

Let there be given to us for our sole use the possession of the wood fit for building purposes on the Rivers Papinachois and Betseamis, in the reserve petitioned for.

Let those of our people who have taken land elsewhere and made clearances, be maintained in peaceable possession of their respective localities.

And finally let there be given to us indemnities for the lands which the
 us, we shall soon be as those who have perished of hungér. But we think too highly of your rightness of heart, to believe that you will reject our demands. If you become our benefactors, we shall thank you much.

RUI PA KA.	} Chiefs.
PAI BRSTUS.	
SPA PATIS ESBIRA,	
MI TBER ATBI NI.	
RUI MINIK.	
ARI PIE NI TI KULU.	

Signed also by 121 Indians.

Done at the River *des Huitres* on the eighth day of the Moon *des Outardes*, 1847.

We the undersigned certify that the translation is faithful.

PIERRE MOREAU, *Interpreter.*

P. T. DUROCHER, *R. O. M. I., Missionary.*

A. M. GAVIN, *P. O. M. I., Missionary.*

(The original petition is in the Montagnais language.)

NOTES OF THE REVEREND P. DUROCHER, accompanying the Petition of the Montagnais Indians to the Provincial Legislature.

The Montagnais received the light of the Gospel at the time that Canada was under the domination of the French. They were taught by the Missionaries to read and write; they have since transmitted this branch of science among themselves without the aid of Foreign instructors. They were formerly much addicted to intemperance, but for the last five years all the Indians of this tribe who occupy the shores of the St. Lawrence have strictly observed the rules of total abstinence.

Up to the last year, it was an opinion very generally received in the country, that the Honorable Hudson's Bay Company had an exclusive right to the fisheries on the entire frontier comprised under the names of King's Posts and Seigniorship of Mingan. But a contrary opinion having since prevailed, an influx has tended towards the territory of the Montagnais, of settlers hoping to establish themselves with greater rapidity by means of the fisheries. This Indian tribe, perceiving this inundation of settlers on their territory believe it to be a matter of urgent necessity to obtain a reserve for the settlement of a section of their nation. They have chosen the Bay *des Outardes*, where are found united the advantages of hunting and fishing. They ask that this reserve should extend on the shore a