

are: "It grieves us sorely to suffer such treatment in return since our forefathers fought and bled for the British cause, to pass laws to encroach of our rights, liberties and privileges; 1st, that we are restricted by the 'British North America Act;' 2nd, that we are impressed by the 'Indian Act,' and conform according to the laws of the Act whether we like it or not; and lastly the 'Franchise Act,' which it caused divisions amongst us Indians, viz., Conservatives, Reformers and Confederates, means of whom relieves and inclines of our old system form of five Confederate nations, and afterwards six. So how can we six nations be united as a nation like England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales, since the Canadian Government are passing laws to abolish of our treaty rights, and of our systematic constitution and form of government. The Canadian Government has put us Indians under the Republic form of government, of which the Council are elected triennially, which is contrary to the treaties between us six nations and the British Government. All these troubles is always caused by the white people; the white people are poisoning our Indians to act contrary to the wishes of the Six Nations."

A Manitoulin Island Chief writes that it would cost too much to attend the Toronto meeting, that he hopes the Indians will always be allowed to retain their own land, that their children may be educated, and that they and the whites may always be good friends.

Another Manitoulin Island Chief writes that his band has appointed three delegates to attend the Conference if expenses are paid; but only two can go if expenses not paid.

The representatives of the grand general Indian Council send word through their secretary, that as the Canadian Research and Aid Society could not legislate for the Indians not for the Department, the Society must be practically at the mercy of the Department and of the Grand Council, and so it would be useless to send delegates. Answers have been received also from Christian Island, and one or two other places. From the character of the replies it would seem on the whole that the time has scarcely yet arrived for convening such a gathering of whites and Indians as had been contemplated by the Council of the Society. It will probably be best to put it off at any rate for another year.

And in the mean time the Indians will have time to digest thoroughly the six questions which were sent to them for their consideration, and will have full liberty, through the pages of our Magazine, to express themselves freely on the various points at issue. We would like to hear from the Grand River, Sarnia, and Walpole Island Indians, their views on the subject.