Ottawa, 31st December, 1909.

I am in receipt of your letter of the SEnd instant in regard to the case of the widow and son of the late Thomas Deer, who lost his life at the time of the collapse of the Quebec Bridge; and in reply I beg to say that the Department holds a sum of money in trust for the boy; but Mr. Williams (the law clerk of this Department) who has been appointed the boy's guardian, is at present absent at head-quarters. Upon his return the matter of the boy's claim will be dealt with and a final settlement made. In the meanting if the woman and boy are in need the Department is willing to make an advance to Mrs. Deer for the support of her child.

Your obedient servant,

Secretary 1

Frederick L. Harlow, Maq., Cor. St. Helena & Recollects Sta. Montreal, Que.

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