

1 which contemplated a "liberal policy" being pursued towards the Indians. They were to have a special regard to the habits, wants and pursuits of each Indian nation; to the amount of territory available in the country occupied by them, as well as to the claims of the White population.

Early in May, Mr. Alexander C. Anderson of North Saanich, British Columbia, was appointed by His Excellency in Council as the Indian Commissioner on behalf of the Dominion Government. The British Columbia Government was at once advised of the fact, and requested to name their own Commissioner, and also to submit the name of the gentleman whom they would propose as the third or joint Commissioner for the two Governments.

The Governments of British Columbia took no action in the matter until the month of August, when they notified the Department by telegraph that Mr. Archibald McKinley of Lac la Hache, British Columbia had been selected as their Commissioner, and they submitted the name of Mr. Gilbert Malcolm Sproat as the third or joint Commissioner.

Mr. Sproat was appointed on the 15th August as the joint Commissioner of the Dominion Government also.

The necessary Commissions, accompanied by full instructions, were sent to the Dominion Commissioner and to the joint Commissioner on the 23rd August last. The Commissioners were instructed to assure the Indians of the anxious desire of the Government to deal justly and liberally with them in the settlement of their Reserves, as well as in all other matters. They were to inform the Indians that the aim and object of the Government was to assist them in their efforts to raise themselves in the social and moral scale so as ultimately to enjoy all the privileges and advantages which were employed by their white fellow subjects.

As regards the views of the Government on the subject of