trusting that this short report may be found useful to your Department.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your humble and obedient servant,

FRS. H. O'BRIEN,  
*District Magistrate.*

(*Montreal Daily Witness*, 29th September, 1883.)

"THE INDIAN EXHIBITION.

"CAUGHNAWAGA'S MANHOOD AND BEAUTY—GORGEOUS ARRAY OF INDIAN GOODS—FINE SHOW OF FRUITS, ROOTS AND GRAINS—AMUSEMENTS.

"An epoch in the history of the Indians of Canada, it is safe to say, is brightly marked in the 'Grand Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition, open only to Indians throughout the Dominion,' which is being held at the Caughnawaga Reserve. Yesterday the exhibition was open to the public, but the formal opening takes place at two o'clock this afternoon, that event to be signalized by a salute from the cannon presented to the Caughnawaga Indians by His Majesty George the Third. Excellent facilities are provided the citizens of Montreal to reach the exhibition, the commodious steamer 'Dagmar' connecting with the Grand Trunk trains at Lachine. In getting back, however, when the last boat leaves, visitors must be on time, or they